

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – January 19, 2011

Selectmen Joseph Cuddemi and Steven Osienski were present as well as Administrator Denise French. Also attending the meeting was Peter Martel. The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Fire Chief Allan Wilson and Michael Roina met with the Selectmen to review bids for the replacement of the Fire Department furnace. The Selectmen and Chief Wilson agreed to accept the Hixson Heating Services Proposal of \$11,200 for the January 28th removal of the forced air furnace and replace it with a forced hot water boiler with air handlers that will be adapted to the existing duct system and separated into two zones. It was agreed that the duct work should be cleaned at the conclusion of the installation.

From 6:55 p.m. until 7:15 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c) to review a legal document. Present were Selectmen Cuddemi and Osienski, Administrator French, Fire Officials Wilson and Roina. Further information will be sought before any decision with regard to the document is made.

By invitation, Scott Champagne met with the Board to provide a status report of property clean-up at 186 State Route 202. The Selectmen were satisfied with the current progress and asked Mr. Champagne to return February 16th with a status update. Also discussed was the immediate need for Mr. Champagne to assist the Police Department with relocating cats from the area of the former residence.

By invitation, Steve Stockwell and Code Officer Peter Hopkins met with the Board to continue discussion regarding Mr. Stockwell's various Mountain Road rehabilitation projects; the location identified as Map 3, Lot 14. It was the Town's intent to identify the living status of each of the five dwelling units plus a vacant trailer being stored at the property. Mr. Stockwell was not forthcoming with specific dwelling data but did provide Expense Reports for the period 2006-2010 and an undated signature page from what appears to be a lease document for each of the five living units with the physical address handwritten at the top of the page. It was eventually agreed that the only active Building Permit for Steve Stockwell's Mountain Road projects is at 103 Mountain Road; the other four dwelling units are idle with no active Permits. It was also agreed that Mr. Stockwell will call the Code Officer to establish a convenient date and time for Mr. Hopkins to inspect 103 Mountain Road before any further improvements are undertaken at this specific address.

In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the January 5, 2011 and January 8, 2011 Selectmen's Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the January 11, 2011 and January 19, 2011 Accounts Payable and Payroll Registers.
- Received written notice that the 2011 Police dispatch cost will be \$1,557 less than the original 2011 budgeted line-item.
- Heard a report that Direct Deposit of payroll wages is voluntary and cannot be mandated by policy.
- Agreed to present the combined expense and revenue budget at the rescheduled January 25, 2011 Budget Hearing.

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- Tabled acceptance of a Petitioned Warrant Article until January 25th when the full Board can consider the circumstances of its delivery.
- Viewed the proposed Non-Binding Referendum as prepared by the Planning Board.
- Reviewed the Pre-Audit Meeting notes as received from Vachon, Clukay & Company.
- Tabled signing two Audit documents due to the Chairman's absence.
- Received notice of NHDOT's Office of Federal Compliance of their Certificate of Excellence award given to Anil Mistry from Fay, Spofford and Thorndike for Anil's exceptional oversight while performing as Resident Engineer on the Bennington Transportation Enhancement Project.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Town Administrator