Town of Benton Select Board Meeting Monday, November 18, 2024

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

Also Present: Dwight Swauger, Treasurer and School Board Chair; 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 6:31 PM.

Member Elliott moved approval of the November 4, 2024, meeting minutes, seconded by Member Carpenter and approved.

The Board acted on two building permits recommended by the Planning Board. The Board approved the building permit to modify Thurston's attached garage on Long Pond Road for an accessory residence. The Board, by a 2-1 vote (Chair Darcy supporting the Planning Board's recommendation), rejected a proposal to add another RV trailer for the exclusive use of the property owners on a lot on Tunnel Stream Road that already had an RV trailer used for rental purposes. The Board majority believed the Zoning Regulations were ambiguous on the subject, and instead of creating a possibly bad precedent, they thought the better course was to have the Planning Board propose an amendment to the Zoning Regulations to address multiple RVs on a building lot.

Treasurer Swauger reported \$45,766.89 in the operating account and \$425,777.75 in the NH PDIP account.

School Board Chair Swauger reported the third draft of the SAU 23 budget showed an 11% increase in expenditures. He also noted an increase in the classification of Benton students as special education, which will likely increase the Benton school budget.

It was noted that the Memory Tree celebration will be held on December 18th at 7 PM.

The next Select Board meeting will be held on December 9, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.