

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – April 14, 2010

Selectmen Joseph Cuddemi and Philip Germain were present as well as Administrator Denise French. Also attending the meeting was Peter Martel. The meeting was called to order at 5:44 p.m.

Barbara Willis met with the Selectmen to discuss options available to incorporate a kitchenette within the existing two-family home which is located in the Water Resource Protection Zone. Mrs. Willis was referred to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Road Agent Gary Russell met with the Selectmen and discussed the following:

- Chairman Germain administered the Oath of Office to Gary Russell for a (second) two-year term.
- The Highway Department has been assisting with pre-paving preparations prior to the anticipated April 19 paving of the TEP area.
- Roadside sweeping has been completed.
- Highway Department personnel will be volunteering their time during the Earth Day community cleanup this coming Saturday.
- The Selectmen confirmed their support of waiving disposal fees for a hardship cleanup case.
- Additional unplanned grader repairs are underway.
- Water at the end of Bible Hill Road is receding. Personnel will be working to clear the culvert from blockage.

Wayne Maki met with the Selectmen by invitation. From 7:03 p.m. until 7:15 p.m. the Selectmen and Mr. Maki met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-a:3II(a) to discuss an offer of employment, contingent upon receipt of a favorable background check. Present were Selectmen Cuddemi and Germain, Administrator French, Road Agent Russell and Wayne Maki. Mr. Maki accepted the Town's offer of employment at the Transfer Station, effective April 17, 2010.

The Selectmen took action on the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved the April 7, 2010 Selectmen's Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the April 14, 2010 Accounts Payable and Payroll Registers.
- Reviewed the First Quarter 2010 Expenditures.
- Determined the Fire Chief's term of appointment to be one year.
- Agreed to review the Town Building Rental Agreement with an eye towards use by employees.
- Agreed to wait until the revised Fire Department's SOGs are finalized before revamping the hiring process for firefighters/EMTs.
- Asked for a cost estimate from Vachon, Clukay & Company, PC to meet with the Board of Selectmen for a personal review of the 2009 audit documents.
- At John Paradise's request the Selectmen voided his one year appointment to the ZBA and, instead, appointed Mr. Paradise to a three year term as a ZBA Alternate.
- At Sam Cohen's request the Selectmen voided his three year appointment to the ZBA as an Alternate and, instead, appointed Mr. Cohen to a one year appointment to the ZBA.

Board of Selectmen Minutes – April 14, 2010

- Planning Board Ex-officio Philip Germain provided an overview of the April 12th Public Hearings for Excavation and Site Plan Review for D.H. Hardwick. The Public Hearing to accept the Site Plan Review application relative to an aggregate facility has been continued until April 26th.
- Chairman Germain reported on his Superior Court appearance earlier in the day where the matter of Town vs. Champagne was heard. The Selectmen were disheartened to learn that the judge did not find cause to issue a follow-up hearing with the Court.
- Chairman Germain volunteered to informally tour the Town with an eye towards identifying possible junk yards.
- Denied a request to forbear tax collection procedures for M21/L10.
- Asked Police Chief Steve Campbell to visit Larkin Hill Road to determine if the Class VI road access is blocked by a vehicle and/or downed trees.
- Confirmed the Board's stance that no building permits will be issued for construction on a Class VI road. The most recent request was from a prospective buyer of M20/L17.
- Reviewed the (Antrim) Ambulance Report extracted from the Antrim Town Report and noted that 78 emergency medical call responses to Bennington with an additional 53 responses to the Crotched Mountain Ski Area – for a total Bennington response of 32%. The Administrator will request three years of Antrim ambulance reports and financial documents for review by the Bennington Board of Selectmen.
- Tabled sending a follow-up request to employees seeking payroll documents until information can be clarified at the next full Board meeting.
- Received a verbal invitation to attend the May 3rd meeting of the Library Trustees at 7:00 p.m.
- Reviewed and approved Invoice No. 9 from FST in the amount of \$844.78.
- Executed a Highway Safety Grant Application for DWI Hunter Patrols.
- Reviewed and approved a Building Permit for the replacement of a gas furnace at M24/L20.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Town Administrator