



## **Town of Benton**

*Monday, September 11, 2017, 6:00 PM*

*Benton Town Office*

### *PUBLIC HEARING:*

*5:55PM Junkyard Permit Applications..*

1. Roll call: Selectman Melissa Patterson, Selectman Robin Cyr, & Selectman Doug Dixon present.
2. Secretary's Report: Ms. Cyr motioned to accept the secretary reports as written. Mrs. Patterson seconded, all voted in favor.
3. New Business.
  - Junkyard Permit Renewals: Mrs. Patterson motioned to accept three junkyard permits as written (Gary Bulger, CAM Auto, & Thomas Clifford). Ms. Cyr seconded, all voted in favor.
  - Adopt 17-18 General Assistance Maximums: Mrs. Patterson motioned to adopt the State of Maine updated GA maximums for 2017-2018. Ms. Cyr seconded, all voted in favor.
4. Old Business: **Gary Dixon-** Benton is having a problem with flushable materials from residents causing overtime for the employees at the pump station. Mr. Dixon will address this with Ross Nason. Mr. Dixon mentioned the small entry space at the pump station by the Benton/Fairfield Bridge. Mr. Dixon advised this might need to be taken care of sooner than later.

Discussion was also held about the possibility of a sewer rate increase to help pay for pump station upgrades and maintenance.

Selectman Dixon asked Mr. Dixon how other towns handle back owed sewer bills. Mr. Dixon replied that they put liens on the property.

**Robin Patterson-** Ms. Patterson received quotes on cleaning stones for Reed and Brown cemetery. Aaron Poulin will be contracted to do so.

Ms. Patterson had concerns over the State of Maine Absentee link on the Benton website not working for the last municipal election. (The link is now working. This link cannot be used for Municipal Elections; the link is for State Elections only).

**Selectman Cyr-** Ms. Cyr advised the MSAD 49 reimbursement check would be deposited into the general fund account as it has been done in the past.

**Selectman Dixon-** Gave the total amount it cost the Town of Benton for the last municipal election. Ms. Patterson wants to know how much it would be for municipal elections to be run from 8:00 a.m-8:00 p.m.

- Ms. Cyr will get the numbers to compare an 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. election for comparison at the Budget Meeting.
5. Assessing Abatements & Supplements: *Supplement* for Robert & Kathryn Dubois in the amount of \$119.52. Parcel should have transferred to the Dubois's along with the sale of 25 Booker Ave on 11/3/2016. *Abatement* for Michael & Mary White in the amount of \$119.52. Parcel should have transferred with 25 Booker Ave on 11/3/2016. Mrs. Patterson motioned to accept the supplement and abatement as written. Ms. Cyr seconded, all voted in favor.
  6. Other Business and Correspondence:  
Mrs. Patterson motioned to accept James Mayo as Budget Committee member. Ms. Cyr seconded, all voted in favor.  
Mrs. Patterson motioned to accept Doug Dixon for Budget Committee member. Ms. Cyr seconded, 2 yes- 1 abstain, motion passes.  
Mrs. Patterson motioned to accept June Caron as Alternate Planning Board member. Ms. Cyr seconded, all voted in favor.

On September 18, 2017 Chris Huck from KVCOG will be holding a training for the Select board and Planning Board members. Selectmen and Planning Board members are invited to attend.

Ms. Cyr proposed to have earlier Budget Committee meetings starting in October for the upcoming March Town Meeting. The idea is to have about 20 warrant articles to discuss per meeting. Ms. Cyr emphasized that not all bills have been submitted as of October, so the numbers that are brought to the meeting will be a snapshot in time as of right now.

**Kathe Bolster-** Mrs. Bolster asked how late an article could be presented to be on March warrant. Mrs. Patterson replied that it has to be on the warrant on the Budget meeting it's being discussed. The latest would be the last budget meeting in January.

Ms. Cyr will start working Budget committee meetings starting in October. Ms. Cyr will also look into the cost of mailing town reports to every Benton resident.

7. Citizen's Concerns.

**Jean Hood-** Mrs. Hood wants to know why the boat launch on Brimstone Hill is now blocked off. Mrs. Hood stated there is no parking available now. Selectman Dixon will look into this situation for her.

**Audrey Lee-** Mrs. Lee wants to know when the Town of Benton website will be up and running. Selectman Dixon said it would be soon.

**Robin Patterson-** Ms. Patterson would like the Town of Benton sign to advise residents that cemetery plot clean-ups need to be done by October 13<sup>th</sup>.

8. Adjourn: Selectman Dixon motioned to adjourn at 7:49 p.m. Mrs. Patterson seconded, all voted in favor.