Bennington Board of Selectmen
Monday – October 19, 2026
Selectmen's Minutes – 6:00 pm

Selectboard: Tony Parisi, Travis McClure

Town Administrator, Debra Davidson

Absent: Chairman, James Cleary

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Appointments:

6:00pm – Zack Andersen, Fire Chief –

Mini Splits - Chief Andersen spoke to the Board about the Mini Splits that were installed at the Fire Station. After much work, they are still broken. Chief Andersen presented a final bill of $2,077. There is a proposal from Monadnock Cooling Systems to repair the units for $14,000, however there is no guarantee they can be fixed. There is a price of $40,000 to replace the mini-splits. Selectmen Parisi & McClure do not support this proposal. They would like quotes from other local contractors, Fitzpatrick was recommended.

The Fire Station does have FHA as an alternate heat source, portable air conditioners were discussed.

Discussion followed about placing the brand we have on the ground and repair it. Chief Andersen was instructed to get prices for that as well as getting quotes for a new system.

Selectman McClure said this should go to warrant article vote by residents. Selectman Parisi agreed. If the Fire Department continue to want mini splits, it will go to vote and several proposals must be sought out.

New Gear – Chief Andersen reported that he has ordered two sets of new fire gear. Each set is $5,000. The capital reserve fund for gear will be used to pay for this purchase. Selectmen support this.

Andersen also mentioned he purchased new gear racks.

Selectmen thanked Chief Andersen for the updates.

6:30 pm – Melissa Clark –

Recreation – Melissa said they still need one more driver for the hayride. Selectman Parisi reached out to Gregory Dow who said he would be a driver. Though Melissa indicated Sergeant Bell informed her he didn't know about the Halloween event on the 24th, Chief Horne has said Police presence will be there.

Master Plan – Melissa presented the master plan to the Board. It needs to be updated every 10 years, she is asking if Selectmen will extend the update to 2028. Selectmen are fine with that. Departments need to do some updating of their portion of the documents. Town Administrator suggested Melissa contact SWRPC, they can possibly help with the updates as well.

Warrant Articles – Melissa said that she is all set with a warrant article for the FEMA updates. Also, the Planning Board will be presenting a warrant article for HOA and Air B & B. Discussion followed. Selectmen McClure & Parisi both stated the do NOT support HOA and will not promote them.

Selectmen thanked Melissa for her updates.

Minutes: September 28, 2026 minutes were accepted as written.

Financial: A/P & Payroll Manifests were signed.

Signatures:

Letter to resident re: violation of covenants – this is a civil matter and the town cannot get involved with civil matters.

Other:

VFW – review checklist – Lock, storage (10/24/26) – Selectmen discussed storage and other matters at the VFW. Road Agent, DJ will be asked to install a new lock and keys will be provided.

2028 ADA Website Compliance – Town Administrator explained that all municipal websites need to be ADA compliant by 2028. She will get prices on updating our website to be compliant.

Mileage/idle hour reports - Submitted, Selectmen reviewed them.

November 3, 2026 – Selectmen were reminded they need to be available during the polls and available to count. Selectmen McClure and Parisi will be at the polls and available to count.

Solid Waste Certification – Selectmen would like assurance that the two new employees at the Transfer Station get certification. Residents and Selectmen are very happy with the two new employees and would like to be assured they remain with the Town. Selectmen are committed to helping them succeed.

With nothing further, the meeting adjourned at 7:25pm. The next meeting will be on November 2, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Davidson

Debra Davidson, Town Administrator