

## TOWN OF BENNINGTON

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN

#### Minutes of the Meeting – May 26, 2010

Selectmen Joseph Cuddemi, Philip Germain and Steven Osienski were present as well as Administrator Denise French. Also attending the meeting was Peter Martel and Monadnock Ledger-Transcript reporter Josh Bond. The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m.

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

- Drainage supplies have been ordered for the Bible Hill Road drainage improvement project.
- Three collapsed catch basins are being repaired.
- The Selectmen voted to discontinue use of the VFW grill and authorized its removal from the building. The Highway Department will transform the grill into a portable piece of equipment that can be used by Town Departments/Committees for outside use.
- Highway Department personnel were charged with cleaning the Town Hall basement and repairing the cellar stairs.
- Personnel will evaluate needed Fire Station maintenance which includes loss of shingles, water damage, brick wall flashing and outside replacement stairs to the second floor.
- A stop-line will be painted at Antrim Road where it intersects with Route 202.
- NHDOT has expressed a willingness to assist the Town with converting the Hancock Road sidewalk into a shoulder. After the Road Agent receives exemption from the Shoreland Protection Act the Town will move forward with a Public Hearing to receive residents' input on the elimination of the sidewalk.
- In view of the recent theft of motor vehicle equipment at the Highway Garage, the Selectmen requested estimates for the installation of a gate at the facility.
- Requested information about a used utility trailer that the Town is considering for purchase.
- Requested documentation from Transfer Station personnel to support the impending demand for payment of disposal fees and assessment of fines for two offenses of illegal dumping.

Steve Campbell met with the Selectmen and discussed the following:

- In his capacity of Joint Loss Management Committee (JLMC) Chair, Campbell reported the following:
  - Committee will follow-up with Code Officer Peter Hopkins on Life Safe obligations that the Town is responsible for.
  - A Fire Department representative is needed.
  - The Town has been awarded a \$780 grant for mitigation of worker compensation claims.
  - Samples of written Safety Programs have been solicited from Primex and other communities.
  - JLMC is authorized to solicit estimates for projects.
  - JLMC is authorized to work with Department Heads to address building needs.
- In his capacity of Emergency Management Director, Campbell reported that he and Assistant Emergency Management Director Kristie LaPlante will be participating in a June 17<sup>th</sup> Emergency Preparedness Conference. The proposed Agenda will be shared with the Road Agent and Town Administrator to explore their interest.

By invitation, Police Chief Steve Campbell, Fire Chief Allan Wilson, Road Agent Gary Russell, Water/Sewer Commissioners Glenn Wilson and Salvatore Landi, Library Trustee Lisa Shingler and Capital Reserve Fund Planning Committee member Robyn Manley met with the Selectmen to kick-off the Selectmen's intent of developing a Five Year Plan that addresses Capital Improvements, Equipment and Personnel. Selectmen Osienski developed and presented the draft format which everyone agreed to review and comment on for the

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Selectmen's consideration at their June 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. A tentative date of September 8<sup>th</sup> was set for delivering the first draft of the respective Five Year Plan to the Selectmen.

In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the Board of Selectmen's May 12, 2010 Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the May 19<sup>th</sup> and May 26, 2010 Accounts Payable Registers.
- Reviewed and approved the May 18<sup>th</sup>, May 19<sup>th</sup> and May 26, 2010 Payroll Registers.
- Discussed community displeasure with the impending rise in water and sewer usage rates.
- Confirmed that compensation for mowing Newhall Field is a \$125 stipend per week for a period of thirty weeks.
- Were pleased to receive a letter acknowledging thanks to the Town Hall staff for always being helpful and very polite and serving the public with a great attitude.
- Agreed that if schedules permitted the Selectmen would attend the May 27<sup>th</sup> SAC meeting.
- Received from the Planning Board three Notice of Decisions with regard to M11/L16.
- Received from the Zoning Board of Adjustment a Notice of Decision with regards to M1/L8 and M13/L14.
- Received a copy of Lepene Engineering's May 14<sup>th</sup> letter to the Code Officer which included a list of items that the Town has indicated they need to have resolved/addressed before the Highland Inn Motel can reopen for business. Manager James Bolduc is scheduled to meet with the Selectmen June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Received notice from NHDES that they have reissued a Discharge Permit for Monadnock Paper Mills' Hydro Station.
- Discussed 2010 use of Sawyer Field and the Recreation Committee's impending fund raising for enhancement of the children's playground area at the Field.
- Reviewed and approved the submitted Timber Tax Assessment Worksheet for M22/L23 and M23/L29&31.
- Signed a Cemetery Deed for Robyn and Jonathan Manley.
- Asked that the Cemetery Trustees be invited to a Selectmen's meeting to discuss cemetery operations and procedures.
- Reviewed and approved Intent to Cut applications for M8/L1C and M20/L11-1.
- Executed the 2010 first issue tax warrants. The net valuation of the Town decreased \$584,904.

From 8:15 p.m. until 8:31 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c) to discuss a personnel matter. Present were Selectmen Cuddemi, Germain and Osienski as well as Administrator French. No decisions were made.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French  
Town Administrator