

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – April 28, 2010

Selectmen Joseph Cuddemi and Steven Osienski were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Susan Vincent met with the Selectmen to discuss her interest in purchasing M10/L67 and M10/L68. The Selectmen reported the need to merge the lots together which will alleviate a building encroachment issue.

Chester Heinzman met with the Selectmen to discuss his displeasure, which he attributes to a lack of communication from the Board of Selectmen, with regard to the Board's written directive to file a payroll document required by the Department of Labor. Since the RSA does not require the employee to sign their acknowledgement on the Rate of Pay Authorization Form Mr. Heinzman did not want to sign the document. The Selectmen informed him that failure to return the signed Rate of Pay Authorization Form at the April 28th extended deadline would result in him being suspended for one week. Failure to file the document within seven days will result in termination. Chester signed the Form. Another employee chose not to deliver his document and was notified by phone call from Selectman Cuddemi that he was suspended for one week with the expectation that the Rate of Pay Authorization Form will be filed no later than May 5, 2010; failure to comply will result in his termination. Assistant Fire Chief Chester Heinzman was notified of the firefighter's suspension.

Fire Warden Michael Roina met with the Selectmen to discuss the following:

- He is having difficulty speaking with the Crotched Mountain Ski Area's owner to advise them of the need to move their fire ring because it is too close to their building. Roina was given alternate contact information. If needed, the Administrator will send a letter to the owner.
- Permission was granted to install a two-sided "Smokey the Bear" sign in the large grassy island at the Fire Station where the fire danger conditions will be readily apparent to motorists.
- Permission was granted to sell six tires which were changed out on the former rescue vehicle, now the forestry truck.
- Requested permission for the Fire Department to use the former landfill site for a controlled burn in the fall. Since the practice area identified is above the capped landfill the Administrator will contact the Town's engineer for guidance.

In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Received notice from the SW Region Planning Commission that the Town of Bennington ranked fifth out of seventeen transportation projects and, as such, received a \$596,000 grant from the NH Department of Transportation to continue sidewalk construction within the village area.
- Tabled the Board of Selectmen's April 21, 2010 Minutes until Selectman Germain is present.
- Reviewed and approved the April 28, 2010 Accounts Payable and Payroll registers.
- Received notice that the Superior Court has scheduled a Review Hearing in the Champagne Enforcement Matter for June 16, 2010.

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- Reviewed an advisory communication from LGC Legal Services Counsel that speaks about the ZBA authority to hear an appeal from an owner aggrieved by the Selectmen's policy not to allow construction of Class VI roadways, as provided by RSA 674:41.
- Tabled consideration of employee use of town buildings, 2010 health insurance stipend, summer benefits, Selectmen's goals and the Five/Ten year plan until the full Board is present.
- Received from the Fire Chief the long awaited information regarding the donated rescue boat. Due to its size the vessel is exempt from registration.
- Received the following slate of 2010 Fire Department Officers: Chief Allan Wilson, Deputy Chiefs Chester Heinzman and Joseph O'Brien, Fire Captain Rich Cahoon, Lieutenants Matt Hall and Mike Roina and Rescue Captain Mike Horiis.
- Approved content of the draft letter to the owner of M17/L30 notifying them of the need to produce copies of all vehicle registrations and requesting a convenient date within the next two weeks for a site visit by the Board of Selectmen.
- Reviewed, with appreciation, the draft Summer Fun Festival scheduled for July 23rd and 24th.
- Received notice from the 12 School Street property owners of their concerns regarding recent paving. The conditions will be viewed during the May 5th joint inspection by FST and VanDyke Construction.
- Confirmed the Selectmen's decision to borrow \$500,000 in anticipation of taxes. Relevant documents were signed with Ocean Bank for the Line of Credit at an interest rate of 1.75% with a December 31, 2010 maturity date.
- Letters of appreciation were signed recognizing former Town Officials and those organizations who recently hosted the annual Andy MacKenzie Fishing Derby.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Town Administrator