

Bennington Board of Selectmen
Monday – August 31, 2026
Selectmen's Meeting – 6:00 pm

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

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

Appointments:

6:00 pm – Police Chief, Tom Horne – Chief Horne had Sergeant Bell with him to meet with the Selectmen. Selectmen welcomed Sergeant Bell discussing how things are proceeding. Bell indicated he is happy in Bennington, doing the morning crossing for the school along with Candi Michaels.

Chief Horne discussed calls for service have increased, they are up significantly compared to 2025. Traffic stops have also increased.

Discussion regarding hiring more part-time help, logistics of time, hours and wages were discussed. Sergeant Bell discussed his thoughts on part-time help. Chief Horne indicated he would like a 3rd full-time officer. No decision was made by the Selectmen at this time.

Schedules were discussed. Chief Horne discussed his thoughts for the best coverage for the Town. He will provide Selectboard with monthly schedules.

Selectmen & Police have good communication and Chairman Cleary stated he and the other board members appreciate the communication. All parties agree it is important to keep conversations going on all topics.

6:30 pm – Tax Collector, Cathy McGillicuddy – Tax collector discussed deed waivers for 5 properties, Selectmen signed 4 deed waivers. The tax collector will reach out to one resident who has failed to keep up with their payment agreement and discuss options. Deeding can take place in October, the hope is

to have everyone make an effort to pay towards their back taxes to avoid deeding any properties.

Minutes: August 24, 2026 minutes were accepted with minor changes.

Financial: A/P & Payroll Manifests were signed

Signatures: Selectmen signed a letter providing until September 30, 2026 for the cleanup of a property on Bible Hill Road.

Other:

Rain Diverters – Stephen Frosch will address this before winter

Ice Diverter – Stephen Frosch said he will also address this before winter

Bible Hill Rd. – Weight limit, Road Closed to trucks – Selectmen cannot put road closed to trucks on this road. There are too many variables such as oil delivery, trash pick-up, and more.

Map 12 Lots 13 & 14 – Before Selectmen decide how to proceed, Realtor, Meg Hardwick has agreed to provide a market analysis to the Town.

Table & Chairs for VFW – Selectmen discussed getting approximately 40 chairs and 4-6 tables for the VFW. Librarian, Leslie McGregor sent an email for some chairs from the State Library, the Town Administrator will look into getting these chairs. The cost is \$50.00. If these are unavailable, chairs and tables will be purchased.

Transfer Station – Selectman McClure discussed the cost of demo. Prices of MDS vs. what the Town of Bennington charges for demo was discussed. There is a significant difference.

Motion by Chairman Cleary to increase a 1-ton truck of demolition to \$150.00, if the truck has side boards an additional \$25.00-\$50.00. Discussion followed. Seconded by Selectmen McClure & Parisi. Passed 3-0. Town Administrator will be sure to get the new prices to Curtis Dude. Selectman McClure will send an MDS rate sheet to the office.

Election – Election day is Tuesday, September 8, 2026, Selectmen will be available at various times throughout the day.

With nothing further, Chairman Cleary adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm. Seconded by Selectmen McClure & Parisi. The next Selectmen's meeting will be Monday, September 14, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra Davidson". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Debra Davidson, Town Administrator