

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

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

**Staff:** Debra Davidson, Town Administrator

6:00 motion by Chairman Cleary to open the meeting. Seconded by Selectman Parisi.  
Motion passed 3-0

**Public:** Melissa Clark

**Appointments:**

**6:15 – Fire Chief, Zack Andersen** – Selectmen have indicated that they have not heard anything negative since the change of Fire Chief has taken place. They are happy with Zack and are prepared to sign an appointment after Town Meeting.

**New Fire Truck** - Zack reported that the lettering for the new truck was ordered today and it will be cheaper than originally quoted. The truck is scheduled for delivery this week. A brief discussion as to dedication of the new truck followed. No decisions were made about that at this time.

**Old Fire Truck** – Explaining how the bid process works, Chief Andersen indicated he has had two hits on the old truck. One from Ohio the other from Kansas. These inquiries will be followed up on. The old truck is all switched and being winterized. It will be parked at the highway garage and hopefully will sell quickly.

**New Members** – Two new people have come forward and are interested in joining the Fire Department. Theresa Daniels and Jack (John) Plourde. Both will be considered.

**Gas** – Zack asked Selectmen for permission to switch from Air Gas to Granite Industrial Gases, Inc. The cost is significantly less. A brief discussion followed, a credit application was provided for the town to complete and return.

Motion by Chairman Cleary to authorize Chief Andersen to switch from Air Gas to Granite Industrial Gases, Inc. Seconded by Selectmen James & Parisi. Motion passed 3-0.

**Boiler** – Chief Andersen reported the boiler at the Fire Station died and needed some work, Andersen presented an invoice for payment. Discussion followed how to pay for the invoice either building maintenance or with the Expendable Trust. This will likely be paid out of the maintenance budget, it is maintenance.

**EMT Apprenticeship** – Chief Andersen discussed how the program works. It is required to pay the EMT \$14.00/hour, once they have completed the course the State will reimburse ½ the cost. However, the EMT must continue to make \$14.00/hour after becoming certified.

Selectmen thanked Chief Andersen for the update and assured him they are happy with how things are going, they are prepared to appoint him as the Chief after March 11, 2025.

**6:30 – Rhubarb Festival** - Melissa Clark came before the board to discuss the Rhubarb Festival. Melissa indicated she will be working to see that there is another successful Rhubarb Festival in 2025. Discussion followed regarding the Festival. No decisions were made at this time.

**Minutes:** Motion by Chairman Cleary to accept the February 25, 2025 Minutes as written.

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

**Signatures:**

- **Abatements-** Forgiveness of interests under \$4.00

**Other:**

- **Mileage logs** were reviewed
- **Keene Door Estimate** – The motors for the highway garage doors need replacing, an estimate was provided and Selectmen authorized DJ going forward with ordering and having installed new motors for the highway garage doors.

- **Cleaning Town Buildings** – Our current cleaning person has had to give her notice. She has been training and recommended Gretchen Armstrong from Peterborough. A brief discussion followed. Selectmen approved hiring Gretchen Armstrong to clean the VFW, Fire Station and Town Offices.

Chairman Cleary and Selectman Parisi thanked Selectman James for his tenure as a Selectman.

With nothing further, Chairman Cleary adjourned the meeting at 6:47 pm. The next Selectmen's meeting is Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Davidson, Town Administrator