

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – September 9, 2009

Selectmen James Trow, Joseph Cuddemi and Philip Germain were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 5:39 p.m.

The Selectmen acted on the following matters as indicated:

- Reviewed and approved September 8, 2009 Accounts Payable Registers (2) and Payroll Register.
- Discussed the recent Route 31 utility work undertaken by a property owner under the guidance of the Water/Sewer Commissioners. Although a copy of the plans was requested September 3rd the Selectmen have yet to receive them. In an effort to protect the integrity of any road or utility project undertaken by a private entity the Selectmen will seek input from various Department Heads as to whether the Town should require a Bond for road work and utility work.
- Scheduled Employee Performance Reviews beginning with September 16th and each week thereafter.
- Heard a report that the Code Officer will meet with M12/L40 property owners to explain the Town's error in issuing a Building Permit without adequate road frontage. The Selectmen plan to pay costs associated with the ZBA application for an Equitable Waiver of Dimension and will attend the Public Hearing in support of the applicant.
- Received notice from NHDES that, due to recent changes in NH law defining a dam, the Town's Dam #022.11 at Cold Spring Brook is now exempt from future regulation related to dam safety. A courtesy copy will be forwarded to landowner.
- Took no action on a property owner's request to maintain a culvert on the Class VI section of Onset Road pending receipt of the planned scope of work.
- Heard a follow-up report of the September 7th burglary at Newhall Youth Field. The Administrator and the Newhall Park Board Chair will meet with the insurance adjuster September 10th.
- Voted to begin the 2010 Budget process by requesting Department Heads and Committees to develop the ensuing year's Budget at the 2009 Default Budget level. A request will be put forth that Departments/Committees consider a 4% decrease from the 2009 Default Budget in an attempt to compensate for the loss of State revenue.
- The Selectmen processed the following Bid Proposals for cleaning the Town Hall, Fire Station and the VFW and computed each proposal to determine an annual cost:

➤ Craft Cleaning Services	\$ 7,400
➤ Clover Green	\$ 8,216
➤ McGurty Maintenance	\$ 6,760
➤ Dorothy Zabriskie	\$13,501

Currently the Town is paying \$4,586 for cleaning the Town Hall and Fire Station. Volunteers have been cleaning the VFW on an irregular basis. For lack of time the Selectmen tabled further discussion; no decision was made.

Board of Selectmen Minutes – September 9, 2009

With regard to the TE Project the following was discussed:

- September 2, 2009 Construction Meeting Minutes
- Replacement of the Town Hall front entry steps with a five-foot landing and three treads – possibly faced with granite.
- Received the draft of Van Dyke Construction, Inc.'s Application for Payment No. One (1) in the amount of \$102,667.00. FST will review and approve the pay requisition in time for the Town to process the September 16th payment.

Reviewed and signed a Building Permit for M15/L4-3. Chairman Germain signed the Homeland Security & Emergency Management Project Completion and Certification Report as well as the Acceptance of Audit Requirements for the December 2008 Ice Storm. It is likely the Town will recoup an additional \$2,300 from the State for their 12.5% share of Ice Storm recovery costs.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. to allow the Selectmen time to host a 7:00 p.m. Public Hearing at Pierce School to receive citizenry input for consideration of filing a subsequent application for the next phase of the Transportation Enhancement Project.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Town Administrator