

APPROVED MINUTES
SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BENSON, VT
DECEMBER 18th, 2023, 7:00pm

Selectboard Present:

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

Others Present:

Heidi Chandler (Town Clerk/Treasurer)

Public Present:

Jon Dodd, Adam Stewart, Ben Bartholomew

Call to Order:

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

Approved Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Jerod Glover, seconded by Tom Bartholomew. Motion passed unanimously.

Amendments to the Agenda:

Added garage contract and road conditions.

Public Comment:

Jon Dodd informed the board this agenda was not legally warned. The agenda was published on the town website however the date was listed as December 26th, 2023. Jon Dodd informed the board he was not elevating the matter, only advising as an area to improve.

Ben Bartholomew praised the highway department for a job well done for services performed during the flood event of 12/18/2023.

Garage Contract Discussion:

Amendment to the original town garage contract was presented by Tom Bartholomew for a town garage with a wood frame, 10 inches of insulation, and a tin ceiling. This plan is \$10K less than the original contracted plan (which was steel frame, 4 inches of insulation, and a vinyl-type ceiling). All other components of the contract remain in effect.

Motion to approve amendment and have chair sign was made by Jerod Glover, seconded by Tom Bartholomew, motion passed unanimously.

Guy Charlton requested to "Poll the Board". All members replied "Aye" when asked.

Road Conditions Discussion:

Brad Barrett highlighted areas of storm damage - basically every road in Benson.

Brad Barrett advised he will need to contract assistance for road repairs due to the very small weather window prior to winter setting in. Will be unable to plow affected areas in current condition.

Brad Barrett determined the top three priorities are North Stage Road, North Crossroads, and Frazier Hill Road.

Majority of road damage occurred in areas where culverts were functioning at max capacity, but were overwhelmed by significant deluge.

Budget Discussion:

Jon Dodd requested new signage for the town drop-box. Board validated the need and asked the treasurer to procure the sign from the usual sign vendor.

Board completed review of pages 1-2 of the General Fund. Changes were compiled for future considerations.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Brad Barrett to adjourn at 9:17pm.