

Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, July 12, 2022
Village Depot Offices/ 7:00 PM - Virtual Meeting/Open Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENT: The Village of North Bennington Trustees held its regular meeting for business on July 12, 2022 at 7:00 pm. This meeting was held by video and telephone conference only via Zoom. This is in accordance with H.681 (section 6.); addendum 01-20/Act 92

The Village Depot was open for in person meeting as well. Treasurer Buggee and Trustees, Rogers, Creedy, Mullineaux, and Lowary were present in that space as well. All others attended the meeting via Zoom.

Also in attendance was NBFD Chief Ed Harrington.

Chairman Mary Rogers opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Trustees Present: Scott Creedy, Matthew Patterson, Tara Lowary, Mary Rogers, Ray Mullineaux, Treasurer Doug Buggee

At this time, Trustee Rogers reviewed the Rules and Procedures that she had distributed prior to the meeting. Item C, section 5 under Organization, it was unanimous that all motions will require a¹second.

Regarding agendas, Section E, Item #2; It was decided that Agendas will be posted in a specific set of places; Depot, Post Office, Library and FPF.

Mary Rogers made a motion seconded by Scott Creedy to adopt the Rules and Procedures as presented with changes to A-5, D-2, E-2 and on the condition that these Rules & Procedures be revisited next year with possible changes to language. This was so voted.

A motion was made by Tara Lowary and seconded by Matthew Patterson to approve the June 7, 2022 minutes. This was so voted by all Trustees present, Patterson, Rogers, Creedy, Lowary and Mullineaux.

A motion was made by Matthew Patterson and seconded by Ray Mullineaux, to approve the July warrant and to pay the bills. This was so voted by all trustees.

A motion was made by Matthew Patterson and seconded by Tara Lowary, to approve the extended June warrant and to pay the bills. This was so voted by all trustees.

A motion was made by Matthew Patterson and seconded by Tara Lowary to accept the June 2022 Payroll warrants. This was so voted.

Citizen Comments: None

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Doug Buggee reported the following;

- The following reports were presented to the Trustees prior to the meeting. They are as follows.
- Payroll Warrant - pdf
- Village Warrant - excel - with tab for expense details
- Cash Balances
- The Budget vs Actual Report.
- Mary continues to train Treasurer Doug Buggee in the areas related to her former position.
- Treasurer Buggee reviewed ARPA Funding that has been distributed.
- Remaining accounts to be funded prior to 6/30/22 were funded.

Highway Department –

June is usually a very slow month. This year was the exception, with the completion of all road side mowing and the Bank Street sidewalk from School Street to Church Street.

Sidewalk:

- This project took about three and a half weeks to complete, from the excavation which was done all in house with the help of a rented excavator.

Two days of pouring concrete, no handprints, feet or bike marks in it.

All three employees worked on this every day. Arthur Devlin (Big A) came in to screen some top soil to complete the job. As of today, the grass is growing in and the Highway Department is pleased with the work.

Mowing/Maintenance:

- The dry weather was a help as the lawns did not needing regular weekly mowing,
- Road side mowing / trimming was done
- The chain link part of Lions Park is completed and looks great. We are now waiting on the guard rail company

Depot:

- Work on the lower roof, sidewalk side of the Depot has been twice postponed. It has a tar coating in dire need of repair. Originally scheduled for last Fall, it was scheduled for Spring and again, postponed due to the passing of the Foreman. However, Doxie has informed Mr. Leblanc it will be

finished this year(summer).

The first step is power washing which will create a lot of dirt and debris. When this was proposed there was no art on the walk. I called Joe Chirchirillo and explained that the art on the sidewalk will need to be temporarily moved while the roof work is done. I have informed Doxie that we will need a week's notice to get the art moved. Mr. Leblanc hopes that this request is supported.

- Cross walk painting around the village has started.
- The speed sign seems to be working. It was located on Bank Street during the construction and Mr. Leblanc did notice a difference.

GRANTS:

- The Overlea Road culvert project may have some delay due to the scope of project – the thought of moving the culvert to one side is not feasible. Design and material procurement is ongoing.
- The Village was awarded an \$8,700 Better Roads grant (20% match) for culvert work on College Road. This is by the Kohler road cut. The plan is to complete this by Fall.
- We tentatively have an \$11,500 grant for V-Trans Municipal Grants in Aid for 2023 and Mr. Leblanc believes that this applies towards other culvert work needed on hydrologically connected road segments identified on the 2021 road inventory.
- Several grant opportunities open in August/September. With BCRC assistance we will pursue:
 - Municipal Planning Grant
 - Drainage projects on lower Mechanic Street
 - Municipal building heating options.

DRB News — There will be a meeting on July 19th to hear an appeal and to request a permit extension; Honeysuckle Lane property. Notices had been distributed to adjacent landowners and interested parties. For more information, please contact Zoning Administrator Billy Rogers.

Planning Commission- There was a reorganizational meeting on June 28th. Meetings will be held on the third Sunday of each month, the next one to be held on July 17th.

It was noted that new bylaws were adopted in 2018 and the commission is currently working on revisions to those. Kim Hall and Mary Rogers are Co-chairs with Chris Damon, Matthew Patterson and Bob Howe filling the remaining commissioner seats.

Water Board – A recent water issue on Prospect and Mechanic Streets has been resolved. Drainage issues and options are currently being discussed for that area.

Fire Department News – Chief Harrington was present to discuss truck 55 replacement proposals. He discussed differences in the three proposals including warranty variances. He also stated that the Fire Department in general would like to purchase the replacement truck from Bulldog. They feel that this is the best choice.

Treasurer Buggee is again requesting the full eighty-page scope of paperwork that was sent to Chief Harrington with the cover page proposals. Treasurer Buggee is well versed in this type of language as he has financed many vehicles of this magnitude through his job in banking.

Trustee Rogers asked if used vehicles have been looked into. Chief Harrington said that this is not the route that they want to go and therefore no, they have not looked into used vehicles.

Treasurer Buggee reviewed the current finances that relate to fire department equipment purchases and replacements including sinking funds and other funds in the current budget for the Village of North Bennington. He also noted that he has been in touch with Community Bank and has current borrowing rates through 8/26/22.

At this time a motion was made by Trustee Rogers and seconded by Trustee Creedy to form a committee to investigate and formulate a proposal for the purchase of a vehicle to replace Truck 55. This proposal will also include funding options. This proposal will be presented at the continuance meeting to be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, July 26, 2022. The committee will consist of Treasurer Buggee, Chief Harrington, and Trustees Mullineaux and Creedy. This was so voted with affirmative votes from Trustees Rogers, Mullineaux, Lowary and Creedy. Trustee Patterson voted no.

The oil burner at the firehouse is in need of replacement. Research on replacement has begun. Trustees Rogers, Creedy, Mullineaux and Chief Harrington, will meet with energy efficiency expert Brill Christian on Wednesday evening, July 13, 2022 to discuss and explore options. They will meet at the firehouse at 6:30.

Chief Harrington is requesting permission to proceed with a bid of \$7,500.00 to construct an addition on the current shed at the firehouse. Purchasing policies will be looked into by Trustee Rogers to determine if three bids are required before beginning construction. Finances for this purpose will also be explored to determine if the money is available.

Chief Harrington reports that there is a drainage issue at the firehouse. Highway Superintendent Leblanc will look at this issue and report back.

Chief Harrington also reports that the firehouse floor where the trucks sit, needs repainting at \$15/square foot. He will investigate how much square footage there is and what the price will be.

New Business – There have been resident complaints of long periods of time where the train sits loudly idling.

Old Business – The posted ordinances were reviewed and discussed. Tara Lowary made a motion seconded by Ray Mullineaux to authorize July 15, 2022 as the effective date of the posted ordinances. This was so voted.

- Trustee Rogers made a motion seconded by Ray Mullineaux to adopt the LEMP. This was so voted.
- As reported by Mary Rogers, the website continues to be progressing forward and the completion date is expected to be August 1st.
- The Hazard Mitigation DRAFT is posted on the Fund for North Bennington site and the BCRC site for review and discussion.

Matthew Patterson made a motion at 9:10 PM to continue the meeting until July 26, 2022 at 7:00 PM. This was seconded by Tara Lowary and so voted by all trustees.

Lorine Elwell
Village Clerk
Village of North Bennington
