

Town of Benson
Select Board Informational Meeting
March 2, 2009
Approved as corrected 3/9/09

Select Board: Lynn Bowen, Daniel Britton, Guy Charlton, Sue Janssen and Ed Peltier.

Public: Bob Ambrozaitis, Jackie Ambrozaitis, Robert Ambrozaitis, Mike Andronaco, Richard Beal, Bobbie Jo Bean, Jan Burleson, Les Burleson, Daryl Burlett, Jake Brown, Katie Brown, Rachel Collett (Select Board Secretary), Marcel Cyr, Mike Ellis, Jody Goodhue and son, John Hill, Eric Hultz, Alli Jesser, Charles Kellogg, Ted Kellogg, John Kubin, Sally Kubin, Don Ladd, Jan Ladd, Pam Lamoureux and daughter, Amy Lannon, Rob Lowell, Liza Pellerin, Lillian Phillips, Norma Phillips, Jim Pritchard, Tammy Pritchard, Ron Ryan, Tobi Silver, Mark Twitchell, Melissa Twitchell, Rick Wilson and Shelby Wing.

John Hill called the meeting to order at 7pm.

Chuck Kellogg asked about pages 11 & 15. Chuck wanted to know why if the Select Board had been voted \$149,000 had they only spent \$134,000. Where was the \$15,000? Sue stated that the money would have been used in any part of the budget that had been over.

Ted Kellogg asked why the paving had been cut this year. The Board explained that due to the washout on East Road that there was too much of a short fall of funds in the Highway Budget and there is not enough left to reclaim the designated section of East Road. Also, Benson is not eligible for paving grant money this year. The Board plans on putting in for paving next year.

Melissa Twitchell asked about Article 17 and if this was something the Board was considering. The Board explained that they had had a request for this to be made an article so they did so.

Jake Brown asked about page 13, Office Expenses, he wanted to know why the Town Office and Community Hall were not being plowed by the Town as they had a new truck. Jan Ladd explained that next winter all plowing would be done by the Town but as of right now there was a verbal agreement for plowing with a Town member until July 1st.

Rob Lowell asked about page 25 and the Fire Department. He wanted to know where their money was. Sue explained that it was in a Savings Account. Rob asked if next year the Fire Department could have a budget page.

Jake Brown asked about page 15, Payroll Support. Sue explained what it was.

Mike Andronaco wanted to know why the Town was paying people that owed taxes to the Town. He wanted to know if the wages could be garnished. Daryl Burlett, Delinquent Tax Collector, and the Board explained that this was illegal. Both parties had to agree to such a thing and it had to be a legal document.

Chuck Kellogg asked about page 16 and why the insurance was double. Sue explained that they had added a third man and that VLCT dictates the insurance rate for the Town. There were no raises this year to help cover this cost. Chuck wanted to know if the Town paid 100% of the Health Insurance or if the workers contributed. Sue explained that currently the Town pays but they are looking for other options.

Bob Ambrozaitis asked about pg 16, and why the amount needed for tires had gone up so much. Daryl explained that the grader and one of the trucks needed new tires this year. Next year the amount should be less.

Chuck Kellogg asked why the Town was paying to wash the uniforms. Guy explained that the Town has to have a hazardous waste disposal for shop rags. The Town found that the cheapest way to dispose of this was by using a laundry service as they included the uniforms too.

Lynn Bowen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37pm. Sue Janssen seconded the motion and it was so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel S. Collett