

Town of Benton
Select Board Meeting
Monday August 27, 2018

Select Board Members: William R. Darcy, Chair; Regina Elliott, Carol Vincelette

Also Present: Dwight Swauger, Treasurer and Joe Boutin, 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 Elliott noted an error in the draft meeting minutes of August 13, incorrectly identifying the lady who had deed problems with a Mountain View Cemetery plot. Chairman Darcy moved approval of the August 13 minutes, with a change to the corrected name, seconded by Member Vincelette and approved.

Chairman Darcy noted he received an email approving the funding for a portion of the October 2017 storm damage costs and a tentative approval on the most expensive part of the July 2017 storm damage (Davis Brook Bridge).

Chairman Darcy handed out a letter from the New Hampshire Forests and Lands Division notifying the Town of an intent to log 130 acres of Benton State Forest. The actual logging contracts and the resulting revenues to the Town are likely many years away.

The Treasurer Dwight Swauger reported the operating fund had \$97,548.20 and the ICS account has \$250,306.18.

Chairman Darcy handed out a letter from contract assessor Steve Allen reporting on the results of the reevaluation showing a small increase in the grand list and few “appeals” of individual property assessments.

A letter from the Grafton County Regional Development Corporation was circulated and it was agreed that the upcoming annual meeting had little relevance to Benton.

Chairman Darcy reported that Ray Lobdell’s assessment of the culvert east of Davis Brook is that an increase in the size of the culvert alone would not prevent future overflows. He said we would have to hire an engineer to get the required environmental approvals to reroute the stream and culvert. Lobdell recommended a Littleton Engineer, Don Bouchard of Horizon Engineering, who was contacted to provide a proposal.

Joe Boutin reported that the contractor fixing Long Pond Road for USFS had ordered the gravel for the work. He also reported that Jeff Elliott, Jr. had started the roadside mowing on Tunnel Stream Road and would do the rest of the roads in the weeks ahead.

The Board agreed on a cemetery fix-up date of Saturday, September 22.

The Board agreed on the following Board meeting dates for the next few months: September 10 and 24, October 8 and 22, and November 12 and 26.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.