

**Town of Benton  
Select Board Meeting  
Monday, January 9, 2023**

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

Also Present: Dwight Swauger, Treasurer; Mike Stiebitz, Town Clerk and Tax Collector and Joe Boutin, Jr., road contractor and 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 6:33 PM.

Member Carpenter moved approval of the December 19, 2022 minutes, seconded by Member Elliott, and approved.

Chairman Darcy reported that he had completed the application to the NH Public Deposit Investment Pool; that completed DRA forms MS-60W and MS-60a were submitted; and that the Town Hall side door roof/canopy had been ordered. He also reported that Woodsville Ambulance had responded positively to our objection to the population used in their rate calculations so the proposed fee had been reduced by almost \$5,000.

Treasurer Swauger reported the balance in the operating account of \$437,349 and the ICS account of \$234,093.51.

School Board member Swauger reported that preliminary budget numbers for 2023 indicated a reduction in the school budget from the previous year of about \$21,000 as a result of a reduction in the number of Benton students. He also reported that the administration was anticipating a current budget year surplus of \$44,000.

A joint budget hearing with the Board of Education is scheduled for January 23 at 6:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM.