

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – April 13, 2011

Selectmen Steven Osienski and Joseph Cuddemi were present when the meeting was called to order at 5:55 p.m. Also attending the meeting was Administrator Denise French.

Police Chief Steve Campbell met with the Selectmen by invitation. He reported that April 25th is the deadline for advertising the vacant full-time police officer position. Also discussed was the possibility of adding a fourth part-time officer and future staff considerations.

Selectmen Osienski and Cuddemi acted on the following matters, as indicated:

- Heard a report that the Prosecutor Budget is \$925 higher than expected due to an insurance calculation error from the Town of Antrim.
- Reviewed and approved the April 6, 2011 Selectmen's Minutes.
- Reviewed the April 5, 2011 Fire & Rescue Department Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved April 13, 2011 Accounts Payable Registers and the Payroll Register.
- Voted to seek at least one more estimate for replacement of the water pump house propane heater since one of the two estimates received is from a Commissioner.

Selectman Philip Germain arrived at 6:55 p.m. The full Board acted on the following matters, as indicated:

- Tabled approval of the Joint Loss Management Policy until the April 20, 2011 meeting.
- Tabled making a decision on extending the term of appointment for the Fire Chief another week to allow extra time for the Fire Department membership to provide their individual point of view as to the benefit of extending the annual Chief's appointment.
- Agreed to reschedule the Free Recycle Day from May 21st to the traditional first Saturday in June; this year the Free Recycle Day will be June 4th.
- Unanimously voted to secure a \$500,000 Tax Anticipation Note from People's United Bank at the rate of 1.69%.
- Tabled action resulting from a Draft letter from the Auditor regarding an internal control recommendation pending receipt of further information.
- Agreed to a four day, ten-hour work day, for the Highway Department from Memorial Day until Labor Day. Alternate trash pick-up arrangements were also discussed.
- Accepted the Library Trustees' recommendation and voted to appoint David McKenzie a Trustee Alternate for one year, upon receipt of a favorable criminal background check.
- Received notice that the Office of Federal Compliance has made a final determination that Van Dyke Construction, Inc. has satisfied their contractual DBE obligations for the TE Project; the Town has been directed to release the withheld funds of \$11,028. Payment of these funds will be reimbursed through the ARRA program.

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- Received a request from Van Dyke Construction, Inc. to assist them in a civil matter to collect an amount owed them from a Main Street property owner. The Town's engineer has communicated with Robert Van Dyke and advised him that the referenced payment arrangements were not arranged between the Town/FST and the Main Street property owner but they were worked out between the Van Dyke field crew and the owner.
- Received a courtesy copy of a letter authored by Linda Wilson from the State Historic Preservation Office complimenting Bennington's TE Project and her astonishment how the project enhances and reinforces the historic identity of the village.
- Heard a report that fixed rates for the purchase of #2 fuel from Irving Energy is in the neighborhood of \$3.60-\$3.90 per gallon until May 30th. Multiple comparisons will be sought from local distributors as well as from the State Contract List.
- The website designer is scheduled to provide training this Friday, April 15th.
- An advertisement for filling the Welfare Director vacancy should be ready for publication April 21st.
- The Selectmen voted to meet April 23rd at 9:00 a.m. to begin their town-wide tour. The Board expects to continue their tour April 30th.
- The Board signed an Employee Time-off Request Form and the annual Report of Appropriations Actually Voted.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Town Administrator