

Bethlehem Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
Bethlehem Selectmen Office  
January 26, 2015

Present: Chairperson Laleme, Selectman Blanchard, Selectman Culver, Selectman Glavac.

At 6:00pm Chairperson Laleme opened the meeting and invited Frank Claffey to come before the Board to review the Bank proposals. Mr. Claffey recommends continuing banking with Woodsville Guaranty Bank. The Board discussed how Passumpsic did an analysis that showed better savings but Mr. Claffey explained that Woodsville is now offering a different package. Mr. Claffey discussed with the Board the difference between the "sweeping" program with Woodsville and Passumpsic. Selectman Glavac asked what the difference is in earnings and Mr. Claffey said the interest is higher with Woodsville and even though the money is taken out every night it earns interest every day. Selectman Glavac moved to take Mr. Claffey's recommendation to remain with Woodsville Guaranty Bank. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Selectman Culver said he doesn't agree with pitting vendors against each other and said he feels people should give us the best deal right at the get go and not after hearing we are getting a better deal from someone else.

Chairperson Laleme read from a letter from Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust saying they monitored the Town's property at the old transfer station on Route 116 and everything looked good.

The Board reviewed discharge documents from NCIC for Alamont Vista.

Lance Wilson came before the Board and explained to the Board that he let his taxes get out of hand and said he wasn't getting his mail so he didn't know his property had been deeded until he received the eviction notice. Mr. Wilson said he could pay \$4,500.00 now and then pay \$200.00 a week until his taxes are paid in full. He said he wants to stay on the property but the eviction notice says he needs to be out in a few days. Chairperson Laleme said there is a legal process the Board needs to follow when property is deeded. She also said that he can redeem the property but the back taxes and all costs need to be paid. Mr. Wilson said he has a steady job now and that his property is not worth what he owes in taxes. Chairperson Laleme said the Board will get back in touch with him.

At 6:40 Chairperson Laleme moved to go into non-public session per 91A for matters of personnel and impending litigation. Selectman Glavac seconded. Chairperson Laleme did roll call with all members agreeing to go into non-public session.

The Board discussed impending litigation

At 7:05 Chairperson Laleme moved to come out of non-public session. Selectman Culver seconded. Carried 4-0.

Mary Jackson explained an abatement to the Board and said the system creates a bill for a bogus account so she needs to abate it to get it off the books. Chairperson Laleme moved to approve the abatement to get it off our records. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 4-0.

Mary Jackson discussed eb2gov with the Board and the status on it. Mrs. Jackson said she thought Selectman Culver and Profile Technologies were handling the PCI compliance. Frank Claffey suggested asking another Town who has eb2gov how they handled the PCI compliance.

Frank Claffey discussed the 10 year transportation plan from North Country Council and said Bethlehem doesn't have a project on the list. He said the Post Office was on the list at one time but no longer is. Chairperson Laleme said the Board will do the questionnaire.

Rita Farrell asked the Board why they posted a meeting when they went to the Planning Board meeting and asked if there was a quorum of them at Walmart at the same time would they have to post a meeting. Chairperson Laleme explained to Mrs. Farrell that they wouldn't be discussing Town business at Walmart or social settings. Chairperson Laleme said they were discussing Town business as a Board at the Planning Board meeting so they had to post it as a meeting. Mrs. Farrell asked why the Master Plan questionnaire became a Select Board issue. Chairperson Laleme said the Board felt they needed to make a statement. Selectman Culver said the survey is about the Town and the Board of Selectmen represents the Town.

At 7:30 Chairperson Laleme moved to adjourn. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,  
April Hibberd  
Administrative Assistant