

**Town of Benton
Select Board Meeting
Monday, December 9, 2024**

Select Board Members: William R. Darcy, Chair; Regina Elliott, and Kimberli Carpenter
phone)

Also Present: Dwight Swauger, Treasurer and School Board Chair; Micheal Stiebitz, Town Clerk
and Tax Collectors; and Joe Boutin, Jr., road contractor.

*These draft minutes of the Town of Benton Select Board are believed to be 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.*

Chairman Darcy called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

Member Elliott moved approval of the November 18, 2024, meeting minutes, seconded by
Member Carpenter and approved.

The Board approved a building permit for a shed at Tunnel Stream Road (Map 2, Lot 32) for
Richard Kraemer and Loretta Postell.

The Chair reported that he intended to submit a grant application to Grafton County for ARPA
funds to build an ADA-compliant ramp on Town Hall with a new entrance door. Mike Stiebitz
and Marty Noble are helping with this project.

Mike Stiebitz reported on correspondence with an NHEC arborist encouraging NHEC to clear
the utility rights of way for Tunnel Stream Road and connecting roads.

The Chair noted correspondence and contract received from Woodsville Rescue Ambulance
concerning increased charges for next year.

Treasurer Swauger reported \$55,813.00 in the operating account and \$427,472.07 in the NH
PDIP account.

School Board Chair Swauger reported SAU 23 approved a budget with an 11.5% increase in
expenditures. He also noted that 10 of 21 Benton students have been classified as special
education students, which will likely increase the Benton school budget. He also discussed the
number of instructional assistants hired for each classroom. The Benton School budget is
scheduled for a hearing on January 8, 2025.

A pistol permit was issued to Gina Elliott.

The Board approved the issuing of a Town Hall key to Frances Hadden.

The next Select Board meeting will be held on December 23, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

