

**Town of Benton
Select Board Meeting
Monday, October 21, 2024**

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

Also Present: Dwight Swauger, Treasurer and School Board Chair; Michael Stiebitz, Town Clerk and Tax Collector; Joe Boutin, Jr., road contractor; and Greg Mathieson.

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 6:30 PM.

Member Carpenter moved approval of the October 7, 2024, meeting minutes, seconded by Chair Darcy and approved.

Chair Darcy reported that the tax rate had been set at \$8.37, a penny more than last year, with the Town contributing \$30,000 from its unassigned fund to achieve that result.

Chair Darcy reported that he had made a \$50,000 transfer from the NH PDIP account to the Woodsville Savings Bank Account.

Treasurer Swauger reported the account at Woodsville Guaranty Bank had \$50,000, and the NH PDIP account had \$423,835.17. The Board signed checks prepared by the Treasurer.

School Board Chair Swauger noted that a preliminary school budget presented by SAU staff showed an increase of \$100,000.

Joe Boutin noted a variety of work he performed on the roads, including paving patches on Howe Hill Road to fill two potholes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.