

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – October 26, 2011

Selectmen Philip Germain, Steven Osienski and Joseph Cuddemi were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 5:55 p.m.

Library Trustee Chair Lisa Shingler and Library Building Committee Acting Chair Peter Martel met with the Selectmen and announced membership of their unofficial subcommittee which currently consists of Melissa Clark, Christopher Maples and Peter Martel. Selectmen Germain volunteered to join their November 1st meeting at 7:00 p.m. Selectman Osienski volunteered to arrange access to St. Patrick's Church for a visual inspection.

Police Chief Steve Campbell met with the Selectmen and discussed the following:

- With regard to winter travel on the Class VI portion of Onset Road, he expressed concern about dangerous conditions traveling downhill and the ability to stop at the intersection.
- Inquired about Bennington representatives to the Antrim/Bennington committee studying regionalization of the police departments. The Administrator reported sending out 41 invitations to individual residents seeking volunteers for this appointment and other Committee/Board appointments. The few responses received are discouraging.
- Reported the two-week medical leave of absence for a part-time police employee.

From 6:58 p.m. until 7:10 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(e). Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi, Administrator French and Chief Campbell. No decisions were made.

From 7:10 p.m. until 7:35 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi as well as Chief Campbell. No decisions were made.

From 7:53 p.m. until 8:31 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 Board voted to invite the applicants who filed for tax abatement to their next meeting.

From 9:12 p.m. until 10:05 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a) to review employee compensation. Present were Selectmen Philip Germain, Steven Osienski and Joseph Cuddemi. No decisions were made.

In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the October 19 and 25, 2011 Selectmen Minutes.
- Reviewed the September 15, 2011 Conservation Commission Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the October 26, 2011 Accounts Payable Register and the October 25, 2011 Payroll Register.

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- Reviewed information received during the October 19, 2011 Public Hearing related to posting the Class VI portion of Onset Road “one-way” travel and unanimously voted not to impose the restriction due to concerns about year-round safe passage.
- Tentatively voted to offer employees reduced health insurance coverage which would correlate to an approximate \$11,400 annual savings. The Board also tentatively voted to continue the current health insurance coverage for those employees who are willing to pay the difference in weekly premium; single = \$14.79, two-person = \$29.57 and family = \$39.92.
- Received notification from NHDES that they have changed the 1,4-Dioxane standard from 3.0µ/L to a reporting limit of 0.25µ/L. effective with the November 2011 round of water sampling. This decision which was made October 19, 2011 immediately affects the current Tri-Town Groundwater Management Permit at an unanticipated cost of \$1,173.50. The Administrator will contact NHDES and inquire about a delay in the reporting requirement; if unsuccessful she will contact Senator Sanborn about this unfunded mandate.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Town Administrator