

Bethlehem Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
Bethlehem Selectmen Office
October 6, 2015

Present: Chairman Culver, Selectman Staples, Selectman Blanchard.

Chairman Culver opened the meeting at 6:31pm.

Chairman Culver read a request from Lahout's to extend the closing on 2323 Main Street for 15 days. Selectman Blanchard said they have done this previously so thinks the Board should grant the request. Selectman Blanchard moved to grant the extension. Selectman Staples seconded. Carried 3-0.

Chairman Culver discussed with the Board the email from North Country Council about the rail trail and DOT petitioning to run trains on the trail. The Board discussed how it would be nice for businesses to come like Golden Eagle has said but unless it is definite they would like to see the trails. Selectman Blanchard said he thinks the rails should be left there until there is a commitment from the company. Selectman Staples agreed that we should wait until there is a commitment. The Board will respond to North Country Council saying they are interested but want to see commitment from Golden Eagle before weighing in.

Chairman Culver said Peter Roy has been appointed as a Supervisor of the Checklist due to Steve Oliveira moving away.

Chairman Culver read a request from the Conservation Commission to appoint Linda Moore as an alternate for a 3 year term. Chairman Culver moved to accept the appointment. Selectman Staples seconded. Carried 3-0.

Chairman Culver reviewed a quote for a server for the police department. The Board discussed how the current server cannot handle the videos. The videos are being kept for 90 days. The quote from Profile Technologies is \$6,405.46. Chairman Culver will research this further.

The Board discussed the budget. Selectman Blanchard suggested instead of a budget freeze that department heads check with their liaison before spending. There was discussion about the department heads reporting any known overages they will have and any upcoming expenses. Selectman Blanchard moved to require all department heads to work with their 1st or 2nd liaison on all spending from now until the end of the year. Chairman Culver seconded. Carried 3-0. Chairman Culver said Board members should talk with April to keep track of all spending. There was discussion about discussing the budget and upcoming anticipated expenses at the next dept. head meeting.

Chairman Culver said he would like the Board to present 2 budgets this year; one as presented by dept. heads that the Board would present to the taxpayers and one that would lower the tax rate by \$1.00 and propose what we would do to cut from each departments budget to show the effect of that. Frank Claffey suggested figuring out what % that would be for each dept.

Frank Claffey suggested that the Board should look into the Cemetery fees and compare with surrounding towns.

Chairman Culver moved to go into non-public session per RSA 91A for matters of personnel. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Chairman Culver did roll call with all members agreeing to go into non-public session.

The Board discussed personnel.

Selectman Blanchard moved to place ad to hire a Full-time Highway employee. Selectman Staples seconded. Carried 3-0.

At 8:10 Selectman Blanchard moved to come out of non-public session. Selectman Staples seconded. Chairman Culver did roll call with all members agreeing to come out of non-public session.

At 8:10 Chairman Culver moved to adjourn. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,
April Hibberd
Administrative Assistant