

**Town of Benton
Select Board Meeting
Monday, August 19, 2024**

Select Board Members: William R. Darcy, Chair; Gina Elliott and Kimberli Carpenter

Also Present: Dwight Swauger, Treasurer and School Board Chair; Michael Stiebitz, Town Clerk and Tax Collector; Joe Boutin, Jr., road contractor; Joseph Boutin III, School Board Member; Gil and Laura Richardson (via telephone); State Representative candidates Marie Bjelobrk and Greg Mathieson; Matt Bjelobrk and Doug Riley.

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 Elliott Carpenter moved approval of the July 22, 2024, meeting minutes, seconded by Chair Darcy, and approved.

Marie Bjelobrk and Greg Mathieson, both Republican candidates for State Representative in Grafton District 5, gave presentations of their qualifications and positions on the issues.

Gil Richardson noted that he has appointed Lara Saffo as an Assistant Moderator for the upcoming primary election in September, general election in November, and Town Meeting in March.

Laura Richardson explained the residence construction they planned and asked if a building permit was required, and they were told a permit is necessary.

Planning Board Secretary Darcy reported the Planning Board granted the subdivision application of Scott Roden.

The Select Board referred a permit application of Gary Curtis to the Planning Board.

Treasurer Swauger reported \$176,703.77 in the operating account at Woodsville Guaranty Bank and the NH PDIP account had \$469,693.99. The Board signed checks prepared by the Treasurer.

School Board Chair Swauger reported SAU23 had withdrawn \$28,530 from the expendable trust fund, considerably less than had been previously estimated.

Chair Darcy reported he had ordered a mailbox and pole for placement across from the Town Hall.

Member Elliott reported that the Elliott family reunion plans to use the Town Hall next year. Chris Tromblay will be renting the Town Hall for a baby shower.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.