

Village of Old Bennington
Trustees Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2023

Meeting was held at The Barn & Zoom

Officials Present: Trustees Jim Warren, Steven Anisman, Anne Slattery, Ed Woods, Treasurer Kathy Wagenknecht, Planning Board Chair Nancy Coseo, Clerk Jan Buonanno

Citizens present: Thomas Scheetz, Ron Rabidou, Lucy Baldwin

1. **Opening:** The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm

2. **Changes/Updates to the Agenda**

- Add discussion of annual meeting/SA powerpoint

3. **Minutes:** There was no change to the March minutes. SA moved to approve the minutes from the March meeting. AS seconded. The Trustees unanimously approved the motion.

4. **Citizen Comments**

- none

5. **Reports of Commissioners and Officers**

a. Road Commissioner:

- Crosswalk sign on Monument- Contacted Jerome
- Cold patching on Fairview and Bank (\$1,090)
- State permit fees due for having roads & storm water
- Notification for spraying herbicide- new this year all residents have to be individually notified before spraying in June. Commissioner will get language from Pembroke.

b. Tree Commissioner

- Tree on island- not sure who cleared it after storm
- Hammond/Monument tree removal- safety issue

c. Parks and Sidewalks Commissioner:

- None

d. Police Commissioner:

- New detailed monthly report from police officer coverage
- March: 44 hours of coverage, 21 tickets given

e. Treasurer

- Expensive month: Insurance, highway maintenance
- \$75,000 total winter road maintenance- up ~\$25,00 from previous years

f. Planning Commission

- Extend temporary fence permit for another 6 months at Walloomsac Inn

6. **Warrants:** JS moved to approve the warrant list. SA seconded. The trustees unanimously approved the motion.

7. **Discussion of Annual Meeting** SA began making a slideshow for the annual meeting with town basics & slides for each commissioner. Commissioners send info to SA before the annual meeting.

8. **FY24 budget:**

- Past year: A little extra income (ARPA), a little less expense (police)
- EW Check extra \$25,000 spent on roads this year. (56,000 has been the highest)
- Taxes about the same (\$128,118)
- More highway fines expected 2023
- Should taxes be raised? Reallocated general v roads? (now ~130,000 roads, 10,000 general)
- Any changes to budgets due by the 21st to KW

9. **Open seats FY24**

- Three trustees up for election (SW, AS, EW)
- AS for presiding office, EW for Police commissioner (decided after election by trustees)
- Ron Rabidou running for treasurer
- KW for auditor
- No candidate for Clerk (KW has a lead, EW will publicize)
- Panning/Zoning

10. **Old Business:** none

11. **New Business:** NC will organize snacks, JB will organize annual report- commissioners send reports before April 21, EW writing annual meeting warning.

12. **Adjournment:** SA makes a motion to adjourn, JW seconds. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.