

Date: 10/29/03

Minutes of Board of Selectmen's Meeting:

Meeting held at Antrim Little Town Hall @ 7:00 p.m. on 10/27/03

Selectmen Present: David Penny-Chairman, Michael Genest, and Bill Prokop.

Others In Attendance: P. Lovering, M. Beauchamp, L. Henderson, S. Chatfield

Agenda Items Discussed:

1. The selectmen approved the minutes of the last meeting.
2. **Ambulance Service:** P. Lovering presented the selectmen with some background information on what other towns, that have ski areas, are doing for ambulance services and charges. It is apparent that most services are billing the customers direct. P. Lovering is recommending that the ambulance service fee to Bennington be increased to \$10,000 as of January 1, 2004. This is a \$2500 increase and is her estimated additional cost to provide services for the Crotched Mountain Ski area. P. Lovering felt that this would be fair for the first year until some real data can be developed regarding the number of calls and the cost. P. Lovering also expressed the opinion that our ambulance service will probably have to go to direct billing within the next 2 years. This is due to cost and changes taking place in the medical/safety fields. The selectmen ask P. Lovering and Chief Beauchamp to go back and get some more information regarding the full cost of the ambulance and the number of calls that we respond to for each town. Once all the data is provided, the selectmen will make a decision on what the proper fees should be and will have discussions with the other towns.
3. **TIFF update:** David Essex gave the selectmen an update on the status of the Downtown sidewalk project. The project is now at the stage of selecting an engineering firm and developing all the administrative information that will be needed to start the construction. D. Essex pointed out the need for someone at the Town Office to assist in pulling some of this information together. The TIFF Board will be meeting on Wednesday night the 29th and he will discuss with them what has to be done, and then will communicate this information back to the selectmen.
4. **Town Administrator:** The selectmen voted to appoint Bill Prokop as the Interim/Part-time Town Administrator effective November 1, 2003. This will be a temporary position until the exact job description and requirements can be fully defined. It is expected that this will be for a period of 2-4 months. Details and salary will be addressed at a later date.
5. The selectmen agreed on Budget Guidelines for the 2004 budget cycle. All department heads and committee chairs will be asked to prepare their operating

Budgets with a reduction of 3-5% from this years actual expenditures. Wage increases are to average at 2 ½% for good performance.

6. The selectmen will contact the Deering Selectmen to schedule a meeting to discuss the Antrim/Deering Bridge project.
7. The selectmen approved the payroll and accounts payable for the week and reviewed other informational documents.
8. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes approved
11/13/03
DEB