

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – April 21, 2010

Selectmen Joseph Cuddemi and Philip Germain were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 5:41 p.m.

Dana Grano met with the Selectmen by invitation to discuss the status of Lakin Hill Road which passes through his property. It was clearly understood that there shall be no blockage of the Class VI road; Mr. Grano agreed to move his parked vehicle.

Scott and David Veale met with the Selectmen to discuss their missed opportunities to file 2007 and 2008 Abatement applications, as well as their 2009 Abatement application which has not been processed due to the late filing of their 2009 Inventory of Taxable Property. The Veales were given a new Abatement application and asked to resubmit their 2009 request specific to the hardship abatement and without the lingering allegations of excess property not being taxed to them. Also delivered to the Veales was a 2010 Inventory of Taxable Property which was due April 15<sup>th</sup>. With regard to their Impending Tax Deed for unpaid 2007 real estate taxes, Scott and David Veale executed an Acknowledgement Under Forbearance of Tax Collector's Deed with the Board of Selectmen.

In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the April 14, 2010 Selectmen's Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the April 15, 2010 Accounts Payable and Payroll registers.
- Reviewed and approved the April 21, 2010 Accounts Payable and Payroll registers.
- Received the revised water and sewer rates which will go into affect with the July billings.
- Received information from the auditor that, although they do ask for W-4 tax forms during the annual audit, there is not an expectation that the W-4 forms will be annually updated by the employee. The Selectmen agreed to modify the Town's existing policy and, for the future, only require a new W-4 filing when an employee's name or address has changed or when contacted by the employee to change their tax withholding. The Selectmen approved the draft letter to employees who have not complied with the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline for filing their Rate of Pay Authorization documents.
- Tabled a decision on inviting the auditor to a Selectmen's meeting due to the additional cost which is projected to be \$350-\$500.
- Received the Fire Chief's office key, as requested for emergency entry.
- Agreed that an Impending Tax Deed for M13/L33 could be eligible for Forbearance of Tax Collector's Deed and should be pursued with the Estate.
- Reviewed building maintenance needs for all Town buildings and prioritized the needs to meet the limited amount of funds available in the Town Buildings Expendable Trust Fund.
- Reviewed and approved FST's Invoice No. 10, in the amount of \$536.62, for payment.
- Requested information as to whether or not an abatement of real estate taxes conflicts with the provisions of RSA 167:27.

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- Heard a preliminary report that a Lot Merger might not have been done prior to 1987 construction on M13/L14.
- Reviewed and approved the following:
  - Intent to Excavate – M11/L16
  - Intent to Cut – M21/L5
  - Building Permit – M2/L3K
  - Building Permit – M17/L34B

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French  
Town Administrator