

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – August 31, 2011

Selectmen Philip Germain, Steven Osienski and Joseph Cuddemi were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

From 5:40 p.m. until 6:28 p.m. the Selectmen and Divine Mercy Parish Officials met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(d) to discuss the Town's interest in purchasing the former Catholic Church. Present were Selectmen Philip Germain, Steven Osienski, Joseph Cuddemi, Administrator Denise French, Father Gerry Belanger, Gene Kellog, Arnold Cernota and John Cronin, III. The group discussed the contents of the July 28, 2011 Letter of Intent, Sale and Purchase of St. Patrick Church Property as presented by the Diocese of Manchester. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted by the Selectmen to move forward with the prospect of acquiring the Church. The Board will put forth a counter-proposal to the Diocese.

The Selectmen took action on the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved the Selectmen's August 17, 2011 Minutes.
- Reviewed the Zoning Board of Adjustment's August 15, 2011 Notices of Decision for Joshi Hospitality Group and Alfred Alschuler.
- Reviewed Minutes from the August 26, 2011 Emergency Preparedness Meeting which was held in advance of Hurricane/Tropical Storm Irene.
- Reviewed and approved the August 31, 2011 Accounts Payable Register, Payroll Registers for August 23 and 30, 2011 as well as the year-to-date expenditures through August 31, 2011.
- Heard a report that the purchase of oil for the ensuing year is fixed at \$3.369 per gallon and the purchase of propane is fixed at a cost of \$2.249 per gallon.
- Received from Emergency Management Director Steve Campbell a report of actions taken by the Town during Hurricane/Tropical Storm Irene. A letter from the Selectmen will be sent to Department Heads expressing their appreciation for a job well done.
- Appointed Benjamin Billings to fill the Solid Waste Committee vacancy.
- Appointed Michael Roina to fill the Joint Loss Management Committee vacancy.
- Heard a report that a Worker's Compensation Claim was filed by a firefighter/EMT for contact with a patient's blood. The matter has been referred to the Joint Loss Management Committee for review and comment.
- Heard a complaint about the perpetual yard sale at 216 State Route 202.
- Agreed to continue the practice of not charging residents for Transfer Station admittance decals.
- As an abutter to M11/L12, received notice of a September 12, 2011 Site Plan Review Hearing.
- Received estimates for scraping/painting the VFW at an overall estimated cost of \$5,000. Due to the magnitude of the project the Selectmen plan to increase the Town Building Expendable Trust Fund at the 2012 Town Meeting.
- Tabled signatures for an Intent to Cut on Map 1, Lot 3 pending receipt of information.
- Signed the Summary of Inventory of Valuation.

From 8:35 p.m. until 9:16 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c) to review and discuss communications received. Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi as well as Administrator French. No decisions were made.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Denise French, Town Administrator