

**Town of Benton  
Select Board Meeting  
Monday, December 23, 2024**

**Select Board Members:** William R. Darcy, Chair; Regina Elliott, and Kimberli Carpenter  
phone)

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

*These draft minutes of the Town of Benton Select Board are believed to be 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.*

Chairman Darcy called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Member Elliott moved approval of the November 18, 2024 meeting minutes with a correction of  
the spelling of one name, seconded by Member Carpenter and approved.

The Chair reported that the grant application to Grafton County for ARPA funds to build an  
ADA-compliant ramp on the Town Hall with a new entrance door was approved in the amount of  
\$19,046.00.

The Board signed a one-year contract with Avitar for property assessment services.

Treasurer Swauger reported \$267,540. 56 in the operating account and \$427,472.07 in the NH  
PDIP account. The Treasurer submitted checks for payment, including Grafton County taxes,  
which Board members signed.

The Chair reported that after a series of lengthy telephone communications, the Consolidated  
Communications internet services were successfully terminated. Mike Stiebitz is working on  
transferring telephone services to an internet VOIP provider so the more expensive Consolidated  
telephone service can be terminated.

The payment of annual dues for the North Country Council was approved on the expectation that  
they could assist the town with updating our zoning regulations.

The Benton School budget is scheduled for a meeting on January 8, 2025.

There was an excellent turnout for the annual Christmas Memory Tree celebration at Town Hall.

The Board approved the meeting schedule for the next 3 months: January 6 and 20; February 3  
and 17; and March 3 and 17.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

