

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – October 12, 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.

Senator Andy Sanborn met with the Selectmen to discuss matters of mutual interest.

Road Agent Gary Russell met with the Selectmen to discuss the status of the so-called Sawyer Park Road, Well Road, Reservoir Road, Antrim Well Road, etc. and their relationship to the Road Inventory used by the State for determining the Highway Block Grant.

Surveyor Dennis McKenney and Mountain Road resident Steve Stockwell met with the Selectmen to conceptually discuss reclassifying approximately 250' of Class VI roadway to Class V. The Class V frontage is required for Mr. Stockwell to subdivide Map 3/Lot 14 into three lots. Conversation included Road Agent Gary Russell's concerns about drainage and grades as well as a suitable turn-around area. The Selectmen stated their desire for Mr. Stockwell to make a good-faith effort for existing obligations that have not been taken care of. The Selectmen have yet to determine whether or not the conceptual roadway improvement would require pavement since it will abut the existing paved road.

Peter Martel met with the Board and continued discussion about the importance of a partnership between the Facilities Review Committee and the Library Building Committee.

Due to the mutual rescheduling of an appointment with David and Scott Veale the Selectmen agreed to delay the October 17th payment due in accordance with their Forbearance Agreement until after their October 19th meeting with the Board.

In other matters the Selectmen took the indicated action:

- Reviewed and approved the Selectmen's October 5, 2011 Minutes.
- Reviewed Minutes for the October 5, 2011 Energy Committee and Minutes for the August 2 and October 4, 2011 Fire Department meetings.
- Reviewed and approved the October 12, 2011 Accounts Payable Registers and the October 11, 2011 Payroll Register.
- Signed the *Notice of Offering for Sale* relative to Map 9, Lot 10.
- In concert with the Road Agent, approved the purchase and installation of security equipment for the Highway Garage/Transfer Station at an approximate cost of \$1,900.
- Tabled review of the Welfare Guidelines, 2012 Draft Budget and the Town Facilities Inspection report until the Board's October 19th meeting due to the 8:00 p.m. departure of Selectman Osienski.
- Approved the content of a letter for recruiting identified individuals to serve on various Committees/Boards.

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- Received Notice of Liability Claim from Attorney Evans on behalf of his client Nancy Stewart. The Notice was forwarded to LGC.
- Reviewed a communication from The Grapevine notifying the Selectmen of their intention to seek \$4,000 in 2012 funding, an increase of \$1,000. The additional \$1,000 annual funding request for the Teen Center remains unchanged.
- Agreed to eliminate the January Civil Rights holiday for the purpose of offering Town employees a floating holiday in its place. The January holiday was chosen since it conflicts with the financial audit; also it could reduce Highway Department overtime budget if there is a storm during the week of the holiday.
- Chairman Germain signed the Project Close-Out document for the Transportation Enhancement Project #14401.
- Received \$8,130 from the State for the EMPG reimbursement. The possibility remains that the Town could be asked to reimburse FEMA for the State's portion of the Generator Grant.
- A new side-door entry lock has been installed at the VFW. Access for users of the building will be further reviewed before keys are distributed.
- Heard a report that the Library Trustees intend to use the Library CRF for the installation of a fire/security system at the Library. The need has been identified by the Joint Loss Management Committee.
- Asked that Mike Roina be invited to meet with the Selectmen to discuss his interest in volunteering to install and maintain a public ice skating rink at Sawyer Park.
- Asked the Administrator to inquire of Quantum Construction if a rate of pay for traffic details is included in the Contract. This is in response to their need for traffic control at the Antrim/Bennington bridge on October 27 and 28.

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Town Administrator