

Village of Old Bennington
Trustees Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2021

Meeting was held at The Barn

Officials Present: James Gallen, Jim Warren, Steven Anisman, Ed Woods, Susan Wright
Treasurer Kathy Wagenknecht, and Clerk Jan Buonanno

Officials Absent: None

Citizens Present: William Karis, Megan Schwarzscopf

1. Opening. The meeting was called to order at 7:05
2. Minutes. There were no changes to the posted minutes. SA moved to approve the minutes from the September meeting. JW seconded. The Trustees unanimously approved the motion.
3. Robert's Rules of Orders
 - JG recommends a system of order for contentious topics (we are neighbors!). Won't be necessary all the time but when there is a need for everyone to be heard.
4. Jerome
 - scheduling mistake (rescheduled for next month)
 - has committed to shoveling marble sections of sidewalk rather than machine clearing
5. Bank of Bennington Signing and Discussion
 - request for a controlling party that can sign off on things. can't be treasurer, has to be redone when the board changes (every year). paperwork not present - signing next time.
5. Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - need a plan because it's tied to FEMA money
 - VT emergency Management called to offer grant to cover part of the cost but still would cost \$3000
 - possibly committed to making one after Hurricane Irene, but no one is sure
 - suggestion to ask to join Bennington's plan (has been done in the past)
6. Citizen Comments
 - none
7. Reports of Commissioners.
 - a. Road Commissioner.
 - emailed Mr Henderson (BCRC) about money for Bank Street. Grant due soon.
 - new road signs have been ordered
 - b. Tree Commissioner.
 - Cemetery tree work wasn't completed, one of the trees dropped a big branch in the road, Jerome cleaned it up.

- Requesting payment from Bennington for cleanup, as per bylaws (tree owner pays for work)

c. Parks and Sidewalks Commissioner.

- Streetlights: some streetlight parts are made out of plastic (and from the wrong time period) plastic parts are deteriorating- reinforcing the plastic is suggested by Monument Electric for \$100-125 each (stop gap).
- Is there a more long term solution?
- An audit of all lamps would be about 250\$
- EW makes a motion to authorize the audit (with photographs, try to find manufacturer) SA seconds. Motion passes.

d. Police Commissioner.

- Officer Corey: 52 hours, 10 tickets, \$1792 potential fines, 36 property watches
- No update on camera (Bennington Chief working on grants)
- Speed sign is stored for winter- could borrow it in non-plowing season
- Proposed cameras in circle, increased Officer Andy presence at night

e. Treasurer.

- CDs need renewing. It doesn't really matter- interest is very low.
- Police auto repair \$558.24

6. Warrants. SA moved to approve the warrant list. JW seconded. The Trustees unanimously approved the motion.

7. Old Business. none

8. New business. Should we buy a zoom account? \$179 yearly (village meeting is coming) Have gone through KW or JG's in the past.

9. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 SA moved, SW seconded