

**Town of Benton
Select Board Meeting
Monday, April 15, 2024**

Select Board Members: William R. Darcy, Chair; Kim Carpenter, and Gina Elliott

Also Present: Dwight Swauger, Treasurer; Michael Stiebitz, Town Clerk and Tax Collector; Joe Boutin, Jr., road contractor.

These draft minutes of the Town of Benton Select Board are believed accurate and correct, but they are subject to additions, deletions, and corrections by the Select Board at the next meeting when the Board votes its final approval of the minutes. These minutes are made available at this time to conform to the requirements of New Hampshire RSA 91-A:2.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Darcy at 6:30 PM.

Member Carpenter moved approval of the April 15, 2024 minutes, seconded by Member Elliott and approved.

There was a discussion of the legislative proposal by banks to eliminate the NH Public Deposit Investment Pool and the need to contact our legislators to oppose the bill.

The AG Charitable Trust Unit's acting director responded positively to the Chairman's email concerning the "savings account" held by the Trustees of the Trust Funds by suggesting a settlement agreement that did not require a lawyer or a court filing.

The Chairman discussed the PUC proceeding concerning the purchase of the telephone company and taking it private.

The Board discussed two possible Town Hall projects, replacement of the ramp and a fence for the side yard.

The Board signed documents to participate in the emergency notification system.

The Board commended Scott Roden, Mike Stiebitz, Paula Boutin and Diane Roden for their work on improvements to the interior of Town Hall, the new blinds on the windows and ceiling fans.

Treasurer Swauger reported that the operating account at Woodsville Guarantee Savings Bank had \$129,908.38 and the NH PDIP had \$461,417.51.

The Board received a building permit application for the construction of a garage on the Carpenter property on Tunnel Stream Road. The application showed the building closer to the property line than permitted by the zoning regulations. As a result, a Board of Adjustment must decide on whether to grant a variance from the zoning regulations. A five member Board of

Adjustment must be appointed by the Select Board and the Planning Board needs to make a recommendation to the Board of Adjustment.

The Board received and signed a Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber from Cersosimo Lumber for a 1200 acre parcel (USFS Tunnel Stream Units 55-80 and 82).

Member Elliot received a request from Littleton Monuments for information on a plot size for an upcoming burial.

The next meeting is May 6 at 6:30 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM.