



## **Town of Benton**

*Monday, August 14, 2017, 6:00 PM*

*Benton Town Office*

1. Roll call: Selectman Melissa Patterson & Selectman Robin Cyr present.
2. Secretary's Report: Mrs. Patterson motioned to accept the secretary report as written. Ms. Cyr seconded, all voted in favor.
3. Citizen's Concerns:

***Audrey Lee*** stated she was questioned over looking at Falls Cemetery map. No action was taken.

***Robin Patterson*** asked questions about tree trimming. Selectman Patterson advised Ms. Patterson to contact Todd Littlefield to see if he can help. Ms. Patterson would like to have input on the mowing contract language before it goes out to bid next March.

Ms. Patterson also requested a sign to be placed by the Town of Benton water spicket. She stated residents are taking more than necessary. Mrs. Patterson will get Ms. Patterson her requested sign.
4. Road Commissioner Report: Todd Littlefield absent.
5. New Business: The Town of Benton will be receiving a check from MSAD49 in the amount of \$81,870.60 due to appropriations being adjusted from the increase amount in the state.

Ms. Cyr will look into what to do with the funds. Ms. Cyr will also ask Jim Mayo for a budget expense report format for future meetings.
6. Old Business: Mrs. Patterson contacted MMA in regards to Kathy Bolster's concern that a gift of land to a municipality needs to go to Town Meeting. Mrs. Patterson found out that Mrs. Bolster was correct. Any gift of land to a municipality needs to be voted on at Town Meeting. Ms. Cyr will make this an article for the Budget Meeting to vote on in March 2018.

Antoine Morin asked at July's Selectmen meeting for the cost savings from the Clinton Transfer Station changing to Norridgewock. Mrs. Patterson spoke with Gerald at the Clinton Transfer Station. Gerald projected a \$71.00 per ton savings, starting in March 2018 for the Town of Benton.
7. Assessing Abatements & Supplements: Abatement in the amount of \$457.78, James & Phyllis Cress, 121 Unity Rd. Re-Assessment at owners request. Request was made just before tax commitment but property wasn't inspected until just after. Dwelling in poor condition & appears to have never been updated. Property is

vacant and homestead exemption has been removed. Mrs. Patterson motioned to accept the abatement for James & Phyllis Cress. Ms. Cyr seconded. All voted in favor.

8. Other Business and Correspondence:

**Audrey Lee** would like to see all open poll voting times to be from 8:00am-8:00pm. Ms. Cyr said she will look into the price difference of running an 8:00am-8:00pm election vs state mandated law of being open four consecutive hours.

**Robin Patterson** claimed the Absentee Ballot information as well as the Municipal Election held in August was not posted on the Town of Benton website. (Absentee Ballot information as well as Municipal Election information was posted to the Town of Benton website from July 19, 2017 – August 21, 2017). No action was taken.

**Clayton McLaughlin** wanted to know why the Town of Benton decided to have a Municipal Election for a third Selectman instead of waiting until November 2017. Mrs. Patterson explained that one Selectman could not make the July Selectman meeting. You cannot hold a Selectman meeting with one Selectman. Mrs. Patterson explained that is not good for the Town of Benton so a decision was made to prevent that from happening again.

9. Adjourn: Mrs. Patterson motioned to adjourn at 6:47pm, Ms. Cyr seconded, all voted in favor.