

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – September 14, 2011

Selectmen Philip Germain, Steven Osienski and Joseph Cuddemi were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m.

A Tri-Town Landfill District meeting was attended by Frankestown Selectmen Scott Carbee, Abigail Arnold and Betsy Hardwick; Antrim Town Officials included Selectmen John Robertson and Eric Tenney, as well as Town Administrator Galen Stearns. The following items were discussed:

- Bennington Road Agent Gary Russell has received from each town excavation reports for 2009 and 2010; 2011 crushing is set to commence which will provide data for the current year.
- Beginning 2012 each town will submit to the Town of Bennington an Intent to Excavate and will be followed up later with a Report of Excavation.
- Reclamation will begin at the eastern boundary with cleanup and planting.
- No special permit is required for burying concrete as long as it is deposited in a continuously worked area and is clearly marked on reclamation plans.
- Permission was unanimously granted to continue the mowing contract with Sandy Eneguess so long as the cost is similar.
- Tri-Town Landfill annual reports filed by Stantec Consulting Services will be sent to each community within the week.
- Informally discussed the concept on a single Transfer Station to serve the three communities.
- Informally discussed the concept of a Tri-town loader/backhoe that would be housed at the pit.
- Informally discussed the concept of sharing equipment and personnel.

A joint discussion between Antrim and Bennington Town Officials included the following topics:

- Regionalization of Police and/or Fire Departments. In response to a 2009 Nonbinding Referendum vote, the group decided to pursue the concept of a combined Police Department. Each community will appoint two residents and their Police Chief to the blended committee who will be charged with studying a regional police force. It was agreed to table the study of a regional Fire Department until the results of the conceptual combined Police Department are known.
- Assessing. Informally discussed the concept of combining Antrim and Bennington together when soliciting bids for the 2014 Assessment Certification process (revaluation).
- Personnel. Informally discussed sharing a pool of lifeguards as a resource for Gregg Lake and Whittemore Beach.
- Shared bridge. Discussed the logistics of refurbishing/replacing the Antrim/Bennington bridge and the Depot Street culverts/bridges. Also on the horizon is the possible replacement of the Bible Hill Road culvert near the shared bridge. The Town of Bennington is waiting for FEMA's decision on its Grant Application.

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From 7:25 p.m. until 7:35 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a) for the purpose of the Road Agent's annual performance review. Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi as well as Road Agent Gary Russell. No decisions were made.

From 7:35 p.m. until 7:48 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(e). Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi, Administrator French and Road Agent Russell. No decisions were made.

The Road Agent and the Selectmen discussed the following matters:

- An alternate solid waste contract proposal has been received that appears to be \$11 less per ton.
- Heard a report that Robert and Linda Wadleigh had used the Transfer Station facility earlier in the day although Mr. Wadleigh has been barred due to an unpaid invoice. The Selectmen confirmed their prior decision to bar Mr. Wadleigh's admittance which now also extends to his wife's use of the facility.
- The Board voted to issue annual Transfer Station admittance decals that are color coded to be the same as the annual state-issued motor vehicle decals, effective January 1, 2012.
- Heard a report that a \$5.00 minimum charge has been established for the disposal of demolition material.
- Paving is scheduled to begin September 19th for a total project cost of approximately \$83,000.
- The upper portion of Dodge Hill Road will be stripped and remain dirt for the winter.

Fire Officials Chester Heinzman, Joseph O'Brien and Michael Roina met with the Selectmen to discuss the following matters:

- Seven SCBA equipment have been ordered through the Grant.
- The absolute need for Administration to receive Fire Department payroll no later than the fifth day of the following month. The Administrator reported that nine out of eleven calls for service were not captured in the Firehouse Software by the Fire Officer in charge.
- An estimate has been requested for relocating electrical connections in the back of the fire station.

From 8:25 p.m. until 8:52 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c). Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi, Administrator French, and Fire Chiefs Heinzman and O'Brien. No decisions were made.

From 9:19 p.m. until 9:35 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c). Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi, Administrator French and Code Officer Peter Hopkins. No decisions were made.

From 10:32 p.m. until 10:37 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c). Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi as well as Administrator French. The Selectmen voted to extend the due date for the September Forbearance tax payment that is due from Scott and David Veale.

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In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Paused to reflect on the passing of Highway Department employee Gary Langlois.
- Reviewed and approved the August 31, 2011 Selectmen’s Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the September 7 and 14, 2011 Accounts Payable Registers.
- Reviewed and approved the September 6 and 13, 2011 Payroll Registers.
- Authorized the Administrator to work out a settlement cost with the present website developer in lieu of a contract for its development over the past year.
- Discussed a repeat blockage of Class VI Larkin Hill Road by Dana Grano. The Administrator will send notice that the parked plow must be removed within thirty days or the Highway Department will remove and store the obstacle.
- Heard a report that the Water/Sewer Commissioners have signed a contract with Halliday Pipeline, Inc. for the removal and disposal of a 252 square foot section of floor at the Water Pump House and the pour of a new 4” floor with wire. The contract is subject to the Town of Bennington receiving a Certificate of Insurance. The Administrator will notify the Commissioners of the opportunity for the old concrete floor to be disposed of at the former landfill site, thereby perhaps decreasing the overall cost of the contract.
- Tabled discussion on conceptual restriction of yard sales.
- Heard a report that the temporary Highway Department hire, who is also a firefighter, will be subject to receiving overtime pay for combined time worked in excess of forty hours.
- Voted to pay part-time police officers overtime at the rate of 1.5 for holiday hours worked.
- Discussed the need to provide funds for replacement of at least one Police Department computer.
- Reviewed August Police Statistics.
- The following documents were signed:
 - Notice of Intent to Cut – M1/L3
 - Building Permits
 - M3/L13
 - M7/L89
 - ETAP documents (3)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Town Administrator