

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – November 2, 2011

Selectmen Philip Germain, Steven Osienski and Joseph Cuddemi were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 5:43 p.m.

Kristie LaPlante met with the Selectmen by invitation. From 5:45 p.m. until 6:25 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c). Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi, Administrator French and Deputy Administrator Kristie LaPlante. No decisions were made.

David Baggaley met with the Selectmen and Tax Collector Kristie LaPlante to discuss the loss of his property by Tax Deed. The Selectmen will seek legal advice regarding options that they may have available to them to assist Mr. Baggaley in buying back his 3 Pierce Hill Road property.

In other matters Kristie discussed the following with the Selectmen:

- The Town's revamped website is scheduled to go live this weekend; she will need 7-10 days to update with current information. The Police Department website will follow suit shortly thereafter.
- The draft version of the fall newsletter will be emailed to the Board for their input by November 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Formal approval of the Bible Hill Road Culvert Grant has not yet been received. Kristie has submitted a letter to the Town's FEMA representative requesting that he apply professional pressure to get the formal approval so that the Town can properly budget for this upcoming expense. Also at stake is the impending 2013 replacement of the Antrim/Bennington bridge at the same intersection.
- A FEMA claim of \$7,100 has been submitted for costs associated with preparing for Tropical Storm Irene. When approved, the Town will receive approximately \$5,300 in reimbursement costs.

David and Scott Veale met with the Selectmen to continue discussion regarding their abatement request. From 8:13 p.m. until 8:25 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c). Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi, Administrator French and David and Scott Veale. It was mutually agreed that the Code Officer, as the Board of Selectmen's representative, will conduct a site visit of the property. No other decisions were made.

In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the October 26, 2011 Board of Selectmen Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the November 2, 2011 Accounts Payable Register and the November 1, 2011 Payroll Register.
- Appointed the following individuals to the Facilities Review Committee – Bruce Nixon, Rhea Taylor, Barry White, Steve Campbell, Philip Germain and Allan Wilson.

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- The Selectmen approved the Unofficial Tax Rate as presented by the Department of Revenue Administration, without modification from using any Fund Balance.
- Received notice from Joyce Miner of her intent to resign the position of Treasurer.
- Received notice from Divine Mercy Parish of their willingness to forgo rent of the former St. Patrick's Church in exchange for the Town being responsible for turning the water and heat on and off for the upcoming Election event.
- As requested by Planning Board Chair Jeff Rose, the Board considered Monandnock Paper Mill's plan to add flashboards to their dams which in turn will raise the water level. Since State approvals are required for the project the Selectmen saw no cause for the Planning Board to take any action.
- Reviewed the Biennial Inspection of Municipally Owned Bridges reports.
- Reviewed October Police Statistics.
- Considered a recent Halloween themed, weather related photo for the front cover of the 2011 Town Report. Although a likely choice, the decision will be deferred until the conclusion of the 2011 calendar year.
- Heard a report that DES has further revised the Tri-Town Landfill Groundwater Management Permit which will now allow deferment of some November water sampling while still accommodating the State's new requirement to test for 1,4-Dioxane. This change will significantly decrease the projected cost for November sampling.
- Agreed to send the Draft 2012 Budget to the Budget Committee for review and recommendation.
- Agreed to schedule the Capital Reserve Funding Committee meeting for November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

From 8:31 p.m. until 9:38 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). No decisions were made.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French  
Town Administrator