

Bennington Town Board
February 9, 2022
Regular Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Meeting Agenda

Work session began at 6:30pm with the all of the Board members in attendance. The Board members audited the bills. Discussion held regarding a resident that wants to bring a dangerous dog into the Town of Bennington from New Jersey. The Supervisor and the Town Clerk have been in touch with the County Dog Control Officer and the Town Attorney regarding this matter. Lisa Aures from the County Zoning presented the Board members with two zoning permit applications. One from James Moscicki that wants to operate an auto repair shop on Geise Rd. The other application is from Dave Smith who wants to operate a vehicle repair shop specializing in installation of interlock devices on Schoellkopf Rd.

Supervisor Grant called the Meeting to Order at 7:40pm; She asked Councilman Mohun to lead the pledge of allegiance.

Financial Matters:

Approval of renewal contract with WLB for Accounting & Budget software support
Motion by Mohun, seconded by Frounick to approve the 2022 Accounting & Budgeting Software Support Contract with Williamson Law Book.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

General Fund vouchers #14 to #43 \$31,808.99
Highway Fund vouchers #2to #23 \$112,302.27
Cowlesville Water vouchers #3 to #6 \$3,082.28
Cowlesville Light vouchers # 1 to #2 \$359.28
Bennington Fire #1 \$30,000

Motion by Bryman, seconded by Mohun to approve the vouchers for payment.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent:0

Financial Reports

Motion by Mohun, seconded by Bryman to approve the Financial Reports ending Dec 31, 2021 and January 2022.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

Communications :

The Town Clerk received two complaints from residents. One regarding plowing on Schad Road and one Schad Rd for a tree falling into the roadway. A letter was received by Reserve Gas regarding emergency contact information. Wyoming County Soil and Water Conservation send a letter regarding the Wyoming County Road Ditch Hydro seeding initiative. All Board members have received packets from the Association of Towns on the broadband survey encouraging residents to participate.

Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Motion by Mohun, seconded by Bryman to approve minutes for January 2022

Organizational Meeting & Regular Session

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

Petitions and public concerns:

Departments:

Town Clerk/Tax Collector – Clerk Busch gave updates on Tax collection, handed out the 2021 Full year Town Clerk report and the January 2022 monthly report. Tax receipts have totaled just over \$4 million so far. The Tax Collector has made payments to the Supervisor and will be paying them complete this week. She will also send a payment to the County towards the final bill due in April.

Highway – Superintendent Koch was not in attendance this evening. Grader has been received and will be put to work right away. Discussion on adopting a mailbox policy.

Resolution #2022-2-1 Adoption of Mailbox Policy

Be it Resolved, that the Bennington Town Board hereby adopts a mailbox policy to address damages to result of snow removal resident’s mailboxes as a operations, and
Be it Further **Tabled – Frounick & Mohun** Resolved, that said
policy shall be effective February 10, 2022 and
shall be made available on the Town’s website and at the Town Hall and Highway Department.

Motion by _____, second by _____
Ayes: _____ Noes: _____ Abstain: _____ Absent: _____

Discussion held on the driveway pipe policy. Resident to provide the drainage pipe, Town to provide labor to dig along with stone to install at an estimated cost not to exceed \$300. These were some ideas, is it for new builds and replacements?

Resolution #2022-2-2 Adoption of Driveway Pipe Policy

Be it Resolved, that the Bennington Town Board hereby adopts a policy for the installation of driveway pipes within the Town, and
Be it Further **Tabled – Frounick & Mohun** Resolved, that said
policy shall be effective January 1, 2022 and
shall be made available on the Town’s website
and at the Town Hall and Highway Department.

Motion by _____, second by _____
Ayes: _____ Noes: _____ Abstain: _____ Absent: _____

Assessor – Public meetings on reassessment process; aged income exemptions
Zoning/Planning – Special use Permit presentation by Lisa Aures from County Zoning Department.

First application is from James Moscicki on Geise Road asking to open an Auto Repair Shop out of his home in an existing attached garage. Mr. Moscicki was in attendance to answer questions. John Hassett and two other neighbors know about the project. Councilman Mohun asked about the number of cars that would be on the property at any given time. Ms. Aures stated that a limit can be put onto the number of vehicles that are

allowed to be on the property at any given time; possibly no more than 6. Read through the Short form SEQR and all were answered little to no impact.

Motion to approve Zoning permit presented by James Moscicki by Frounick and seconded by Bryman. All ayes; approved.

The second application is a Special Use Permit from Dave Smith on Schoellkopf Road so that the State can approve him to install interlock devices on vehicles. Application was also for an auto repair shop. Board will not address that and only look to review the installation of the interlocks as they consider that a separate application that would need to be looked at. Mr. Smith was not in attendance, but called to give his phone number. The Board contacted him by phone as they had questions. No neighbors had been contacted to get feedback prior to the application process.

Councilman Mohun made a motion to table the decision till next month second by Domes; voting all ayes carried.

Gave update on trash cans that WM will give out in the Spring.

Assessment – Jim Kirsch joined the meeting. Supervisor Grant asked about the Senior Citizen exemption. Currently resident has to be 65 or older with a \$10,000 income level. No Bennington resident qualifies at this level.

Water District –

Court –

Park/Recreation –

Old Business:

Use of ARPA Funds; Received notification regarding the guidelines on the use of funds and they now can be used for whatever projects best benefit the Town. Supervisor Grant had a list of ideas that she gave the Board members that would divide up funds to roads, park projects, generator and lighting repairs at the Town hall, electronics recycling event, unpaid water bills. (The water bills would be put back into the Town funds once repaid) In this way the funds would benefit all.

Contractors coming in to look at the lighting and generator projects being done at the Town.

Motion to go into Executive Session at 9:35pm by Frounick and second by Bryman. The Town Clerk and all attendees were asked to leave at that time.

New Business:

Resolution #2022-2-3 Amendment of the 2018-2022 Teamsters Agreement

Be it Resolved, that the 2018-2022 Agreement between the Town of Bennington and Teamster's Local #264 is hereby amended as follows:

Appendix B Wage Rates: Effective 1/1/22 Full Time Employees Motor Equipment \$23.08/hour, and be it

Further Resolved, that a one-time lump-sum payment will be granted to all full-time members of the bargaining unit and to the Highway Superintendent in the amount of \$500.00, less any and all applicable deductions and taxes. These increases are made without precedent and shall not be pointed to at any point in the future as requiring any such similar payment to employees.

Motion by Bryman, second by Domes

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Motion was made by Councilman Mohun to adjourn at 9:57pm. Voting all ayes; carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Busch

Town Clerk