

APPROVED MINUTES
SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BENSON, VT
March 6th, 2023, 7pm

Selectboard:

Guy Charlton (Chair), Ron Stewart Jr., John Hill, Jack Helm, and Brad Barrett

Others:

Heidi Chandler (Town Clerk/Treasurer), Carrie LaFond (Selectboard Assistant)

Public:

Jerod Glover, Lois Trenn, Norma Philips, Jon Dodd, Robert St Peter, Caleb Parker, Brook Bartholomew, Stacey Guyette, Cecilia McGuire

Call to Order: Guy Charlton (Chair) called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Approved Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda as was made by Jack Helm and seconded by John Hill., motion was passed.

Public Comment:

Robert St. Peter questioned why the stop sign has not been put up at the intersection Frazier Hill and Stage Rd also stated how dangerous this is for The Bus to be stopping there. **Answer:** the ordinance with the change to have a stop sign put at the intersection was voted out by the voters so the old ordinance is in effect.

Question was asked if the Board was starting over on a new Town garage plan? Answer: Not necessarily, there was a proposal sent in and the project will have to be put out to bid again.

Approve Selectboard Minutes:

Motion to approve February 21st, 2023, Selectboard minutes as amended by John Hill, second by Jack Helm, Motion passed.

Motion to approve February 22nd, 2023, Selectboard minutes as presented by John hill., second by Ron Stewart Jr. Brad Barrett and Jack Helm abstained; Motion passed.

Pay Bills:

Discussion on regular bills and accounting procedures for 1099

Motion by John Hill to pay regular bills in the amount of \$33,621.67 and regular Payroll in the amount of \$4,893.80 second by Jack Helm, motion passed.

Motion by John Hill to pay Highway Payroll in the amount of \$5,938.69 second by Jack Helm, motion passed. Brad Barrett abstained from the motion.

Creamery:

Discussion on expenses for the creamery and insurance.

Motion by Jack Helm to leave the month-to-month lease for the creamery as is, second by John Hill, motion passed.

Overweight Permits:

Motion by Brad Barrett to authorize Guy Charlton (Chair) to sign the overweight permits, second by Ron Stewart Jr., motion passed. Excess weight permits for (KSM and Sons. RK Miles, Jackman Fuels, J.P. Carrara, Champlain Construction, Daric Brown, Bud Carpenter, New England Quality Service, Barrett Trucking, Cardinal Logistics).

Highway Department:

Road Foreman Brad Barrett:

- 8th Day straight with Storms
- Barrett's now have salt so the Town will be getting another load.
- Sanded black top because of salt shortage from Barrett's.
- Trucks are all in good shape.
- Crew did a phenomenal job with the storms.
- Need to real seal piston on the excavator.
- Identified (12) failed culverts that need replacing.

Motion by Jack Helm for Brad Barrett to order (30) sections of culverts, second by John Hill, Motion passed, Brad Barrett abstained.

Transfer Station:

- RFP to West Haven for the residents to come to the Benson Transfer Station based on (90) residents.
- VT ANR has stated it will not be an issue to update the permit for the Transfer station to accept West Haven
- ANR needs more information before they will approve overflow dumpsters.
- Hubbard's sending a mesh Tarp to put over the recyclables so the dumpster can go out completely full.

Town Clerk Report:

Follow-up from Previous Meetings:

Motion to table personnel policy until reorganization of the Selectboard by John Hill, second by Ron Stewart Jr., motion passed.

Old Business: Tabled

New Business: Tabled

Correspondence:

Resignation letter Kate Hill

Motion by Jack Helm, second by Ron Stewart Jr. to table acceptance of Kate Hill resignation from the Benson Bulletin until after the first meeting following March 13th, John Hill abstained, motion passed.

Round Table: Tabled

Executive Session:

Motion by John Hill to move into executive session for an issue that the board has determined that premature public knowledge would clearly place a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. Second by Ron Stewart Jr., Motion passed.

Motion by John Hill to move into executive session per 1. V.S.A 313 (a) (3) for the purpose of appointment or evaluation of a public officer or employee at 8:10 pm Second Jack Helm., Motion passed.

Out of Executive session at 9:55PM

Motion to defer action on the personnel issue until after Town Meeting by John. 2nd by Ron Stewart Jr., Motion passed.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Ron Stewart Jr. at 10:00PM. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted.

Carrie LaFond

Selectboard Assistant