

Bennington Board of Selectmen

January 22, 2024

Meeting Minutes – 6:00 pm

Selectboard: Chairman, James Cleary, Tony Parisi, Tom James

Staff: Deb Davidson, Town Administrator

Public: There was no public present

Chairman Cleary opened the meeting at 6:00 pm

Appointments:

6:00 – Road Agent, Matt Blanchard – Matt Blanchard was before the board to discuss roads. Matt was asking for guidance from the Board. Each storm is different, there were breakdowns during the last storm which put the green truck, the sander and the one ton out of commission for a while. The green truck needed bearings, the sander needed to have a link removed and the one-ton had electrical problems. The one-ton will be finished this week, just in time for another storm. Matt indicated sometimes the problems don't show up until the equipment has been used for several hours.

Selectman James commented that the town roads were in better condition than the State Roads.

Selectman Parisi commented that Matt and his crew must stay diligent and on top of the storms.

Selectmen and Matt discussed an e-mail from Fire Chief Dave Foster, Matt indicated he was going to make a punch list from Chief Foster's recommendations.

Minutes: Motion by Chairman Cleary to accept the January 15, 2023 minutes as written. Seconded by Selectmen James & Parisi. Motion passed 3-0

Financial: A/P & Payroll Manifests were signed by Selectmen

Other:

Certification of Authority – Selectmen reviewed and discussed the certification.

Motion by Selectman Parisi to allow Matthew Hall, Deputy Fire Chief to enter into contracts or agreements on behalf of the Town of Bennington, NH with the State of New Hampshire, acting by and through the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, and is further authorized to execute any documents on behalf of this Municipality which may be in his/her judgement desirable or necessary to effect the purpose of this resolution. It shall be further noted; the Board of Selectmen will be kept apprised of any documents which Matthew Hall, Deputy Fire Chief enters into and the Board of Selectmen will also have the final say.

Seconded by Selectman James and Chairman Cleary. Motion passed 3-0

Prosecutor Contract – Selectmen reviewed the final Prosecutor Contract between Hillsborough and Bennington.

Deferred Road Maintenance – Discussion followed regarding the \$45,000 budgeted each year for deferred road maintenance. The Department of Revenue suggested either setting up a Capital Reserve Fund for this allocation or incorporating it into the budget. The DRA will accept it as presented this year, but going forward it should be considered either as a CRF or used as an increase to the budget. This will be revisited for the 2025 budget as to how to utilize the funds. No action taken at this time.

Non – public - 6:20 – In accordance with RSA 91A:3, II (a) Selectman James made the motion to enter into a non-public session. Seconded by Selectman Parisi and Chairman Cleary. Motion passed 3-0

6:30 – motion by Selectman Parisi to enter out of non-public session. Seconded by Chairman Cleary and Selectman James.

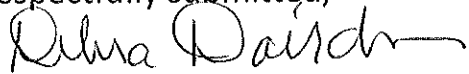
Motion passed 3-0

No decisions were made.

Adjournment:

6:35 motion by Chairman Cleary to adjourn the meeting. The next Selectman's Meeting will be held on Monday, January 29, 2024 at 6:00 pm. Seconded by Parisi & James. Motion passed 3-0

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra Davidson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Debra Davidson, Town Administrator