

**Bennington Board of Selectmen**  
**Monday, February 3, 2025**  
**Selectmen's Minutes – 6:00 pm**

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

**Staff:** Debra Davidson, Town Administrator, Cathy McGillicuddy, Administrative Assistant

**Public:** Melissa Clark

Chairman Cleary motioned to open the meeting at 6:00 pm. Seconded by Selectmen James & Parisi. Motion passed 3-0

**Appointments:**

**6:00 – Melissa Clark** – Selectmen asked Melissa if she could speak to her matter now, she agreed. Melissa asked for explanation as to what a revolving account is? She also asked, who will oversee the account? Chairman Cleary explained exactly what a revolving account is, noting that no taxpayer funds support the account. Cleary went on to explain that the Treasurer will oversee the account.

**6:15 – Walter Turner** – Assessing – No Show

**6:15 – Kate McCarthy** – Kate was before the Board to discuss if she needed a variance or not to subdivide? She further explained Code Officer, John Kendall suggested she speak with the Selectmen. She would like to subdivide a small portion of her land, allowing access onto the class V Road, asking neighbors for an easement to access the Class V Road. Selectmen recommended she start with discussing her goal with neighbors, then getting a survey. This may alleviate having to go before the ZBA. Kate thanked Selectmen for their time.

**6:45 – Chief, Jason LePine** – Chief LePine was before the Board to discuss the Town of Bennington military leave policy. He has checked with other towns and they don't require sick or vacation time to be used to make up the difference. Currently the Town of Bennington does require sick or vacation time be used. Selectmen have no problem updating the policy and have recommended we pay the difference.

On another note, Chief LePine reported that Tom Horn, Hancock Chief of Police, has applied for a part-time position in Bennington. LePine stated Hancock doesn't offer overtime. The background check has already been started. Horn will be ready to start working as soon as possible. Selectmen were glad to hear Horn is interested in working for Bennington.

**Minutes:** Chairman Cleary motioned to accept the minutes of the work session held on January 28, 2025 as written. Seconded by Selectmen Parisi & James. Motion passed 3-0

**Financial:** A/P & Payroll Manifests were signed

**Other:**

**Town Report** – CRF Committee, HWY Safety, Newhall Board & Solid Waste have not been active for several years, brief discussion followed, these committees will be removed from the list that goes into the Town Report.

**Voting** – Selectmen discussed the importance of the Vote in March, the impact that the possibility of Dublin and Frankestown withdrawing their elementary schools would have on the Towns and what can be done to get the word out of the importance of this vote. Selectmen discussed electioneering, what it means and what the Board is limited to doing in efforts to get the word out.

**Adjournment:**

Motion by Chairman Cleary to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 pm. Seconded by Selectmen Parisi & James. Motion passed to adjourn 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Debra Davidson, Town Administrator