

Town of Benton
Select Board Meeting
Tuesday May 24, 2022

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

Also Present: Dwight Swauger, Treasurer; Mike Stiebitz, Town Clerk and Tax Collector; Joe Boutin, Jr., road contractor and Surveyor of Wood & 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 6:31 PM.

Member Elliott moved approval of the May 9, 2022 minutes, seconded by Member Carpenter and approved.

Mike Stiebitz presented his extensive research on the Forest Clark subdivision and related tax issues. It was agreed that upon written request he would modify the tax records to conform to relevant deeds.

Mike Stiebitz reported that Avitar has produced new tax maps but he had to make some modifications to add new addresses and subdivisions.

Chairman Darcy reported that the cemetery sign installation was unsuccessful because of large rocks impeding the post hole digging. Lincoln Sign will try again this week and the Chairman has requested Marty Noble to excavate the pole holes to make the installation easier.

Chairman Darcy reported that he had called two cemetery monument companies, Littleton Monument Company and Gandin Brothers of South Ryegate, VT, inquiring about their gravestone repair services. Both companies say they do that work but there are issues with finding workers. They will be following up with a cemetery inspection.

Member Elliott reported that she is developing cemetery rules to be reviewed by the Board and she is following up with inviting John Lord to Benton for a tutorial on cemetery gravestone maintenance.

The Board signed a pole license for NHEC for the placement of an additional utility pole on Tunnel Stream Road.

Treasurer Swauger reported the operating account balance was \$251,985.98 and the ICS account had \$233,767.33.

There was a discussion of inflation in gas and other prices and Joe Boutin inquired about an adjustment to the road services contract to account for the large increase in gas and diesel prices. The Board said they would entertain a proposal.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.