

Bennington Town Board

April 14, 2021

7:30 p.m.

Meeting Agenda

Councilman Frounick and Gadd audited the bills. Councilman Waite and Mohun are excused from the meeting tonight. Superintendent Koch briefed the members on projects that he is working on over the next couple of weeks. These will include resurfacing Getman Rd. next week. The crew was also working on ditching projects on Sierk Rd. and paving work on Sinn Rd.

Supervisor Grant called the meeting to order at 7:30pm; She asked Councilman Frounick to lead the pledge of allegiance.

Financial Matters:

Transfers within accounts

- Transfers within accounts:

Highway Fund: From DA5142.1 Snow Removal Personal Services \$15,730 to DA5130.2 Machinery Equipment \$15,730.

Cowlesville Water: From SW1-8389.4 Water Other Contractual \$2.00 to SW1-9010.8 State Retirement \$2.00

Motion by Frounick, Seconded by Gadd.

Ayes: 3 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2

Approve renewal: Payroll Software Maintenance Agreement w/Williamson Law Book

- Motion to approve the renewal of the annual Payroll software maintenance agreement with Williamson Law Book.

Motion by Gadd; Seconded by Gadd.

Ayes: 3 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2

General Fund vouchers #58 to #80 \$16,985.04

Highway Fund vouchers #33 to #48 \$38,672.90

Cowlesville Water vouchers #12 to #20 \$7,024.35

Cowlesville Light vouchers # 4 \$108.90

Bennington Fire #2 \$25,000

- Motion by Frounick, seconded by Gadd to approve the vouchers for payment.

Ayes: 3 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2

Financial Reports

- Motion by Gadd, seconded by Frounick to approve the Financial Reports ending February 28, 2021.

Ayes: 3 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2

BAN payment. Motion by Gadd; Seconded by Gadd

Ayes: 3 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2

Communications: COI received from Driven Contracting for work that is being done in the Town. A notice was received from the DEA regarding National Take Back Day that will take place on Saturday, April 24, 2021. A certificate of analysis was received from

BioTrax for March sampling. A monthly report of activity was received from Wyoming County Zoning Department for zoning activity from March. A land separation on Friedman Rd, a Zoning permit for an addition on Folsomdale Rd. Office of Real Property for NYS requested a completed Municipal report of Special Franchise Activity. This was completed and submitted on 4/7/21. A Booklet was received and is posted on the Town Clerk's bulletin board regarding spring programs at Letchworth State Park. The Town Clerk received communication from EDRS regarding FEMA assistance for COVID related deaths in NYS. Funeral expense reimbursement is available to qualifying families. A comment came in from the Towns Facebook page regarding road conditions on Sierk Rd. Oatka Snowmobile Appreciation dinner BBQ. Tickets available if any Board Member would like to go. Supervisor Grant wanted to mention some issues with having the snowmobile trail through the park. There's a virtual Pokémon Go game and people are driving across the lawn thinking it's a road and causing damage during the wintertime. Discussion held on putting some temporary bollards so the snowmobiles can still use the trail. Should we contact the club to see if they can assist with paying for these? Justice court report from February and March. Reserve Gas notification of phone numbers for emergencies. Thompkins insurance notification of compliance of state procedures. GLOW solid waste annual report. Receipt from NYS DEC inactive Solid Waste management facility.

Minutes of Previous Meetings:

- Motion to approve minutes for March 2021, made by Gadd, Seconded by Frounick.

Ayes: 3

Noes: 0

Absent: 2

Abstain: 0

Petitions and public concerns:

Departments:

Town Clerk – The Clerk gave Board Members receipts and information regarding the collect of taxes for 2021. Overall, more money was collected this year than last and the amount of unpaids was significantly lower than prior years. At this time the County has been paid all monies owed, the Town has also been paid including the interest and late payment fees. The Clerk distributed her monthly report for the Month of March. The Town Clerk will be working with a DogEnumeration.com to complete a dog enumeration beginning the Month of May. Postcards will be sent out to all residents in the Town asking them to complete the card and send back into the Town. The Town Clerk will work with the County Dog Enforcement officer after 6/1 to complete random compliance assessments over the summer. The Enumeration must be completed every three years.

Highway – The Superintendent briefed the Board on projects during the Work Session. Sierk had ditching that was completed today. Getman Rd. is being prepped. Supervisor Grant shared with the Board a letter from Dan Curtis regarding OSHA training he can offer with some shared service trainings for highway workers.

Assessor – Jim Kirsch apprised the Board of the work he has been doing the last month. Lots of inquiries regarding the revaluations, explains that it makes the taxes fair for all and brings the homes up to fair market values. Annual training program will be coming up in July, TBD on whether it will be in person or virtual.

Zoning – Home Occupation renewals were submitted for the following businesses; Dusen Marketing, Rispoli's Bakery, C*Shore Design, Design a Tea, Precision Cylinder Head, Ed Duda Woodworks and Cheryl's Pampering Pond. The Town needs to rescind the

permit for Salon Lux's for a home salon due to Highland Glen rules. Discussion on Gary Arcese's renewal application. Supervisor will discuss with the County tomorrow.

Motion to approve with exception of G. Arcese made by Gadd; Seconded by Frounick. Voting all ayes, carried.

Water District – Grant may be available to potentially fund replacement home meters along with a hand-held meter to gather readings. Received a quote to replace the 88 units for \$22K. The meter reader with reports, billing and postage would be \$1,000/yr. Bullis Rd. needed to have a leak repaired since the last meeting. Checking property to make sure that the necessary fixes were done to fix the lawn of the property owner. Court – Back in session this week.

Park/Recreation – Egg Hunt took place and the Town hosted 50 families from various Towns. Water is connected at Pine Tree Park and bathrooms are open. Alden Men's softball league is seeking to use the back diamond this summer. They are interested in doing some work to the bleachers. Theresa Acquard will be running the summer swim program this year, will run similar to last years program to keep the numbers down.

Old Business:

Electronics Collection – Several in May (Batavia, Eastern Hills) do we still want to do one with Benn Fire? They are willing to host & work. We could use some of the Transfer Station reserve funds for expenses. Supervisor Grant will contact GLOW to see if they may be able to use our site in Bennington as a collection site so we would not have to use the Town's funds.

New Business:

Federal Funding – Discussion held on what possible uses could/would be for the Federal money coming to the Town. The Town would have a couple of years to utilize the funds, but the Federal Government is giving restrictions on how to use it.

Cannabis legislation – Supervisor Grant handed out a packet to the Board members. She attended a webinar on the legislation a week ago. The Town has the option to opt out of retail sales & on-site use. Legislation available and the Town would need to make a decision by 12/31/21. Councilman Gadd asked about drug testing our highway workers and how this legislation would be applied.

Resolution to create a per-diem position in the Highway department and move Richard Mruzek to this position from his current Seasonal laborer position. The per-diem gives the Superintendent flexibility to schedule him. He may also be assigned other work within other departments in the Town. Current wage is \$12.50/hr. and will continue that wage throughout the rest of the year.

Resolution #2021-4-1 Create per Diem Laborer Position and set salary

Be it Resolved, That there is hereby created one (1) position of Laborer, Per Diem within the Highway Department, with job duties to be assigned and supervised by the Highway Superintendent, effective April 26, 2021 at a rate of \$12.50 per hour, with only those benefits as prescribed by law, and be it

Further resolved, that said laborer may be assigned work within other Town Departments as authorized and supervised by the Town Supervisor.

Motion by Gadd, seconded by Frounick

Ayes: 3

Noes: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 2

Any other Business to Come before the Board/County Matters:

Discussion held on a temporary laborer to mow a small area by the Town sheds.

Motion to Adjourn by Councilman Frounick at 8:41pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Busch

Town Clerk