

Town of Benton
Select Board Meeting
Monday January 20, 2020

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

Also Present: Dwight Swauger, Treasurer; Joe Boutin, Jr., Surveyor of Wood and Lumber

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 moved approval of the January 6, 2019 minutes, seconded by Chairman Darcy and approved.

Chairman Darcy presented a letter he sent to Woodsville Ambulance regarding their rate increase and transferring responsibility for High Street to Warren Ambulance.

Another budget workshop has been set for Thursday, January 23, 2020 and has been duly noticed on our website and posted in the Town Hall foyer.

Treasurer Swauger reported an operating account balance of \$206,628.66 and an ICS balance of \$383,108.30. Checks for bills prepared by the Treasurer were signed by the Board. Treasurer Swauger reported that he had completed preparation of IRS documents 1099, W-2 and 941.

There was a discussion of the request to the Board of Education to summarize budget data for the Annual Report in lieu of the detailed data and provide an analysis of the important factors that influence the budget and taxes.

Chairman Darcy presented a draft of the 2020 Town Meeting warrant in a more detailed and complete form than the last meeting. Joe Boutin expressed concern about the purchase of many cemetery plots by or for non-resident relatives if the restriction is lifted. It may unduly diminish the supply for residents. There was discussion of differential pricing for non-resident relatives and restrictions on excessive number of plots. It was agreed to revisit this proposed warrant article.

The Board signed a notice of intent to cut timber, previously posted, for a job on Long Pond Road with the understanding that it would not be filed by the Surveyor of Wood and Lumber until receipt of the bond funds.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 PM.