

Bennington Board of Selectmen
Monday, April 28, 2025
Selectmen's Minutes – 6:00 pm

Selectboard: Chairman, James Cleary, Tony Parisi, Travis McClure

Public:

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

Appointments:

6:00 – Melissa Clark – Melissa came before the Selectmen to discuss Rhubarb Festival updates and asking about the Croquet Club.

- **Tents** – Melissa asked Selectman Parisi about the Friday set up of the tents. Selectman Parisi suggested that people meet at Sawyer Park at 5:30. Parisi stated he would help. Discussion of others who may help followed. Melissa will reach out to the residents who were mentioned. Melissa also asked if the road crew could take down the tents after the festival. Selectmen unanimously approved this request. Paint for the marking out for tents was discussed. Chairman Cleary said he had paint he would donate.
- **Receipts** – for auditing purposes, it is mandatory that copies of the receipts for the \$1,000.00 of taxpayer support be provided for the Rhubarb expenses.
- **Sponsors** – Melissa stated she has 26 sponsors so far. Some will do gift cards as a raffle. Discussion followed as to the cost of the raffle tickets. No decision was made at this time.
- **General Store** – Melissa asked if Deb was all set. Deb said she has helpers and is all set for the June 7 date.
- **Croquet Club** – Melissa asked if this was a town organization or a private event? Discussion followed. After briefly discussing this, the Selectmen indicated the Croquet Club is welcome to play on Sawyer field, but it not under the Town umbrella. It is to be treated similar to the Soccer Club that is trying to get started, the men's softball and any other program that is not sponsored and run by the town. The Selectmen unanimously agreed to donate the croquet

sets that the Town had purchased to Bethany's Croquet Club. The croquet sets are at Bethany's house as far as Melissa knows.

Selectmen thanked Melissa for her updates.

Minutes: Selectmen accepted April 21, 2025 Minutes as written.

Financial: A/P & Payroll was not available for approval at this time.

Signatures:

- **Appointments** – Motion by Chairman Cleary to appoint Bennington resident, Rebecca Lambert to the open position of Trustee of Trust Funds. He further motioned to appoint Rindge resident, Thomas Horne as a P/T Police Officer. No discussion, Selectmen Parisi & McClure seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0. Selectmen signed the appointments as presented.

Other:

- **Update on bridge money** – Town Administrator, Deb Davidson reported to the Selectmen in accordance with 2022 SB401 there is approximately \$62,000 of a one-time bridge payment. This payment has been kept and accounted for appropriately via auditor's recommendation, the funds were received on 12/30/2022. The funds MUST be used specifically for bridge repair. Selectmen discussed two bridges that should be addressed immediately, Road Agent, DJ Wing will be made aware of this decision and these funds. DJ can work with a couple of different people to get everything set up to address these asap.
- **Sawyer Field** – the excavator is tentatively scheduled the week of May 5th, with DJ, Curtis and Jonathan working primarily with equipment on Wednesday or Thursday. Town Administrator will talk with DJ about the road and debris at the park and the clean-up. DJ will need all hands on deck, stumping the area and delivering fill, grading the area. Chairman Cleary noted to remind DJ to be sure to stay away from the stumps near the Lavoie property in an effort to keep the property in tact until some trees can be planted. Discussed doing the work Wednesday or Thursday. Discussion as to using the York rake followed. The bandstand is going to be put off for a bit at this time. There is a lot of work still needed at the field before the bandstand can be resurrected.

- **Hazardous Waste** – Town Administrator recently spoke to a resident who has a significant amount of paints to dispose of and was asking about Hazardous Waste Day. Currently, there is not a day scheduled for 2025. Due to lack of interest, only 3 residents participated the last time a Hazardous Waste Day was sponsored it didn't seem cost effective. However, for a fee any resident can go to Keene and dispose of hazardous material. Selectmen discussed this and made a unanimous decision to have sign up sheets available to see how many residents would participate in a Hazardous Waste Day if one were sponsored in 2026. This information will be on our Town Website and also on the town Facebook page at a later date.

Discussion as to when the next meeting would be followed, the next scheduled Selectmen's Meeting will be scheduled for Monday, May 12, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

Chairman Cleary adjourned the meeting at 7:08 pm

Respectfully submitted,

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

Debra Davidson, Town Administrator