

APPROVED MINUTES  
SPECIAL SELECTBOARD MEETING  
TOWN OF BENSON, VT  
May 8th, 2023, 7pm

**Selectboard:** Linda Peltier (Chair), Brad Barrett, Guy Charlton, Jerod Glover, Tom Bartholomew

**Others:** Carrie LaFond (Selectboard Assistant)

**Public:** Wayne Fletcher, Jack Helm, Nancy Elkington, Christa Jourdan

**Call to Order:** Linda Peltier (Chair) called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Approved Agenda:**

Motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Jerod Glover and seconded by Guy Charlton, motion was passed.

**Public Comment:** None

**Budget Review/ Town Meeting Preparations:**

**Budget Discussion**

- Discussion the Board has faith in the budget items and feels that some line items should have been increased, no further action needed at this time.
- Town Clerk has applied for a \$4,000 energy audit grant to hopefully increase the energy efficiency of the Town Office.
- Tom Bartholomew presented to the Selectboard three different options for budget changes between line items for hauling and gravel (letter in file).
- Discussion on which road could be tagged for a rebuild, no action taken at this time.
- Discussion that the old grader is at Winmill Equipment waiting to be sold and the Town has not put any further money into it and will not be in the future.
- A summary of the Budget will be posted in the Benson Bulletin.

**Discussion on Town Garage**

- Tom Bartholomew expressed his view the Voters voted to spend \$450,000 and if the cost is going to exceed that there should be a re-vote.
- A question was asked how much money is left in the ARPA funds? Answer: \$297,000
- A Question was asked where the Garage is at with permits? Answer: Most of the permits are done and the asbestos testing is completed.
- There was a suggestion that a new committee be formed and a suggestion for a clerk of the works. No action taken.
- Discussion on if the Project needs to go out for bid, Decision by consensus that if the project changes it does need to go out to bid for instance from a three bay to a two bay.
- Discussion on how much is owed to Clear Span for the drawings that have been done. A call will be made to find out exactly what is due to Clear Span. At this point it is estimated to be around \$13,000 for the plans for the building and concrete.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Brad Barrett at 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Carrie LaFond  
Selectboard Assistant