

Bennington Board of Selectmen

Monday, December 9, 2024

Meeting Minutes – 6:00 pm

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

Staff: Deb Davidson, Town Administrator; Cathy McGillicuddy, Administrative Assistant

Chairman Cleary called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Seconded by Selectmen Parisi & James.

Public: There was no public present

Appointments:

6:00 – Chief of Police, Jason LePine – Chief LePine was before the Selectboard to discuss providing a pay increase to Officer Minahan. Minahan passed the police academy, 4th in the class. Chief LePine would like to increase her wage to \$25.00/hour. There are the funds in the police budget.

Chairman Cleary motioned to increase the wage of Haley Minahan from \$22.00/hour to \$25.00/hour effective immediately. Seconded by Selectmen Parisi & James. Motion passed 3-0.

Chief LePine thanked Selectmen for the support of Ms. Minahan.

Minutes: After review of the minutes for December 2, 2024, Selectmen Cleary motioned to make some changes to the Selectmen's Meeting minutes. Seconded by Selectmen Parisi and James. Voted 3-0 to make the changes. Changes were made. Selectmen unanimously accepted the minutes as presented.

Non-public minutes for December 2, 2024 were accepted as written. Minutes are sealed. Voted 3-0

December 5, 2024 – non-public minutes were tentatively accepted. Minutes to be presented to the Town of Antrim before accepting them. Voted 3-0 to provide Antrim Board of Selectmen with a copy of the DRAFT non-public minutes.

Financial: Selectmen signed the weekly A/P & Payroll Manifests

Other:

- **Resignation** - Tyler Howe Water & Sewer Commission – Selectmen Parisi & James reviewed and discussed the resignation of Tyler Howe from the Water & Sewer Commission.

Selectman Parisi motioned to accept the resignation from Tyler Howe for his position on the Water & Sewer Commission effective immediately. Seconded by Selectman James. Voted 2-0, Chairman Cleary had stepped out to attend the Planning Board meeting briefly. Motion passed.

Selectman Parisi further motioned to accept John Charlonne to fill the vacant position. Seconded by Selectman James. Motion passed 2-0.

- **Town Hall Rental** – Selectmen signed a Facilities Use Application for Friday, December 13, 2024 – 4:00 – 8:00 pm.
- **Preliminary Tax Rate** – Selectmen reviewed and discussed the preliminary tax rate of \$22.47. Motion by Chairman Cleary to accept the preliminary tax rate of \$22.47. Seconded by Selectmen James & Parisi. Motion passed 3-0.

Work Session:

Budget – Selectmen worked on the budget.

Hazardous Waste - Hazardous Waste disposal costs for Keene were discussed. There is currently \$1,650.00 in the budget for hazardous waste disposal, the cost will remain at that amount and other alternatives will be researched.

Monadnock Disposal Services- Selectmen discussed the increase of the disposal costs. They are quite significant, the price from Naughton was more than double. Motion by Selectman James to remain with MDS, Curtis Dude will be instructed to get a contract the Selectmen can sign before going further. Seconded by Selectmen Parisi and Chairman Cleary. Motion passed 3-0.

Fire Truck – Town Administrator discussed rates for financing the fire truck. Selectmen discussed their concerns, there was no authorized purchase order that Selectmen had signed, there was also no change order with Selectmen’s signature. Selectmen have increased concerns. Selectmen instructed the Town Administrator to contact Bancorp and speak to the representative and strongly emphasize that there was no authorization from the Board to make change orders and arrange for a financing, informing the Bancorp Rep. of the dissatisfaction at this time.

Adjournment:

Chairman Cleary adjourned the meeting at 6:50 pm. The next meeting will be on December 16, 2024 at 6:00 pm and will be a work session only.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debra Davidson".

Debra Davidson, Town Administrator