

M E E T I N G N O T I C E

BENNINGTON SELECT BOARD

Monday, April 11, 2022

Bennington Fire Facility

Multi-Purpose Room - 3rd Floor

130 River Street

Bennington, VT 05201

A G E N D A

6:00 PM

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Vision Statement
3. Reorganization
4. Consent Agenda 6:00 PM - 6:05 PM
 - A. Minutes of March 25 and 28, 2022
 - B. Warrants
 - C. Liquor Licenses
5. Covid Update 6:05 PM - 6:15 PM
6. Public Comment 6:15 PM - 6:30 PM
7. Community Policing Advisory and Review Board 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM
8. Economic Development Strategy and Infrastructure Update 7:00 PM - 7:20 PM
9. Implementing the Town Vision 7:20 PM - 7:30 PM
10. Manager's Report 7:30 PM - 7:40 PM
11. Upcoming Agendas 7:40 PM - 7:45 PM
12. Other Business 7:45 PM - 7:55 PM

We endeavor to host inclusive, accessible events that enable all individuals to engage and participate fully. To request an accommodation or for inquiries about accessibility, please contact Paul Dansereau, Facilities Director:
pdansereau@benningtonvt.org or call 802-447-9715.

1 **BENNINGTON SELECT BOARD SPECIAL MEETING**

2 **130 RIVER STREET**

3 **BENNINGTON, VERMONT 05201**

4 **MARCH 25, 2022**

5 **MINUTES**

6 **SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jeannie Jenkins-Chair; Jeanne Conner-Vice Chair; Bruce
7 Lee-Clark; Jim Carroll; Gary Corey; Tom Haley; and Sarah Perrin.

8 **SELECT BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

9 **ALSO PRESENT:** Stuart Hurd-Town Manager; Jonah Spivak-Communication Coordinator; Joan
10 Pinsonneault-Treasurer; Michael McDonough-Planning Commission and Historic Preservation
11 Commission Chair; Ted Brady-VLCT Executive Director; Mary Rogers-Village of North
12 Bennington Trustee; Colleen Harrington; 5 citizens; Jim Vires-CAT-TV; and Nancy H. Lively-
13 Secretary.

14 At 3:00pm, Chair Jeannie Jenkins called the meeting to order.

15 **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

16 Ted Brady, Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) Executive Director introduced
17 himself as did the Board and those present.

18 **2. VLCT OVERVIEW/STRATEGIC PLAN DISCUSSION**

19 Mr. Brady did the following presentation:

- 20 • Been Executive Director for a year and, because of the pandemic, has just gone on the
21 road to meet as many select boards as possible.
- 22 • VLCT is a non-profit organization made up of all Vermont cities and towns - 246 - as
23 members and 30 villages and 110 special districts as associate members.
- 24 • The 5 Core Benefits of Membership and purpose of the VLCT are:
 - 25 ➤ SUPPORT -
 - 26 ✓ Legal issues which Bennington has contacted VLCT 30 times in the last 5
 - 27 years for.
 - 28 ✓ All municipalities appreciate our Municipal Assistance Center. We have
 - 29 increased our staff by 25% - hired a new attorney and - for the first time -
 - 30 a finance professional.
 - 31 ➤ KNOWLEDGE -
 - 32 ✓ We have an entire book that tells a select board how to deal with dog
 - 33 issues, complaints, ordinances, etc.

- ✓ We have several other books that tell you how to be a select board member, model policies, etc.
- REPRESENTATION -
 - ✓ We are a collective voice in the State House representing the voices of the local select boards.
 - ✓ We have a Municipal Authority Bill in the Legislature now that would give more local authority for select boards to exercise.
 - ✓ We also have been working on a Bill to champion \$50M of ARPA money to municipalities in the term of assessment and \$250,000 for implementation of energy efficiency and fuel upgrades to municipal facilities.
- INSURANCE -
 - ✓ Our trusts, thanks to Mr. Hurd, are in the best shape they've been in in a decade.
 - ✓ In all insurance areas, they are financially sound and ready to protect you in a way that doesn't threaten your membership or insurance rates going forward.
 - ✓ This year rates were nearly level with a decimal point increase and we were able to return \$3.4M in equity which essentially has reduced your insurance premium.
 - ✓ Bennington spent 30 hours with our loss control program staff, had 37 participants in our drug and alcohol testing program, received a \$1,500 grant for Hazwoper Training, received a \$2,200 grant for Public Works Safety Equipment, and have 54 people enrolled in the Pacif Learning Program.
- CONNECTION -
 - ✓ We connect municipalities to a variety of networks, agencies, organizations, colleagues, and experts.
 - ✓ Our goal is to make select board members jobs easier, more effective, and more enjoyable.
- We did a survey of 300 members that indicated the most prevalent municipality needs were housing, financing and IT.
- The #1 thing the VLCT offers is training with the Select Board Institute and various other leadership trainings and retreats that led us to four key areas of our Strategic Plan:
 1. We need to grow a sustainable role for this organization to evolve and provide municipalities services at a reasonable cost and to show our value.
 1. We need to strengthen the capacity of local government.
 2. We discussed developing and tracking outstanding talent for local governments. There are select board and other town positions that are vacant throughout the State.

74 3. Champion inclusive and resilient communities.

75 **3. TOP ISSUES FACING BENNINGTON**

76 *Board questions/comments answered by Mr. Brady:*

77 Mr. Carroll: Give an example of what you can do for us. You can call our Assistance Center for
78 advice on how to handle any issue you have been presented with by citing an ordinance,
79 referring you to our library, advising on HR issues, police issues, or insurance issues among
80 others.

81 Mr. Carroll: Speak to Local Option Tax. We have tried to present a bill that includes things like
82 the local option tax recognizing that often legislature and local government have the same
83 goals.

84 Ms. Jenkins: Three ideas to help us with are: Board trainings to keep us up-to-date; Equity and
85 Diversity trainings; and updating the Town's ADA plan. I will let you know what we have for
86 policies on ADA.

87 Ms. Conner and Mr. Lee-Clark: Guidance for the Community Policing Review Board which was
88 supposed to review personnel issues in law enforcement but there isn't any language in the
89 statutes that would allow it to do that. It would seem that the legislature should allow the
90 towns that wish to give this oversight authority to civilians - under the select boards - to them.
91 It would be helpful if the VLCT could reach out to other municipalities and provide resources to
92 us that would give us clarity. The VLCT has a prospective on policing reform that was published
93 in 2020 that recognizes that we need to hold police accountable, and our position is that civilian
94 oversight occurs through the select board. The State is telling the towns that they shouldn't
95 need another piece of civilian oversight. We will further discuss this with the Town's counsel.

96 Ms. Perrin: The safety of our Town and Town officials has been impacted in the past couple of
97 years such as a masked man with a gun on the Four Corners. What types of things can we do
98 with that? 8 out of 10 elected officials have been impacted by some form of hate speech.
99 Every two years we review our policies as to what should be brought to the legislature or
100 nationally and public safety is a topic that is discussed. We're doing this in August where this
101 could be brought up and we will be asking for volunteers to participate in July.

102 Ms. Conner: Are there trainings for elected officials on de-escalating threatening situations and
103 being able to create our own mental health boundaries in general and not just at meetings?
104 Social media has played a large role in this to many. We don't have any specific trainings to
105 that but how to handle difficult situations at a meeting is covered in our select board trainings.

106 Mr. Lee-Clark: Added that we have a Social Media Policy for the police but not for any elected
107 or town officials. Not sure, but the VLCT Assistance Center may have a model policy on this.

108 Mr. Hurd also noted that the Town is working on updating our personnel policies.

109 Mr. Carroll: Have there been any municipalities that have tried to “mend fences” with the 2 or 3
110 individuals that find issues with everything? No example but the various personalities of select
111 board members have found interesting ways to “convene people”. Will follow up with our
112 team and get back to you.

113 *Public questions/comments answered by Mr. Brady:*

114 Mary Rogers, North Bennington Village Trustee: Does the VLCT have any information/guidance
115 for those that want to set up a marijuana dispensary? There were 42 communities that had the
116 sale of Cannabis on the ballot - Bennington was one of them - and 37 voted yes. Since this is
117 done by private citizens and not the towns we haven’t created a guidebook on it. There is a
118 statewide Cannabis Board that has published such a guide that is still incomplete but is a good
119 start. Ms. Rogers added that as a new trustee, she uses the VLCT Resource Library and Model
120 Policies a lot.

121 Colleen Harrington: What is entailed in the VLCT membership and how much does Bennington
122 pay for it? The answers to the membership question is in the 2022 Member Guide that had
123 been passed out earlier in the meeting. Bennington pays \$18,000-\$20,000 for dues and every
124 town pays dues based on their population and a base fee.

125 Colleen Harrington: Concerning the local option tax discussion earlier, would the select board
126 be able to invoke that without it being approved by the voters? That was one example of a
127 series of authorities trying to get the legislature to give to the Town instead of requiring the
128 Town to go to the legislature. The towns will still have to go to the voters for approval.

129 Jonah Spivak, Bennington Communications Coordinator: We have 261 years of record keeping
130 that we have just begun digitalizing. We have also been solicited by outside companies that
131 want us to pay for social media postings, however, we have utilized our website for keeping a
132 record of these. With the increased social media activity/presence, it would be helpful to
133 municipalities if the VLCT could provide guidelines for us regarding social media. I will get back
134 to you on that.

135 Ms. Conner: Does VLCT get involved with the statewide issues of homelessness, the hotel
136 situation, the opioid crisis, etc.? We have through our Assistance Center and advocating for
137 policies and information that work for municipalities.

138 Mr. Lee-Clark: Thanked Trevor Whipple for his assistance primarily when working on police
139 policies.

140 Mr. Carroll: Thanked Mick Led for his assistance in the past.

141 The Board thanked Mr. Brady for his visit and discussion.

142

143 Mr. Hurd took the opportunity to inform the public who may be solicited to sell their
144 property for the assessed value - which is unrelated to today's agenda - that our Grand List is
145 on the website and available for anyone to see as a matter of public record.

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147
148
149 ***At 4:04pm, Bruce Lee-Clark moved and Jim Carroll seconded the adjournment of the***
150 ***meeting. The motion carried unanimously.***

151
152
153
154 Respectfully submitted,
155 Nancy H. Lively
156 Secretary

1 **BENNINGTON SELECT BOARD MEETING**

2 **130 RIVER STREET**

3 **BENNINGTON, VERMONT 05201**

4 **MARCH 28, 2022**

5 **MINUTES**

6 **SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jeannie Jenkins-Chair; Jeanne Conner-Vice Chair; Bruce
7 Lee-Clark; Jim Carroll; Gary Corey; Tom Haley; and Sarah Perrin.

8 **SELECT BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

9 **ALSO PRESENT:** Stuart Hurd-Town Manager; Dan Monks-Assistant Town Manager; Jonah
10 Spivak-Communication Coordinator; Shannon Barsotti-Community Development Director;
11 Michael McDonough-BBC Committee Chair; Jenny Dewar-BBC Executive Director; Geoff
12 Metcalfe and Nick Piedmont-Skate Park; Ilsa Svoboda-Meals on Wheels Executive Director;
13 Kayla Becker and Taylor McGuire-YMCA; Stephanie Lane-Shires Housing Executive Director;
14 Clark Adams; April Dunham; Kelly Carroll; Nancy White; Jennifer Jasper; Debbie Mann; Rose
15 Telford; 15 citizens; Jim Vires-CAT-TV; and Nancy H. Lively-Secretary.

16 At 6:00pm, Chair Jeannie Jenkins called the meeting to order.

17 *Jim Carroll moved and Sarah Perrin seconded to amend the Agenda by adding “#3A.*
18 *John Shannahan Proclamation”. The motion carried unanimously.*

19 **1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

20 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

21 **2. VISION STATEMENT**

22 Ms. Conner read the Town’s Vision Statement that was adopted by the Select Board on
23 August 24, 2020:

24 “Bennington is a welcoming, engaged, inclusive, resilient community where everyone
25 regardless of identity shares in our vitality and benefits from an outstanding quality of life.”

26 **3. CONSENT AGENDA**

27 **A. MINUTES OF MARCH 7, 2022 AND MARCH 14, 2022**

28 **B. WARRANTS**

29 **C. LIQUOR LICENSES**

30 *Bruce Lee-Clark moved and Tom Haley seconded to approve the Consent Agenda*
31 *amended as follows:*

March 14, 2022 Minutes -

Line 12, Change “Clarke Evans” to “Clark Adams”

Line 56, Change “Questioned that those not vulnerable could not get the treatment?” to “I have a question regarding treatments, it seems to me if one tests positive for Covid and is eligible for treatment they would probably call a primary care provider. What would you recommend for someone that doesn’t currently have a PCP?”

Line 88, Change “Natalie Hammond” to “Emily Hamman”

Lines 449-453, Change “Ms. Jenkins read the following quotes: ‘Every attractive person has their moment whether it’s at a traffic stop, or going to the DMV, or getting access to SNAP, that is where democracy is happening. If we can get all of those small interactions right, then we can create a society of government that is responsive to its citizens and citizens trust that it will never be insensitive to them.’ to “Ms. Jenkins read the following Bryce Covert quotes from This Is the Difference Between a Family Surviving and a Family Sinking: “Every interaction that a person has with their government, whether that’s a traffic stop or going to the D.M.V. or getting access to SNAP - that’s where democracy is happening.” “If we get all of those small interactions right, then we have created a society where the government if responsive to its citizens, and citizens trust that it will delivery when it says it’ll deliver.”

The motion carried unanimously.

3A. JOHN SHANNAHAN PROCLAMATION

Mr. Carroll explained how a proclamation is approved and read the following to honor John Shannahan for his years of dedication as a “truly heroic figure who never gave up” for the Town of Bennington:

“State of Vermont Senate Chamber, Montpelier, Vermont

Senate Concurrent Resolution - SCR17 - John Shannahan for His Extraordinary Contribution to the Economic and Cultural Life of the Town of Bennington.

WHEREAS, John Shannahan starts an exciting new life in Bennington, and

WHEREAS, his effective institutional leadership at the Downtown Bennington Alliance and later at the Better Bennington Corporation reflected a strong dedication to creating a welcoming and nurturing climate in which existing businesses can expand and new ones can be established, and

WHEREAS, John Shannahan’s role as Ambassador Extraordinaire was pivotal in discussions with our town corporate officials when testifying before our Committee and working with funding organizations, and

WHEREAS, as an Executive Director of the Better Bennington Corporation, John Shannahan promoted a vision of Bennington as a center of artistic, business, entertainment, and recreational activity, and as a community who's downtown exhumes in authentic small town Vermont Main Street character, and

WHEREAS, during his tenure at the Better Bennington Corporation the Tax Increment Financing District was established creating a taxing mechanism providing economic incentives for new development initiatives, and

WHEREAS, the Putnam Block Redevelopment Project has attracted new businesses and residents to downtown Bennington and John Shannahan's expert guidance was a critical element in projects of creation and fruition, and

WHEREAS, he served on the Board of the Bennington Arts Council and was a unique informational resource for newcomers to the community, and

WHEREAS, John Shannahan has concluded his role as the Executive Director of Better Bennington Corporation and Benningtonians are grateful for his active community service.

NOW, THEREFORE may it be resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives that the General Assembly honors John Shannahan for his extraordinary contribution to the economic and cultural vitality to the Town of Bennington. And, be it further Resolved, that the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this Resolution to John Shannahan and the Better Bennington Corporation."

Mr. Carroll also announced that the FAA has approved the lighting of the Monument.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following Public Comment Practices to make the experience for all involved a productive and informative use of the Public Comment period at Select Board meetings was placed on the podium for those that wish to make Public Comments to reference:

1. Public Comment is to allow residents an opportunity to share information or make announcements that benefit the community at large.
2. The topic should not be related to an agenda item. If a member of the public wants to comment on an agenda item they can do so during the discussion of that item.
3. Comments should be 3 minutes or less.
4. You are required to state your real name and town of residence.
5. Sharing comments, announcements and concerns are encouraged rather than asking questions. Public Comment is not a time for discussion. If you have specific questions it is best to call the Town Manager to get a full explanation and accurate information.

6. If the topic requires much discussion the item will be considered as an agenda item at a future meeting.

Kelly Carroll: The American Legion raised a little over \$1,800 that will be donated to the Bennington Free Library for a lego table and books in honor of her daughter, Emily Hamman. Also, the River Walk in April will be a week later, the day after Earth Day on April 23rd. Plan on doing some clean up along the way.

Jenny Dewar, BBC Executive Director: There were two ribbon cuttings in the past week and a half - The Angry Egg Two and the Village Garage Distillery, and on April 4th, there will be ribbon cutting for Knits Knats that's moving to 514 Main Street.

Jennifer Jasper, Bennington Performing Arts Center Executive Director: Coming up at the Theatre is Brand New Day, March 31st -April 2nd, for 'pay as you will' on Thursday, and \$15-\$20 otherwise. We are also hosting our Fundraising Gala at Mt. Anthony Country Club on April 30th and Old Castle Theatre Company's 50th Season opens in June. All tickets are now available.

5. BETTER PLACES GRANT AWARD

Jenny Dewar did the following presentation:

- Bennington was the first town in Vermont to receive the Better Places Grant Award.
- We are bringing Thursday Nights Live, from 5:30pm-7:00pm, from June 2nd through September 29th, with a large range of performers at Merchants Park - all grant funded, free to the public.
- A requirement of the grant is that we have to raise \$5,000 from "crowd funding" by May 9th. One person writing a check for \$5,000 does not fulfill the requirement.
- Donations can be made at bit.ly/tnl2022 . The full link is on the Better Bennington Corporation website and Facebook.
- When we reach \$5,000 (we have already raised \$1,970), we will get \$10,000 from the State. The \$15,000 is just under the necessary funding to make this program happen.
- The money will pay for the entertainers, sound technology and engineers, advertising, snacks, and gift baskets.

6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

A.SKATE PARK

Dan Monks, Assistant Town Manager, stated that the skate park by far received the most positive input from the public of all of the choices.

Geoff Metcalfe, an architect from North Bennington, and Nick Piedmont did the following presentation:

- 132 ➤ He is helping a group of people that have been interested in building a skate park for
133 some time with infrastructure questions.
- 134 ➤ “A simple skate park would be great, but a destination skate park would be better.”
- 135 ➤ The skate park would bring skate boarders from all over and competitions could be
136 established. Food trucks and businesses that the skateboarders and their families would
137 frequent when they are here would thrive.
- 138 ➤ The users of the park help to maintain it and it brings the community together.
- 139 ➤ In 2020, skateboarding became an event in the Olympics.
- 140 ➤ We believe that the south end of the Bennington Station parking lot would be a good
141 site for a park of this magnitude.
- 142 ➤ We would install a concrete skate park with an indoor structure for year round use and
143 a place for tournaments and events.

144 *Board questions/comments answered by Mr. Metcalfe or Mr. Piedmont:*

145 Mr. Carroll: Define Town participation. Monetary - rough estimates are \$1M-\$1.5M.

146 Ms. Conner: Shared that she had spoken to a man who would tear up over the excitement of a
147 skate park noting that they are a place where everyone is welcome.

148 Ms. Conner: How far away is a skate park like the one you’re dreaming of? There are ~20
149 smaller ones throughout Vermont but Burlington has one similar to the scale we would like to
150 do. Rutland was the only indoor operation that was inside a hockey rink but that one may or
151 may not still be open.

152 Ms. Jenkins: Added that she is also in favor of going forward with it in response to the
153 community popularity.

154 *Public questions/comments:*

155 Nancy White: Is concerned that there won’t be enough parking for the apartment building
156 tenants, the skate park participants, and those shopping in the downtown. Ms. Jenkins replied
157 that we are only exploring it and deciding if we want to move forward with it. Ms. White added
158 that if this is a regional project to be sure that other communities take money from their
159 budgets, too.

160 Michael McDonough, BBC Committee Chair: The skate park has been incorporated into the
161 scoping of the River Walk and in the Downtown Transportation grants to fund the first phase of
162 improvements to the River Walk from the Park east to Park Street. This is not just a concept
163 from those passionate about skateboarding but fits very well into the plans for the River Walk.
164 Ms. Jenkins added it would also fit nicely in the Rail Trail head.

165 Debbie Mann: Have other locations been considered like the Ben Mont Tissue location? Mr.
166 Monks answered that we were focusing on this location because it is centrally located in the
167 downtown and the Town owns the property.

168 *Jim Carroll moved and Bruce Lee-Clark seconded to have Town Staff continue to work*
169 *on the skate park concept at the Bennington Station parking lot. The motion carried*
170 *unanimously.*

171 **B. BENN HIGH**

172 Shannon Barsotti, Community Development Director, did the following presentation:

- 173 ➤ The Benn High building was built in 1913 and was a high school from 1914-1967 and a
174 middle school until 2004 with renovations in 1939, 1958, and 1975. Adjacent is a newer
175 building where the auditorium, cafeteria, and science class rooms are.
- 176 ➤ Discussions took place concerning the Town taking ownership of some of the spaces in
177 the building which led to discussions of taking over the whole building.
- 178 ➤ The building is over 100,000 square feet and the Town intends to enter into a lease to
179 own agreement with the current owner.
- 180 ➤ The Town is interested in approximately 30,000 square feet of the building with other
181 core partners interested in redeveloping the rest.
- 182 ➤ Uses would be:
 - 183 ✓ Bennington Senior Center - relocate current and new Senior programming and
184 will double the space at the current Senior Center. We have met with, and will
185 continue to meet with, the seniors for their input on the transition.
 - 186 ✓ Bennington County Meals on Wheels - relocate from the current Senior Center
187 and will double their space at the current Senior Center. The Town would
188 renovate the former cafeteria and auditorium but not charge them more rent.
 - 189 ✓ Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging - will offer programming for seniors
190 including their Bone Builders and Green Mountain Retired Senior Volunteer
191 Programs, as well as, support for the Meals on Wheels program.
 - 192 ✓ Berkshire Family YMCA - will offer senior exercise classes and will manage and
193 operate recreational activities in the auditorium and gymnasium.
 - 194 ✓ Shires Housing - will seek funding to develop approximately 40 additional
195 housing units of affordable and market rate rents, including some dedicated to
196 the homeless, along with creating a Support and Services at Home (SASH)
197 location to offer classes and support for seniors.
- 198 ➤ An environmental assessment of the building would need to be done before any
199 renovations began.
- 200 ➤ Green Mountain Express would have a dedicated bus for the seniors to get to the Benn
201 High building, to the Rec Center for swimming, and back home.

202 Dan Monks stated the following:

- 203 ➤ This project would not be possible without our partners.
- 204 ➤ The Lease & Purchase Agreement will give control of the space to the Town and we will
205 be the only tenant.

- We can pay our monthly payment for 30 years and own the building or decide at any time during the 30 years to buy it outright.
- Next steps are:
 - ✓ Having the Select Board sign the Lease Agreement and give the go-ahead to proceed with our due diligence work.
 - ✓ Get the permitting.
 - ✓ Get a design professional on board and be sure that all partners are happy with the design.
 - ✓ Take a second look at the environmental issues. We have done a preliminary look at it with an environmental consultant who feels confident that there aren't any issues.
 - ✓ Put out Requests for Proposals.
- Our goal is to get Phase 1 (the Senior Center and Meals on Wheels) completed within a year but no later than 18 months.
- At 18 months - but actually within 60 days - we will be making the decision on transferring the current Senior Center building to the owner of the Benn High building.
- Benn High partners stated the following:
 - ✓ Ilsa Svoboda, Meals on Wheels Executive Director:
 - The Town has subsidized our current rent at the current Senior Center for 25 years.
 - Keeping seniors under one roof is important.
 - We prepare over 300 meals/day for all of Bennington County and remained open throughout COVID with the same staff and "fabulous volunteers".
 - Preparing 300 meals in the same space we used to prepare 93 has been very challenging.
 - It is a proven fact that seniors who have nutrition and socialization live longer. Feeding them well and giving them the right programming that fits their abilities will enhance their lives.
 - It is necessary for the seniors to have the bus for transportation, to feel safe and secure, and have ample programming.
 - ✓ Kayla Becker and Taylor McGuire, YMCA Representatives:
 - Agrees that keeping seniors under one roof is important.
 - Have been at the Benn High building for a year and currently have 8 senior classes there.
 - The use of the gymnasium year round would be a great place for the kids to go after school so there are multiple activity possibilities for all age groups.
 - Kudos to the Buildings and Grounds crew for the work that they do.
 - ✓ Stephanie Lane, Shires Housing Executive Director:

- 246 ○ This is a wonderful opportunity for the private/public partnership as
- 247 having a strong partner goes both ways.
- 248 ○ There are several sources of funding for the housing portion of this
- 249 project but may not have been possible if we had tried to tackle this on
- 250 our own.
- 251 ○ Having the SASH program in the same building as potential senior
- 252 housing and other services is “ideal”.
- 253 ○ SASH is a statewide program that serves ~5,500 Medicare eligible
- 254 Vermonters with support services to keep them as home as long as they
- 255 choose to be.

256 *Board questions/comments:*

257 Mr. Lee-Clark: Have we tested the site for PCB's? Mr. Monks: We haven't yet but there will be a
258 complete report done by us, as well as, rigorous testing also done by Shires Housing. This is
259 part of what needs to be done when one takes over an old building.

260 Mr. Corey: Is the lease payment in the agreement similar to what we're paying now? Mr.
261 Monks: Now we're paying \$3,000 just for the auditorium spaces so the additional spaces for us
262 would bring it up to ~\$7,000 so this lease payment is much less and we will have control of the
263 building.

264 Ms. Conner: Will the spaces not designated to Meals on Wheels or the Senior Center be
265 available for rent for birthday parties, meeting space, etc.? Ms. Barsotti: Yes, such as the winter
266 Farmer's Market. The YMCA will be keeping track of those.

267 Ms. Conner: The collaborative office space is a good idea.

268 Ms. Perrin: Do you see the kitchen as being commissary to rent out to people starting a
269 business? Ms. Svoboda: It's a possibility.

270 *Public questions/comments:*

271 Nancy White: The meeting at the Senior Center could have gone twice as long as was not well
272 publicized. We could have bought the Benn High building when the middle school moved to
273 East Road for \$1 and we refused. We should have gone to the Rec Center instead of UCS and
274 parking at the Benn High building will be an issue with 40 apartments and all the people that we
275 hope to draw there. Someone please explain the flipping of the Benn High building with the
276 current Senior Center? Ms. Jenkins: Your first stop is with Mr. Hurd for the explanation you
277 have requested and your other comments have been previously addressed.

278 Nancy White: Continued about the Senior Center being regional, that the 40 apartments were
279 to be for work force tenants and won't be, that the public is never aware, and again, the
280 acquisition of the Senior Center by the existing Benn High owner, Chris Gilbert. Ms. Barsotti
281 added that, if the Town makes the renovations to the Benn High building and moves the Senior

282 Center there, then Chris Gilbert would take possession of the current Senior Center to develop
283 into housing, probably at the market rate. For that to go forward, he has to invest the value of
284 the Senior Center building back into Benn High within a timeline to complete the gym and the
285 surrounding spaces which will happen in tandem with the Town's improvements.

286 Jenny Dewar: Thanked the Town staff for all of their work on this exciting project.

287 Clark Adams: Sees the hard work that everyone is doing to benefit the Town. Does the Town
288 have a policy to hire local contractors for project work? Mr. Monks: Absolutely.

289 Debbie Mann: Is concerned about the air quality citing the obvious odors during the Open
290 House, also agrees that parking is going to be an issue at the Benn High, and wonders what
291 maintenance has been done to the existing Senior Center. The roof was only partially replaced,
292 slate is falling into the flower garden and boards are falling off of the outside window frames.
293 Mr. Monks: The building will be completely sealed with a new HVAC air quality system that
294 creates fresh air at the rate set by the Federal and State standards. When complete the air
295 quality will be better than any other building in town. When it was the Middle School, there
296 were lots of teachers and kids going in and out and "it wasn't a catastrophic parking situation
297 then and it shouldn't be now, but if it is, we'll be happy to deal with that issue". Mr. Hurd: The
298 main part of the current Senior Center roof has been completed, however, we may not have
299 finished the small additional building. Also, the other kinds of repairs are done as they occur.
300 "The building is in constant maintenance."

301 ***Jim Carroll moved and Bruce Lee-Clark seconded to accept the Lease & Purchase***
302 ***Agreement between Bennington High, LLC and the Town of Bennington as presented. The***
303 ***motion carried unanimously.***

304 Ms. Jenkins noted that we received one more request for ARPA Funding from Sunrise
305 Family Resource Center for \$5,000 of an \$85,000 3-year project. The Economic Development
306 Infrastructure Committee will review this request and we will have more information at the
307 next meeting.

308 **7. COMMUNITY POLICING ADVISORY AND REVIEW BOARD**

309 Ms. Jenkins stated that we have a Draft Resolution for Community Policing Advisory
310 Review Board (CPARB) looking at all of the different kinds of comments from the public, town
311 staff, town counsel, and the Attorney General's (AG's) office. Mr. Lee-Clark will be following up
312 on the AG's office resources on the complaint process and will be meeting with the Bennington
313 Police Department (BPD). In the Resolution there is no distinction between a formal and
314 informal complaint. Also, the State is not preparing training materials for review boards so we
315 are asking the Select Board to authorize the Community Policing Working Group to explore
316 working with Brian Corr on trainings for CPARB in conjunction with the BPD, as well as, explore
317 a training for the CPARB and the Select Board. We have monies left over from working with the
318 Vermont Partnership on Diversity.

Ms. Conner reminded everyone that this only deals with the first four sections.

Discussion on the Resolution for CPARB:

Page 1, Lines 3-5, “The Bennington Select Board, through its authority, hereby establishes a Town Board to be known as the Community Policing Advisory Review Board (CPARB), to provide meaningful community involvement in safety, equity, and law enforcement decision-making.”

❖ *Line 5, the BPD would like a clearer definition of ‘law enforcement decision-making’.*

❖ *Line 5, the BPD would like to Add “the BPD Mission Statement”.*

Page 1, Lines 26-29, **Activities**, In collaboration with the BPD, the CPARB will:, Provide an alternative, confidential entry portal where members of the public can enter complaints and/or compliments directed toward the Bennington Police Department.” AND

Page 1, Line 42, **Considerations** AND

Page 2, Lines 3, “The CPARB will not receive, or review complaints initiated against personnel of the police,”

❖ *Mr. Corey: How can CPARB submit complaints/compliments but not receive them?*

Ms. Jenkins: The Task Force heard that the community wanted an alternate way to submit a complaint so CPARB would be trained to help an individual file a complaint only but they cannot receive the actual complaints for review.

Mr. Lee-Clark: Part of that will come in Section 5, and under State Law, no one except the Select Board is allowed to do a civilian review of a complaint. There is a distinction between helping someone fill out a complaint, submitting it, and reviewing it.

Ms. Conner: The difficult part of this is that CPARB will have knowledge of the complaint if they help someone fill it out but that is as far as they can go with it. Part of the training will be confidentiality.

Page 2, Lines 8-14, “**Meetings**, The CPARB will meet monthly, in person, or in a virtual setting. It is expected that each member will contribute and provide input on the topics on the agenda set by the chair. The CPARB may form sub-groups and engage the community in CPARB work, as appropriate. The Chief of Police or designee will attend all CPARB meetings and report on BPD matters as directed by CPARB Chair. A Select Board member or staff liaison will be appointed to provide assistance as needed by the CPARB.”

❖ *The BPD questioned the frequency of the meetings citing that other review boards in the State meet quarterly.*

Page 2, Line 16-20, "**Composition and Eligibility**, The CPARB will consist of seven members from the community. Community is defined as a resident of the Town of Bennington, Old Bennington or North Bennington or someone who works or has demonstrated a significant (8 hours per week or more) commitment to volunteerism in Bennington."

❖ *The BPD and the Select Board, Line 20, Add "CPARB members must be Vermont residents."*

❖ *The BPD also had questions on eligibility, recruitment, application process, interview process, etc.*

Page 3, Lines 15-19, "**Training**, Members must complete training authorized by the Bennington Police Department Chief prior to active participation on the CPARB. CPARB members shall take additional training over their term; not less than one additional training per year. Training costs will be borne by the Town of Bennington."

❖ *The BPD had questions on training, and the Select Board realizes they need to follow up on trainings, as well.*

Page 3, Lines 25-31, "**Definitions**, Complaint - A complaint documents when a person witnesses or experiences a personal encounter with Bennington Police Department personnel that involves criminal conduct, misconduct, abusive or discriminatory behavior, neglect of duty, corrupt activity, inappropriate conduct or a violation of rules and regulations of the Bennington Police Department. Complaints can be made in-person, by phone, letter, or on the web. While more difficult to investigate, anonymous complaints are accepted.

Page 3, Lines 33-36, Compliment - A compliment documents when a person witnesses or experiences a personal encounter with Bennington Police Department personnel that warrants special recognition as conduct that goes above and beyond the expectations of the community. Compliments may be made in-person, by phone, letter, or on the web."

❖ *Mr. Corey: Line 27, Change "that involves" to "that they believe involves"*

❖ *Line 30, the BPD questioned the necessity to have alternate ways to make complaints.*

❖ *Line 31, the BPD questioned if anonymous compliments would be accepted, as well as, anonymous complaints.*

❖ *Mr. Corey: Line 35, Change "that goes" to "that they believe goes"*
Ms. Jenkins: Line 36, Change "letter, or" to "letter, anonymously, or"

Questions and comments from the Board and the public:

Ms. Perrin: Will the entire document be reviewed by Town Counsel?

390 Ms. Jenkins: Yes, as well as, final review by the BPD and the Town Manager. We also hope to
391 get a draft of the complaint process from Town Counsel by April 11th.

392 Mr. Haley: Doesn't feel that this document is strong enough but that it is the best we can do
393 under State Law. "It makes no sense to me that one law recommends a civilian review board
394 but another one says we can't appoint one." He encouraged everyone to voice their opinions
395 to the Legislature. "Any step is a step forward and I don't want the community to think that
396 this is necessarily done."

397 Mr. Lee-Clark: Agreed that this is not the last step so what anyone can do is communicate with
398 your Senators and Representatives with particular attention to the Chair of the Judiciary
399 Committee, Dick Sears.

400 Ms. Jenkins: Added that Mr. Sears is aware of this.

401 Clark Adams: When the Task Force reviewed the BPD policies, one of their policies restricted
402 the receipt of complaints to supervisory staff only. He is concerned about taking complaints
403 over the phone because someone could just be "venting". CPARB should be at the end of the
404 complaint process, and to involve them in the beginning, "is mixing things that shouldn't mix".
405 Even with the current legal limitations that CPARB has, it is important that the community
406 realizes that the Town wants to make things right.

407 Ms. Jenkins: Even though CPARB isn't going to be able to do the level of review that we had
408 thought, what CPARB can do is have the data to see how trends are going and why we do what
409 we do. Not distinguishing between formal and informal complaints is a normal practice in most
410 towns so we don't want to discourage people from venting.

411 Ms. Conner: It is important to be able to retrieve the data and be able to know that it can be
412 quantified and qualified as accurate.

413 April Dunham: Thinks this is a step in the right direction, but because of our legal limitations,
414 there's a lot more we can do and is glad that CPARB will be able to see the data from the
415 complaints; thinks CPARB will eventually see a change in the Statutes; is glad that all complaints
416 will be taken without distinction; thinks that complaints should be taken by a neutral party - not
417 by the BPD or a CPARB member; may be difficult for some to enter complaints online or feel
418 confident that anonymity would be maintained if doing so; this document isn't set in stone, it is
419 a living document.

420 Mr. Carroll: We all recognize that there is more work to be done.

421 Rose Telford: Why did this start? Ms. Jenkins: The IACP assessment in 2020 recommended that
422 we look at a review board to increase trust and transparency in the community. Much work
423 was done by the Select Board, BPD, and community members prior to this step and we are now
424 considering the consummation of this review board.

425 Rose Telford: Thinks the police do a good job and doesn't think someone that is not a police
426 person should second guess what they do. Ms. Jenkins: We certainly appreciate the police and
427 they have been a part of this every step of the way. We are looking to attain our Town Vision
428 and this is part of it.

429 Mr. Hurd: The last thing you want is for the review committee to be part of the complaint
430 process as that will create advocacy.

431 ***Jim Carroll moved and Bruce Lee-Clark seconded to adopt the Draft Resolution for***
432 ***Community Policing Advisory Review Board in principal as amended.***

433 Ms. Perrin: If we adopt this tonight, send it back to Town Counsel, then we'll have
434 another discussion, and send it back to Town Counsel again? Ms. Jenkins answered that this is
435 not final. We are only adopting it in principal tonight, it goes out for one last review by Town
436 Counsel, BPD, and the Town Manager, and we'll adopt what comes back.

437 Mr. Corey: Will we have language on filing a complaint when it comes back? Mr. Lee-
438 Clark: Yes, on April 11th. CPARB providing a confidential portal doesn't mean that they will be
439 submitting the complaints.

440 ***The motion carried unanimously.***

441 **8. IMPLEMENTING THE TOWN VISION**

442 **A. DECLARATION OF INCLUSION**

443 Mr. Haley stated the following:

- 444 ■ In the process of reviewing the Town Accessibility Plan and encourages the public to
445 contact Ms. Jenkins, Ms. Conner, or himself with any comments on this.

446 Ms. Jenkins added:

- 447 ■ Mr. Spivak has also followed up with Ted Brady from VLCT for their resources on this.
- 448 ■ A community suggestion from SVSU was specifically looking at hiring retention and
449 support for the diversity work force and this will be discussed at the Summit in June.

450 **B. JUNETEENTH PARTNERSHIP WITH SVSU**

451 Ms. Conner reported:

- 452 ■ Jonathan Phipps, SVSU Ethnic Coordinator, is collaborating with many groups across
453 southern Vermont for the June 18th Juneteenth Celebration at MAUMS. SVSU has
454 received a grant to perform this task. The goals are:
 - 455 ○ Provide a community building and affirming experience for the black
456 community in southern Vermont.

- Provide a space to educate and express black culture and histories to others inside Vermont.
- Provide an initial collaborative effort to create a working relationship between institutions and organizations across southern Vermont who all share a firm belief of the importance of black culture and history. It is hoped this mechanism carries on for decades to come and is able to collaborate on various projects beneficial to the black community in southern Vermont. Ideally this celebration would become a yearly event that moves region to region in southern Vermont while also strengthening the bonds and collaboration between all notable participants' institutions/organizations.
- This speaks to the statement we read every week.

It was the consensus of the Board to be involved in the Juneteenth Celebration as a partner.

Mr. Carroll explained that Juneteenth is when the slaves in Texas learned they had been emancipated on June 19, 1865 even though the Emancipation Proclamation had taken place two years prior.

9. MANAGER'S REPORT

- Bennington Representative to the State-wide 250th Battle of Bennington Celebration - Mr. Spivak has been named to a State-wide group as a private citizen. We recommend formal appointment to the State-wide group as the Town's representative which will put him in a position to join in activities of a local group.

Jim Carroll moved and Bruce Lee-Clark seconded to appoint Jonah Spivak as Bennington's Representative to the State-wide 250th Battle of Bennington Celebration group. The motion carried unanimously.

Willow Park Playground Public Forum - The first public forum by Play By Design will tentatively be held on April 15, 2022 at MAUHS during the evening hours and not at the Fire Facility as previously announced.

Ms. Perrin suggested inviting the Young Professionals and that will be done.

10. UPCOMING AGENDA

April 11, 2022 - Select Board Reorganization

April 11, 2022 - Economic Strategy Update

April 11, 2022 - CPARB Discussion

April 11, 2022 - Implementing the Town Vision

April 11, 2022 - Update with Casella

491 **15. OTHER BUSINESS**

492 Mr. Corey: The St. Gobain class action suit map is now on the Town's website for property
493 owners in 2016.

494 Ms. Conner: The Bennington Banner will be announcing the highlights of our upcoming
495 meetings in the Friday paper and thank you to Kathy Janowski for donating the Support Ukraine
496 signs.

497 Ms. Perrin: Thanked everyone that attended the meeting.

498 Ms. Jenkins: Received a note from Chief Doucette and Lt. Grande thanking us for the Safety and
499 Hazard Pay and the Insurance benefit.

500

501

502 ***At 9:00pm, Jim Carroll moved and Sarah Perrin seconded the adjournment of the***
503 ***meeting. The motion carried unanimously.***

504

505

506 Respectfully submitted,

507 Nancy H. Lively

508 Secretary

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

2022 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

2022 1st Class Renewal

1. Allegro Ristorante

2022 2nd Class Renewals

1. W. Collective
2. Willy's Variety

2022 3rd Class Renewal

1. Allegro Ristorante

**The Bennington Select Board hereby approves the above
2022 Liquor License Renewal Applications
Dated: April 11, 2022**

Jeannette Jenkins, Chair

FIRST/SECOND/THIRD CLASS LIQUOR LICENSE AND TOBACCO APPLICATION

(License year is May 1ST through April 30TH of the following year)

Scully Corp.

Print Name of Person, Partnership, Corp., Club or LLC

Powers

Doing Business as – Trade Name

31 Hall St North Bennington Vermont 05257

Street

North Bennington 05257

Town or City & Zip Code

518.269.7813

Telephone Number

PO Box 271 North Bennington, VT 05257

Mailing Address (if different from above)

Email address: PangaeaVT@gmail.com

APPLICATION FEES:

FIRST CLASS LICENSE - \$115.00 to DLC **and** \$115.00 to Town/City

SECOND CLASS LICENSE- ~~\$70.00~~ to DLC **and** \$70.00 to Town/City

SECOND CLASS RETAIL DELIVERY PERMIT - \$100.00 to DLC

THIRD CLASS LICENSE - \$1,095 for a full year to DLC
\$550 for 6 or fewer months to DLC

TOBACCO LICENSE- (there is no application fee for tobacco if
applying for second class)

TOBACCO ENDORSEMENT PERMIT - \$50.00 to DLC

**If applying for Tobacco only license, please use the Tobacco Only form.*

Please check appropriate categories

☐ FIRST CLASS

☒ SECOND CLASS

☐ THIRD CLASS

☐ TOBACCO

☐ Retail Delivery Permit

☒ Tobacco Endorsement

☐ Restaurant

☐ Hotel

☐ Club

☐ Commercial Kitchen (a Liquor Control Commercial
Caterer's License is needed with this license)

TO THE CONTROL COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN/CITY OF _____

Application is hereby made for a license to sell malt and vinous beverages under and in accordance with Title 7, Vermont Statutes Annotated, as amended, and certify that all statements, information and answers to questions herein contained are true; and in consideration of such license being granted do promise and agree to comply with all local and state laws; and to comply with all regulations made and promulgated by the Board of Liquor and Lottery. Upon hearing, the Board of Liquor and Lottery may, in its discretion, suspend or revoke such license whenever it may determine that the law or any regulations of the Board of Liquor and Lottery have been violated, or that any statement, information or answers herein contained are false.

ALL APPLICANTS

HAVE ANY OF THE APPLICANTS EVER BEEN CONVICTED OR PLED GUILTY TO **ANY** CRIMINAL OR MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSE IN ANY COURT OF LAW (INCLUDING TRAFFIC TICKETS) AT ANY TIME? ☐ YES ☒ NO

If yes, please complete the following information: (attached sheet if necessary)

Name	Court/Traffic Bureau	Offense	Date
<hr/>			
<hr/>			

Do any of the applicants hold any elective or appointive state, county, city, village/town office in Vermont? (See VSA, T.7, Ch. 9, §22.3)

If yes, please complete the following information:

Name	Office	Jurisdiction
<hr/>		

Please give name, title and date attended of manager, director, partner or individual who has attended a Liquor Control Licensee Education Seminar, as required by Education Regulation No. 3:

Name: Nicholas Disorda
Title: President
Date: 3/3/22

If you have not attended an Education Seminar prior to making application, please visit www.liquorcontrol.vermont.gov and click on Seminar Schedule for a list of Seminars in your area.

FOR ALL APPLICANTS: DESCRIPTION /LOCATION OF PREMISES (Section 4)

Description of the premises to be licensed: A small grocery and dell located at 9 Main St North Bennington Vermont open 7 days a week from 10am - 6pm

Does applicant own the premises described? YES ☐ NO ☒ If not owned, does applicant lease the premises? YES ☒ NO ☐

If leased, name and address of lessor who holds title to property: THOMPSON FAMILY GROUP, LLC
160 ARDITH DRIVE ORINDA, CA 94563

Are you making this application for the benefit of any other party? YES ☐ NO ☒

FIRST CLASS APPLICANTS ONLY: No first-class license may be issued without the following information.

HEALTH LICENSE #: Food _____ Lodging (if licensed as a Hotel) _____

VERMONT TAX DEPARTMENT: Meals & Rooms Certificate/Business Account# _____

Business is devoted primarily to (please check one):

☐ FOOD (restaurant) ☐ HOTEL ☐ CLUB ☐ COMMERCIAL CATERING

If you are considering **Outside Consumption** service on decks, porches, cabanas, etc. you must complete an Outside Consumption Permit. This form can be found on our website at www.liquorcontrol.vermont.gov and then click on licensing and then forms.

TOWN/CITY APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL

Upon being satisfied that the conditions precedent to the granting of this license as provided in Title 7 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated, as amended, have been fully met by the applicant, the commissioners will endorse their recommendation on the back of the applications and transmit both copies to the Board of Liquor and Lottery for suitable action thereon, before any license may be granted. For the information of the Board of Liquor and Lottery, all applications shall carry the signature of each individual commissioner registering either approval or disapproval. Lease or title must be recorded in town or city before issuance of license.

_____, Vermont, _____
Town/City Date

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED

Please check one: ☐ Approved ☐ Disapproved

by the Board of Control Commissioners of the City or Town of _____

Total Membership _____ Members present _____

Attest, _____
City or Town Clerk

TOWN OR CITY CLERK SHALL MAIL ONE APPLICATION DIRECTLY TO THE DIVISION OF LIQUOR CONTROL, 13 Green Mountain Drive, Montpelier, VT 05602. If application is disapproved, local control commissioners shall notify the applicant by letter.

No formal action taken by any agency or authority of any town board of selectmen or city board of aldermen on a first or second-class application shall be considered binding except as taken or made at an open public meeting. VSA Title 1 §312.

SECTION 5111 AND 5121 OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1954 REQUIRE EVERY RETAIL DEALER IN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES TO FILE A FORM ANNUALLY AND PAY A SPECIAL TAX IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH SALES ACTIVITY. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

THE BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & FIREARMS (TTB)
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
550 MAIN STREET, CINCINNATI, OH 45202
(513) 684-2979

NOTICE: All new applications are investigated by the Enforcement and Licensing Division prior to approval/disapproval of the license by the Board of Liquor and Lottery. Please note that this process can take anywhere from 2 weeks to 6 weeks to complete once Liquor Control receives the application.

*This is for
off-site
catering.*

FIRST/SECOND/THIRD CLASS LIQUOR CO APPLICATION

(License year is May 1ST through April 30TH of the following year)

COUCH + CORK, LLC

Print Name of Person, Partnership, Corp., Club or LLC

Doing Business as – Trade Name

113 South Street, #302 Bennington, VT 0520
Street

Bennington, VT 05201

Town or City & Zip Code

802-440-0437

Telephone Number

Mailing Address (if different from above)

Email address: **nancy@nancykozioi.com**
couchandcork.com

APPLICATION FEES:

FIRST CLASS LICENSE - \$115.00 to DLC and \$115.00 to Town/City

SECOND CLASS LICENSE- \$70.00 to DLC and \$70.00 to Town/City

SECOND CLASS RETAIL DELIVERY PERMIT - \$100.00 to DLC

THIRD CLASS LICENSE - \$1,095 for a full year to DLC
\$550 for 6 or fewer months to DLC

TOBACCO LICENSE- (there is no application fee for tobacco if
applying for second class)

TOBACCO ENDORSEMENT PERMIT - \$50.00 to DLC

**If applying for Tobacco only license, please use the Tobacco Only form.*

Please check appropriate categories

☒ FIRST CLASS

☐ SECOND CLASS

☒ THIRD CLASS

☐ TOBACCO

☐ Retail Delivery Permit

☐ Tobacco Endorsement

☐ Restaurant

☐ Hotel

☐ Club

☐ Commercial Kitchen (a Liquor Control Commercial
Caterer's License is needed with this license)

TO THE CONTROL COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN/CITY OF BENNINGTON

Application is hereby made for a license to sell malt and vinous beverages under and in accordance with Title 7, Vermont Statutes Annotated, as amended, and certify that all statements, information and answers to questions herein contained are true; and in consideration of such license being granted do promise and agree to comply with all local and state laws; and to comply with all regulations made and promulgated by the Board of Liquor and Lottery. Upon hearing, the Board of Liquor and Lottery may, in its discretion, suspend or revoke such license whenever it may determine that the law or any regulations of the Board of Liquor and Lottery have been violated, or that any statement, information or answers herein contained are false.

ALL APPLICANTS

HAVE ANY OF THE APPLICANTS EVER BEEN CONVICTED OR PLED GUILTY TO ANY CRIMINAL OR MOTOR VEHICLE OFFENSE IN ANY COURT OF LAW (INCLUDING TRAFFIC TICKETS) AT ANY TIME? ☒ YES ☐ NO

If yes, please complete the following information: (attached sheet if necessary)

Name	Court/Traffic Bureau	Offense	Date
Traffic Ticket	Vermont Judicial Bureau	23 VSA 1095b	November 2019

Do any of the applicants hold any elective or appointive state, county, city, village/town office in Vermont? (See VSA, T.7, Ch. 9, §223)
If yes, please complete the following information:

Name	Office	Jurisdiction
------	--------	--------------

Please give name, title and date attended of manager, director, partner or individual who has attended a Liquor Control Licensee Education Seminar, as required by Education Regulation No. 3:

Name: Nancy Koziol
Title: Member / Owner
Date: August 27, 2021

If you have not attended an Education Seminar prior to making application, please visit www.liquorcontrol.vermont.gov and click on Seminar Schedule for a list of Seminars in your area.

FOR ALL APPLICANTS: DESCRIPTION /LOCATION OF PREMISES (Section 4)

Description of the premises to be licensed: 201 South Street, Bennington, Vermont. Current location of Dunleavy Bros. Brewing LLC (dba Harvest Brewing).

Does applicant own the premises described? YES ☐ NO ☒ If not owned, does applicant lease the premises? YES ☒ NO ☐

If leased, name and address of lessor who holds title to property: _____

Are you making this application for the benefit of any other party? YES ☐ NO ☒

FIRST CLASS APPLICANTS ONLY: No first-class license may be issued without the following information.

HEALTH LICENSE #: Food 10083 Lodging (if licensed as a Hotel)

VERMONT TAX DEPARTMENT: Meals & Rooms Certificate/Business Account# MRT-11114900

Business is devoted primarily to *(please check one)*:

☐ FOOD (restaurant) ☐ HOTEL ☐ CLUB ☒ COMMERCIAL CATERING

If you are considering **Outside Consumption** service on decks, porches, cabanas, etc. you must complete an Outside Consumption Permit. This form can be found on our website at www.liquorcontrol.vermont.gov and then click on licensing and then forms.

TOWN/CITY APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL

Upon being satisfied that the conditions precedent to the granting of this license as provided in Title 7 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated, as amended, have been fully met by the applicant, the commissioners will endorse their recommendation on the back of the applications and transmit both copies to the Board of Liquor and Lottery for suitable action thereon, before any license may be granted. For the information of the Board of Liquor and Lottery, all applications shall carry the signature of each individual commissioner registering either approval or disapproval. Lease or title must be recorded in town or city before issuance of license.

_____, Vermont, _____
Town/City Date

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED

[illegible]

Please check one: ☐ Approved ☐ Disapproved

by the Board of Control Commissioners of the City or Town of _____

Total Membership _____ Members present _____

Attest, _____
City or Town Clerk

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NOTICE: All new applications are investigated by the Enforcement and Licensing Division prior to approval/disapproval of the license by the Board of Liquor and Lottery. Please note that this process can take anywhere from 2 weeks to 6 weeks to complete once Liquor Control receives the application.

Resolution for Community Policing Advisory Review Board DRAFT 4

The Bennington Select Board, through its authority, hereby establishes a Town Board to be known as the Community Policing Advisory Review Board (CPARB), to provide meaningful community involvement in safety, equity, and law enforcement decision-making community policing efforts.

Through the creation of the CPARB, the Town of Bennington, its Police Department and the Select Board are committed to working with the entire community to ensure safety, accountability, transparency, and trust and to move Bennington toward achieving its vision of becoming “a welcoming, engaged, inclusive, and resilient community where everyone, regardless of identity, shares in our vitality and benefits from an outstanding quality of life”.

An end goal of this work is to fully realize the mission of the Bennington Police Department which reads:

“The Bennington Police Department is accountable to the Community for providing everyone, regardless of identity, with respectful and equitable law enforcement, protection, and service. The Department and the Community will achieve this through collaborative and positive relationships which contribute to the betterment of our quality of life.”

Goals

In partnership with the Select Board, Town of Bennington, and the Bennington Police Department (BPD), the CPARB has the following goals:

- Recommendations on police department training and community collaboration efforts
- Recommendation and review of proposed new and existing Bennington Police Department (BPD) policies and procedures
- Review of anonymized data on complaints and compliments for the purposes of identifying problems, patterns, and positive actions.
- Analysis of town-wide safety data with a focus on equity and areas of need
- Comparison of local data to other Vermont municipalities, state and national trends
- Fostering of collaborative efforts within the community to hear all voices
- Work with the Select Board and Town staff, including the BPD, to promote learning on community safety and equity issues

Activities

In collaboration with the BPD, the CPARB will:

- ~~Provide an alternative, confidential entry portal where members of the public can enter complaints and/or compliments directed toward the Bennington Police Department.~~
- Review required training for the BPD and outcomes and make recommendations on additional areas for training such as de-escalation, fair and impartial policing, verbal and non-verbal communication skills; inherent implicit bias; and officer discretion.
- Review existing collaborations with local organizations and agencies and make recommendations on ways to strengthen and develop additional working relationships between the BPD and the community.

- Develop a database for analysis of anonymized compliments and complaints **to be utilized by the CPARB for the purposes of identifying problems, patterns, positive actions.**
- Provide an annual summary of data and trends relating to police policy and training; complaints and compliments; police/community collaborations, and CPARB education activities.
- Undertake other activities consistent with the goals of the CPARB and this resolution **as are authorized by law.**

Considerations

The CPARB shall be governed by the same general requirements as other Town Boards and Commissions regarding appointments, conduct, term requirement, Open Meeting Law, and Open Records Law.

The CPARB does not have the power or authority to investigate, review, or otherwise participate in matters involving specific police personnel or specific police-related incidents. The CPARB will not receive, or review complaints initiated against personnel of the police, nor play any role in civil or criminal litigation. The Bennington Select Board will retain the Town Review Board function as required by the Bennington Town Charter and Vermont statutes.

Meetings

The CPARB will meet monthly, in person, or in a virtual setting. It is expected that each member will contribute and provide input on the topics on the agenda set by the chair. The CPARB may form sub-groups and engage the community in CPARB work, as appropriate. The Chief of Police or designee will attend all CPARB meetings and report on BPD matters as ~~directed~~ **requested** by the CPARB Chair. A Select Board or staff liaison will be appointed to provide assistance as needed by the CPARB.

Composition and Eligibility

The CPARB will consist of seven members from the community. Community is defined as a resident of the Town of Bennington, Old Bennington or North Bennington or someone who works or has demonstrated a significant (8 hours per week or more) commitment to volunteerism in Bennington. **Members must be Vermont residents.**

In year one, three CPARB members will be appointed to hold (3) year terms and four members to hold (2) year terms. In year two, two members will be appointed to (3) year terms and two members will be appointed for (2) year terms. Beginning in year three, all terms will be for three years. No member may serve more than seven consecutive years on the board. Former members are eligible to apply after not serving for one year.

The CPARB will elect a Chair on an annual basis following annual board appointments by the Select Board. A member of the CPARB will act as the recording secretary.

The CPARB members are expected to demonstrate a:

- high level of objectivity and integrity.
- collaborative working style.

- strong commitment to strengthening community policing efforts.
- willingness to listen and participate in continuous learning.
- ability to maintain confidentiality.
- readiness to attend BPD-sponsored events.

CPARB members will represent a range of interests and experiences, such as non-profits, faith community, business owners, education sector, youth representation, and others. Diversity by age, sexual and/or gender identity, ethnicity, socio-economic status, disability, and other identity is desired.

Familiarity and or knowledge in any of the following areas would be useful but not required:

- Behavioral and/or mental health
- Substance misuse disorder
- Domestic violence
- Statistical analysis
- Mediation and conflict resolution
- Criminal justice system, legal law, and restorative justice

Police officers are ineligible for three years following the end of their service. Individuals who are under the supervision of the Vermont Department of Corrections are ineligible to serve. **Sitting Select Board members are ineligible to serve on the CPARB except as a non-voting liaison.**

The Select Board has the authority to both appoint and remove members from the CPARB. Members who are absent and inactive for three months in a row or, demonstrate a pattern of inactivity over a period of six months, or fail to meet the expectations in this resolution will be asked to reconsider their membership on the CPARB. At the discretion of the Select Board, any member may be removed from the CPARB.

Training

Members must complete training authorized by the Bennington Police Department Chief prior to active participation on the CPARB. CPARB members shall take additional training **on effective practices in civilian review of law enforcement** over their term; not less than one additional training per year. Training costs will be borne by the Town of Bennington.

Review

This document will be reviewed as needed but not less than every three years following adoption.

Definitions

Complaint – A complaint documents when a person witnesses or experiences a personal encounter with Bennington Police Department personnel that **they believe** involves criminal conduct, misconduct, abusive or discriminatory behavior, neglect of duty, corrupt activity, inappropriate conduct or a violation of **policy, procedure, rule, and or** regulation of the Bennington Police Department. Complaints **may** ~~can~~ be made in-person, by phone, letter, or on the web. While more difficult to investigate, anonymous complaints are accepted.

1
2 Compliment – A compliment documents when a person witnesses or experiences a personal
3 encounter with Bennington Police Department personnel that **they believe** warrants special
4 recognition. ~~as conduct that goes above and beyond the expectations of the community.~~
5 Compliments may be made in-person, by phone, letter, or on the web. **Compliments made by**
6 **anonymous individuals are accepted.**
7
8

9 Select Board Chair: _____

10 Adoption Date:

DRAFT

Resolution for Community Policing Advisory Review Board Clean 4

The Bennington Select Board, through its authority, hereby establishes a Town Board to be known as the Community Policing Advisory Review Board (CPARB), to provide meaningful involvement in safety, equity, and community policing efforts.

Through the creation of the CPARB, the Town of Bennington, its Police Department and the Select Board are committed to working with the entire community to ensure safety, accountability, transparency, and trust and to move Bennington toward achieving its vision of becoming “a welcoming, engaged, inclusive, and resilient community where everyone, regardless of identity, shares in our vitality and benefits from an outstanding quality of life”.

An end goal of this work is to fully realize the mission of the Bennington Police Department which reads:

“The Bennington Police Department is accountable to the Community for providing everyone, regardless of identity, with respectful and equitable law enforcement, protection, and service. The Department and the Community will achieve this through collaborative and positive relationships which contribute to the betterment of our quality of life.”

Goals

In partnership with the Select Board, Town of Bennington, and the Bennington Police Department (BPD), the CPARB has the following goals:

- Recommendations on police department training and community collaboration efforts
- Recommendation and review of proposed new and existing Bennington Police Department (BPD) policies and procedures
- Review of anonymized data on complaints and compliments for the purposes of identifying problems, patterns, and positive actions.
- Analysis of town-wide safety data with a focus on equity and areas of need
- Comparison of local data to other Vermont municipalities, state and national trends
- Fostering of collaborative efforts within the community to hear all voices
- Work with the Select Board and Town staff, including the BPD, to promote learning on community safety and equity issues

Activities

In collaboration with the BPD, the CPARB will:

- Review required training for the BPD and outcomes and make recommendations on additional areas for training such as de-escalation, fair and impartial policing, verbal, and non-verbal communication skills; implicit bias; and officer discretion.
- Review existing collaborations with local organizations and agencies and make recommendations on ways to strengthen and develop additional working relationships between the BPD and the community.
- Develop a database for analysis of anonymized compliments and complaints to be utilized by the CPARB for the purposes of identifying problems, patterns, and positive actions.

- Provide an annual summary of data and trends relating to police policy and training; complaints and compliments; police/community collaborations, and CPARB education activities.
- Undertake other activities consistent with the goals of the CPARB and this resolution as are authorized by law.

Considerations

The CPARB shall be governed by the same general requirements as other Town Boards and Commissions regarding appointments, conduct, term requirement, Open Meeting Law, and Open Records Law.

The CPARB does not have the power or authority to investigate, review, or otherwise participate in matters involving specific police personnel or specific police-related incidents. The CPARB will not receive, or review complaints initiated against personnel of the police, nor play any role in civil or criminal litigation. The Bennington Select Board will retain the Town Review Board function as required by the Bennington Town Charter and Vermont statutes.

Meetings

The CPARB will meet monthly, in person, or in a virtual setting. It is expected that each member will contribute and provide input on the topics on the agenda set by the chair. The CPARB may form sub-groups and engage the community in CPARB work, as appropriate. The Chief of Police or designee will attend all CPARB meetings and report on BPD matters as requested by the CPARB Chair. A Select Board or staff liaison will be appointed to provide assistance as needed by the CPARB.

Composition and Eligibility

The CPARB will consist of seven members from the community. Community is defined as a resident of the Town of Bennington, Old Bennington or North Bennington or someone who works or has demonstrated a significant (8 hours per week or more) commitment to volunteerism in Bennington. Members must be Vermont residents.

In year one, three CPARB members will be appointed to hold (3) year terms and four members to hold (2) year terms. In year two, two members will be appointed to (3) year terms and two members will be appointed for (2) year terms. Beginning in year three, all terms will be for three years. No member may serve more than seven consecutive years on the board. Former members are eligible to apply after not serving for one year.

The CPARB will elect a Chair on an annual basis following annual board appointments by the Select Board. A member of the CPARB will act as the recording secretary.

The CPARB members are expected to demonstrate a:

- high level of objectivity and integrity.
- collaborative working style.
- strong commitment to strengthening community policing efforts.
- willingness to listen and participate in continuous learning.
- ability to maintain confidentiality.

- readiness to attend BPD-sponsored events.

CPARB members will represent a range of interests and experiences, such as non-profits, faith community, business owners, education sector, youth representation, and others. Diversity by age, sexual and/or gender identity, ethnicity, socio-economic status, disability, and other identity is desired.

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2 made by anonymous individuals are accepted.
3
4

5 Select Board Chair: _____

6 Adoption Date:

DRAFT

FILE A COMPLIMENT OR A COMPLAINT

Your feedback is important to us.

The Bennington Police Department is committed to embodying the highest ethical and professional standards and prides itself on the quality police services provided to the Bennington community. Building and maintaining trust and safety in the community is our highest priority.

Your feedback is important in helping the Department develop strategies and policies that meet the Bennington community's expectations.

COMPLIMENT THE BENNINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Bennington Police Department officers and professional staff would like to hear feedback on positive experiences with the Department. A compliment may be submitted using the form below. Be sure to click on SUBMIT. Compliments will be shared with the recognized employee, their supervisor, as well as the command staff.

FILING A COMPLAINT INVOLVING THE BENNINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Bennington Police Department is here to help you. Anyone with a question or concern about a police contact is encouraged to call the non-emergency number (802) 442-1030 and ask to speak with the On Duty Supervisor. Many questions about police procedure can be answered and resolved by a phone call to the On Duty Supervisor.

If an initial phone call does not resolve your concern, you may file a complaint. A complaint documents when a person witnesses or experiences a personal encounter with Bennington Police Department personnel that they believe involves criminal conduct, misconduct, abusive or discriminatory behavior, neglect of duty, corrupt activity, inappropriate conduct or a violation of rules and regulations of the Bennington Police Department.

It is the policy of the Bennington Police Department to investigate all complaints, including anonymous complaints, against the department or a member of the department, regardless of the source of such complaints, through a regulated, fair, and impartial process.

Complaints can be filed:

- In person: Go to the Bennington Police Station located at 118 South Street and ask to speak to the On Duty Supervisor.
- Online: Scroll to the bottom of this screen and click on SUBMIT.
- By mail: Complete a citizen complaint form which is available here below, print it out, fill it out and mailing it to the address above or below.
- By telephone: Call the Bennington Police Department at (802) 442-1030 and ask to speak to the On Duty Supervisor or request a blank report form.

- At home or the location where the incident occurred: You may request that a supervisor respond to your location to take your complaint by calling (802) 442-1030.

Individuals who seek to file a complaint will NOT be asked about their immigration status nor will information of immigration status be shared with other law enforcement agencies.

We accept complaints from the person directly involved, from third parties who witnessed the event in question, and from juveniles (though a parent, guardian, or advocate must be involved). We also accept anonymous complaints, but they are more difficult to investigate.

Please note that the more information provided to the Department, the better we can assist in addressing your concerns.

COMPLAINT INVESTIGATION PROCESS

Serious allegations, violations of law or civil rights, will be referred to a member of the command staff trained in Internal Affairs for investigation on behalf of the Chief of Police. Minor misconduct, for example, being discourteous or cruiser operation, can be assigned to the supervisor for review. Regardless of the situation, the complainant will be notified of the findings of the inquiry.

- Criminal conduct is investigated by law enforcement and the State's Attorney
- Abusive/discriminatory behavior, neglect of duty, corrupt activity, inappropriate conduct or a violation of rules or regulations of Bennington Police Department are regulated by Vermont statutes [24 V.S.A. § 1932 et seq (ch. 55)] or under the regulatory oversight of the Vermont Criminal Justice Council.

ACCOMODATIONS

The Bennington Police Department can also accommodate individuals needing interpretation and/or translation services or those with special needs. If you are an individual in need of a specific accommodation, please contact the On Duty Supervisor via telephone or in person to ensure you are provided the service you need.

Compliments or complaints can also be written and mailed to:

Chief of Police
Bennington Police Department
118 South Street
Bennington, Vermont 05201

Proposal for ARPA Fund Use:

Sunrise Family Resource Center – *Families at the Center Program*

Request: \$5,000 year 1, \$5,000 year 2, \$5,000 year 3

The Select Board subcommittee of the Economic Development Strategy and Infrastructure Group recommends, with a 2 -1 vote, to move forward with a recommendation to fund the proposal from Sunrise Family Resource Center at \$5,000, contingent on successful approval of grant funds from the O'Neill Foundation.

Sunrise is seeking funding to support the Families at the Center program for Southwestern Vermont. This effort grew out of a statewide workgroup that was looking at a whole family approach to jobs in VT, with the hope of change in policies that will make accessing services easier for families.

Elaine Zimmerman from the Office of Children's and Families at the Federal level, has been a part of these efforts, lending her expertise not only to our committees, but also offering social capital training to the parents that participated in the Families at the Center pilot.

Sunrise just wrapped up the pilot phase with an 18-month grant. The pilot was developed following a series of 4 focus groups held in each county, 2 for parents and 2 for service providers. Each group saw between 8-12 individuals. Out of that, we created a 3-month pilot. Bennington had 6 parents plus 1 Parent Mentor and Rutland had 4 parents and 1 Parent Mentor. Bennington had 4 navigators (plus 2 supervisors interested) as did Rutland.

During the pilot, families worked closely with what we refer to as navigators (those service providers willing to expand on the support they can offer families and take the lead on ensuring needed services are accessed with respect) to achieve their goals. Families also attended monthly social capital gatherings with other caregivers and navigators. A couple of important points that we learned from parent feedback during the pilot were that parents benefited from having a close and quality relationship with their navigator and from navigators pursuing resources outside of their normal scope. Also, parents who attended the social capital gatherings reported feeling less isolated. In addition to these reports from parents, navigators felt they were better able to support parents because of the close relationships, and the freedom to pursue resources outside of their typical scope. They also reported that the social capital gatherings were a great way to meet people and learn about community resources.

Excited by these responses to the pilot, We, the Families at the Center of Southwestern Vt. Team, are now looking to continue our efforts by drawing from the positive feedback and lessons learned during the pilot to create a refined and expanded model in both Bennington and Rutland. In this expanded model, we plan to invite a minimum of 120 families and 15-20 service agencies, across both communities and over 3 years, to participate in various social capital gatherings, leadership and educational opportunities, and local and state level policy discussions. All of this, with the goals of (1) improving policies around social services, and (2) creating strong networks of families and agencies that support each other to navigate the social service and employment system, improve coordination and ultimately, achieve their goals.

We will be submitting a three-year implementation grant application in May. Our plan for both Bennington and Rutland will be to begin the first year of implementation with 20 parents in each county. Year two and three will increase by another 40, again in each county. So, essentially, 60 families in each county for a total of 120.

The three-year Implementation Grant will go to the O'Neill Foundation. The cost to move forward with this project is \$85,000 per year for each of the 2 PCC's (Sunrise and Rutland). The O'Neill Foundation's grant is \$75,000 per year to each community. Both communities will be meeting with the Vermont Community Foundation and asking for a match of \$5,000 funding per community. Sunrise is also reaching out to our town, asking for ARPA funds at \$5,000 per year for 3 years, a total of \$15,000. The grant includes incentive funds for participant's, honoring their time, insights and expertise and collaboration within their community.

MANAGER'S REPORT

April 11, 2022

ACTION

Bennington Free Library Road Closure The Library is planning a “street dance” in its courtyard on August 6, 2022. It would be held from 6 pm until 9 pm. The Library is asking to close a block of Union Street from Silver to Valentine during that time. The Chief has reviewed the request and approved it.

Action requested Motion to close Union Street from Silver to Valentine for the time requested.

INFORMATIONAL

Select Board Annual Calendar See attached.

Exceptions to Purchasing Policy This is included annually as well. See attached.

Morgan Springs Delivery System Relocation This project is now in full swing. The new fill station is currently under construction, with carpenters on site installing the building. It is estimated that they are 50% done with the building and planning on starting the pipe from the existing fill station to the new fill station the middle of this month as the weather warms. Completion is forecast for May/June 2022.

Stormwater permit issues Still no word on next steps. We await direction from the State.

FOLLOW UP

Website Developer Selection Process It's come to my attention that citizens are unclear on the process used to select the website developer for the Town. I asked Jonah to summarize the process. Here's his summary:
“We used a list of vendors that BCSWA had used recently in a search for web developers plus I added some vendors that had done websites for VT towns and I also included EightOhTwo as they were the vendor for VermontBeginsHere.com. The RFP was posted on Facebook, a press release was published in the Bennington Banner, and on the Town website. I did hear back from EightOhTwo that they were choosing not to submit a proposal. As per our purchasing policy, we noted that we had qualified small, minority, and women owned firms respond to the RFP. I did hear from a few web developers in Vermont and the area expressing interest, but they did not end up submitting a proposal. Based on the number of strong responses to the RFP we felt pretty good about the selection we had available to us.

Twenty-two vendors submitted proposals ranging in cost from \$5,000 to \$300,000. Vendors were from across the US, Canada, and abroad. Dozens of questions were submitted to us during

the RFP process which were answered on our website throughout the question and answer period. We eliminated proposals that were incomplete or were above our \$25,000. We did not note the location of firms during the initial selection process, nor did we apply any selection criteria beyond what was stated in the RFP. A team consisting of Dan, Shannon, and I, narrowed down those remaining proposals based on the RFP selection criteria and the sample websites they listed to four finalists. If we did not select a vendor from the four finalists, we would return to our remaining proposals for a second round.

The four finalists had their references checked and zoom interviews with our team. We looked closely at sample websites the proposals listed. We used a matrix to rank/score the proposals based on the criteria outlined in the RFP plus the addition of their performance in the interview. A clear favorite emerged from the process, so we chose Revize as our vendor. We note that Revize is a certified minority business enterprise.

I'm also noting the press release that was published on Monday in the Banner that also summarizes the process:

https://www.benningtonbanner.com/local-news/firm-chosen-to-redesign-bennington-town-website/article_b0f2b87c-b35d-11ec-92ab-2ff4a5417c3d.html

Link to website info page and RFP:

<https://benningtonvt.org/website-rfp/>”

The Bid Summary is attached.

The Community Development and Permitting/Planning Reports are attached.

The Police Department Report is attached.

SELECT BOARD ANNUAL CALENDAR

- Apr Board reorganization-first meeting.
 Manager supplies Purchasing Policy exceptions
 Staff evaluations performed by the Manager are to be completed by June.
- May Water /sewer budgets presented to Board. Board begins review.
 Downtown Improvement District funding set by Board after review of requests.
 BBC Workplan reviewed as part of DID funding determination.
 Boards and Commissions appointment process begins.
- Jun Water/sewer budgets adopted by Board and rates set. Town and DID tax rates set.
 Manager sets employee salary increases for the coming year.
 Juneteenth celebration
- July Last opportunity to set tax rate for General, Highway Fund, and Fire Fund.
 Last opportunity to hear and accept BBC Work Plan and set DID tax rate.
- Aug Tax bills are mailed. Nov 10th is the adopted due date. It may be pushed back due
 to weekend or Veteran's Day calendar.
- Sept Biannual Citizen Survey is published for return by November/ early December.
- Oct Staff begins General and Highway Fund budget development. Board may
 provide direction on salary increases for non-union employees and overall budget
 increase. If union contract expiring next June 30, negotiations may start.
- Nov General and Highway Fund taxes due. Manager evaluation performed by Board.
 Manager continues review of department budgets.
- Dec Late December, Manager presents budgets to Board and Board schedules work
 sessions. Applications from agencies not petitioning are provided to Board.
- Jan Board reviews and adopts budgets by end of the month. Sets pay for Manager,
 Clerk and Treasurer. Petitioned Articles added to Warning.
 Board signs Warning for Annual Meeting at last meeting in January.
- Feb At the 2nd Board meeting, the School/Town budgets presented to the public.
- Mar. Annual Town Meeting first Tuesday in March; floor meeting the night before.

MEMORANDUM

To: Select Board

From: Stuart A. Hurd, Town Manager

Re: Exceptions to the Purchasing Policy
Multi Year Agreements

Date: March 31, 2022

The Purchasing Policy requires notification to the Board no later than April 30th of a given year for Professional Services Exceptions. The Policy also requires notification to the Board for Sole Source Purchases within 30 days. I will be including these Sole Source vendors because this is the first year and some of these were in place before the Policy was revised. Multi Year Agreements must also be sent to the Board. I will include the current vendors as well.

Professional Services Exceptions

These exceptions are “characterized by a high degree of professional judgement, discretion and continuity including legal, financial, auditing, engineering, and insurance services”.

MSK Engineering

Provides engineering and surveying services for the municipal water system, for pathway projects, for forestry and land management purposes.

Milone and MacBroom

River science engineering

Paul Miller

Provides environmental engineering services for pollution/contamination matters

Woolmington, Campbell, Bent and Stasny PC

Provides legal services for all departments except those covered by our Property and Casualty Insurer, PACIF (VLCT).

Love Cody and Company

Auditing services

Newport Group

Provides retirement group actuarial services for the audit, a new GASB requirement.

A+E Engineering

Provides engineering and surveying services for the municipal wastewater system and treatment plant

White & Burke

Real estate development assistance

Sole Source Exceptions

These vendors have been selected because they are the only possible source.

A&K Slipforming

Concrete curb installation

Lafaso Electric

Provides traffic control services for signal lights and controllers.

Morse Repair

Provides repair services for all heavy equipment and large trucks not under warranty from dealer. They are the only one local with the capabilities.

Peckham Industries

Provides all concrete for municipal projects; the only one available.

Sherwin Williams Paints

Only provider of traffic paint.

Electrical Installations Ins

Provides WTF SCADA maintenance

LCS Controls

Provides WWTF SCADA maintenance

Hach

Provides water instrumentation service and calibration

Green Mountain Pipeline

Slip lining services-only competitive bidder

Surpass Chemical

Provides polymer and chlorine to WTF

Airgas

Bulk carbon dioxide for WTF

Holland Company

Provides sodium bisulfate

Evoqua

Provides sodium bioxide for odor at West Rd sewer pump station

Endyne

Does water quality testing for water and wastewater

EMA

Provide maintenance on variable frequency drives for water and wastewater

BDP

Provides repair parts and labor for all dewatering and compost equipment

Multi Year Agreements

These are agreements ranging in length from three years to five years.

Wells Communications

Provides radio maintenance services to all departments.

Repeat Business Solutions

Provides copier lease agreements for most departments ranging in length as noted above.

First Choice Communications

Provides telephone hardware and maintenance services.

First Light

Provides telephone, internet, ELAN Network services for all departments.

RCS Consulting

Provides internet and computer software assistance.

R.C. Pembroke and Sons

Provides tree planting and maintenance and island planting and maintenance for multiple locations

Sweet William Garden Design

Provides downtown planting design and maintenance.

Procom

Provides radio maintenance services to DPW

Manosh

Provides Vac-truck services for wastewater and highway

Prue Electric

Provides electrical services for water and wastewater

Brookfield

Provides Generator maintenance for DPW

Bid Summary Website

Vendor Name	Proposal Cost	Status of Proposal	Finalists
Digitiv	\$22,500.00	complete	
Anthony Timbers	\$15,000.00	complete	
Techforce	\$25,000.00	complete	
Arkotech LLC	\$23,000.00	complete	
Raj	\$17,000.00	complete	
Kalzoom	\$28,089.00	complete	
NTC	no price	incomplete	
Provis Technology	\$32,090.00	complete	
Gravity Switch	\$90,002.00	complete	
The Current Agency	\$18,000.00	complete	
Selland Technologies	\$68,000.00	complete	
Wave Interactive	\$39,900.00	complete	
Eway Corp	\$119,500.00	complete	
NVISH	\$42,625.00	complete	
Epikso	\$75,120.00	complete	
EcoPixel	\$45,000.00	complete	
AAITPRO	\$314,000.00	complete	
KathodeRay Media	\$56,500.00	complete	
NabDesign	\$5,000.00	complete	Finalist
Civic Engage	\$22,000.00	complete	Finalist
WebLinx	\$20,800.00	complete	Finalist
Revize	\$7,000.00	complete	SELECTED VENDOR

Recreation:

a. YMCA program planning:

The Bennington Community Center (Rec Center) has a busy pool schedule with lap swimming, water exercise classes, swimming classes and family swim. New exercise equipment is available in the weight room, and a strength and conditioning room has opened in the basement. The Y is also running afterschool programs at the Village School in North Bennington, the Bennington Sports Center (old Catamount School), Shaftsbury, and Pownal schools. At Benn High, there are also eight exercise classes and a walking group meeting every week. Classes include Pickleball at Benn High and Games and Gab for seniors at the Bennington Sports Center. The pool, adult fitness, and youth program schedules are updated regularly on the Bennington Recreation center Facebook page. Sign-ups for youth spring sports programs have begun.

b. Bennington Outdoor Recreation Collaborative:

The Town of Bennington received a \$10,000 grant from the Vermont Community Foundation to support outdoor recreation with wayfinding signs, photography, graphic design, and print media. Jonah Spivak redesigned the Town's recreation page to highlight more outdoor recreation opportunities and partners. I hired a local photographer to take photos of outdoor recreation sites and people enjoying them during the fall. I am finalizing the outdoor recreation wayfinding signs with GVH studio and signs will be installed in the spring.

c. Appalachian Trail Community designation:

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy officially designated Bennington as an Appalachian Trail Community, which puts Bennington on the map for their marketing and promotion to AT hikers. I am on the advisory committee for the Bennington AT Community, and we are working on a "Trail Fest" event at the Bennington Community Center on July 30 for both locals and AT hikers.

e. Recreational Facilities and Animating Infrastructure Grant:

The Town of Bennington received a Recreation Facilities grant from the State of Vermont to add fencing around the green space next to the Morgan Springs water facility at Memorial Park (Rec Center). This is a sizable green space that will be used for youth programming, outdoor exercise classes, and community picnics. The new fencing is installed at the green space and allowed the Y to run a popular youth soccer program. Another Animating Infrastructure grant will support art installations along the fence, such as creative benches and gates, collaborating with local artists and designers through the Vermont Arts Exchange. We are also working with a local landscape designer for ideas on landscaping the area.

f. Trolley line path:

I am on the advisory committee for the Trolley Line path scoping study that is led by Cat Bryars and Mark Anders of BCRC. This study examines the feasibility of converting the abandoned electric trolley car bed in Southwestern Vermont into a 14-mile shared-use

path for pedestrians and cyclists traveling between Bennington and Pownal, VT and Williamstown, MA.

g. Willow Park play structure upgrade:

I am on the working group with Paul Dansereau, Mark Sawyer, and Jonah Spivak. We reviewed the proposals that responded to the RFP and selected Play by Design to lead the project. The SVSU is hosting a meeting at the Mt. Anthony Union High School auditorium on April 13 at 6:30 p.m. the public can also review playground designs and comment online at benningtonvt.org/willow-park

Economic Development Committee:

I am part of the town committee that formed to discuss the Town's economic development and ARPA priorities in partnership with consultants White and Burke. I presented the plan for the redevelopment of Benn High at the March 28th Select Board meeting and have been working closely with the owner of Benn High, the Town's Senior Center, Meals on Wheels, Berkshire Family YMCA, and Shires Housing to develop a reuse plan for the building.

Vermont Begins Here:

Eight Oh Two Marketing is continuing the digital marketing campaign to promote Bennington. We are running Facebook ads to promote winter travel to Bennington. VBH blog posts for April promoted the opening of the Village Garage distillery and the Homebrew festival that will be held at the Bennington Sports Center (old Catamount School) on April 30.

Local Food Security:

I meet monthly with the Southern Vermont Regional Food Network, which promotes a stronger regional network for sustainable local agriculture.

The downtown market advisory group developed out of the SVRFN and is focused on a downtown market that supports local farms and food producers and supplies fresh produce to downtown Bennington. They have formed a nonprofit, the Bennington Community Market, and the market will be located at 239 Main Street. The market received a town loan for \$200,000 to begin construction on a commercial kitchen at the market space. They have a website- <https://www.benningtonmarket.com>- and will begin a fundraising campaign soon.

Community Development Block Grants:

The Berkshire Family YMCA, UCS Head Start, and Sunrise Family Resource Center received VCDP grants to support Covid-19 related expenses and HVAC upgrades. The Town also received a VCDP grant for \$500,000 to support the Shire Housing Bennington Family Housing project at 300 Pleasant Street. I am working on paperwork required for each grant agreement and subgrant agreement along with progress reports. Shires Housing submitted a VCDP application for two recovery housing projects and Hale Resources received additional funding for the affordable housing development at 219 Pleasant Street. The Recovery Housing project on Gage Street was awarded a \$360,000 grant and Squire House will be considered for the next round of funding.

Historic Preservation Grants:

I am working with GVH Studio on a history/recreation/arts and culture panels for a new downtown kiosk funded with an historic preservation (CLG program) grant. The kiosk will be completed and installed in the spring. I also submitted another historic preservation grant in partnership with Bennington College to put the college campus on the National Register of Historic Places, and we were awarded this \$5,000 grant.

Franklin Lane Improvement Project:

Dan and I have been meeting with MSK Engineering and BCRC to discuss final improvements to Franklin Lane. Scheduling contractors during the busy summer and fall season has been a challenge and the work will start in the spring. This project is funded with a \$50,000 Downtown Transportation Fund grant.

Bennington Winter Study:

I met with Divine Bradley and his Bennington College winter study students about doing a community project downtown. The students will work on conceptual designs for community spaces at Benn High and will interview community organizations who are interested in using the space for youth and adult programs, wellness classes, and arts programs.

Walloomsac Riverwalk Pathway:

I worked with Michael McDonough, chair of the BBC's design committee, to submit a grant application for \$240,000 for the Downtown Transportation Fund for improvements to the Walloomsac Riverwalk Pathway.

Town website redesign project team:

I met with Jonah Spivak to review the proposals submitted for the Town's website redesign and interviewed final candidates. The web developer Revize was awarded the contract for the Town's website and will get started next week.

Downtown summer events:

I joined the Better Bennington Corporation's promotion committee to assist with downtown events at the Thomson stage this summer. The BBC will manage a summer music series called "Thursday Night Live" using the stage and splash pad park. The BBC has launched a crowdfunding campaign for the series and has almost met their goal of \$5,000, which will be matched with a \$10,000 Better Places grant from the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development.

Community Outreach:

In the past month, I have met with the Berkshire Family YMCA management team, the owner of Benn High, the Bennington Senior Center, Meals on Wheels, Shires Housing, Eight Oh Two Marketing, Historic Preservation Commission, Bennington Community Market, Vermont Arts Exchange, Town Economic

Community Development Report: April 6, 2022

Shannon Barsotti

Development committee, Willow Park project team, Better Bennington Corporation, Shires Housing, and
AT Community Committee,

**12-Years At a Glance
Permit Totals Only**

Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	6	12	11	5	8	15	10	5	6	5	11	15
February	7	7	6	7	15	8	5	7	5	8	9	10
March	6	31	13	12	10	14	19	11	13	9	19	22
April	34	31	18	22	27	14	15	15	23	11	29	
May	27	27	38	20	23	19	27	23	24	19	23	
June	34	32	20	19	21	19	10	14	12	25	16	
July	20	24	33	29	47	16	29	30	28	12	16	
August	14	30	21	29	20	18	25	25	16	27	16	
September	15	21	32	27	22	21	21	23	26	9	14	
October	19	38	30	21	28	9	19	20	20	17	29	
November	22	10	16	11	12	8	16	11	8	15	19	
December	17	18	18	7	10	5	8	11	11	5	10	
Total	221	281	256	209	243	166	204	195	192	162	211	

**Summary of Building Permits Issued
March 2022**

Construction Type	Month to date	Month to Date Volume	Year to date	Year to Date Volume
	Permit Totals		Permit Totals	
Single Family Dwelling	0	\$0.00	1	\$300,000.00
Duplex	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Mobile Homes	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Apartments	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Apartment Renovations	2	\$40,000.00	3	\$62,900.00
Condominiums	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Residential Renovations	3	\$150,300.00	5	\$172,300.00
Residential Additions	2	\$73,800.00	2	\$73,800.00
Commercial Construction	1	\$200,000.00	1	\$200,000.00
Commercial Renovations	1	\$400.00	4	\$1,720,340.00
Industrial Construction	0	\$0.00	1	\$608,898.00
Industrial Renovations	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Garages	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Sheds	1	\$4,799.00	2	\$5,179.00
Decks	0	\$0.00	1	\$14,370.00
Institutions	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Signs	2	\$16,200.00	5	\$40,025.00
Use & Zoning	2	\$20,000,000.00	4	\$20,133,000.00
Subdivision	1	\$0.00	2	\$0.00
Home Occupation	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Propane Tank/Storage Tank	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Boilers/Furnaces/RTU's, A/C	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Tents	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Handicap Access/Ramps	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Concreate Slabs	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Cell Towers/Communications	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Solar Installations	0	\$0.00	4	\$76,841.25
Camps	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Withdrawn	1	\$0.00	1	\$0.00
Demolition	3	\$0.00	6	\$0.00
Fire Supression	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Sprinkler System	2	\$0.00	3	\$0.00
Exhaust Hood	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Fire Alarm	1	\$0.00	2	\$0.00
Total	22	\$20,485,499.00	47	\$23,407,653.25

Town of Bennington Planning and Zoning

Detailed Permit Report

Permit types included: Building

Approval status included: Granted

Occupancy status included: Any status

Decision dates included: Between 03/01/2022 and 03/31/2022

<i>Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages</i>	<i>Permit number</i>	<i>Owner's name Applicant's name Location</i>	<i>Permit type Cert. of Occ.</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Fee paid Cost of project</i>
56503100	21-032	JAMES NATHAN S Nathan S. James 108 OBSERVATORY ST Construction of a 10' x 10' shed	Building C.O. Pending	Withdrawn 03/11/2022	35.00 3,954.25
42503100	22-016	MUSCATO MICHAEL & ALICIA Michael & Alicia Muscato 230 WALLOOMSAC RD Interior Home Renovation (4,876 sq-ft)	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 03/18/2022	487.60 150,000.00
22501602	22-017	BOUTIN RICHARD Richard Boutin 1463 N BENNINGTON RD New Home Addition (440 sq-ft)	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 03/08/2022	89.00 63,800.00
42500500	22-019	VERMONT PERMANENCY INITIATIVE INC VPI 165 PEACEFUL WAY Adding a door in the hallway	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 03/15/2022	50.00 400.00
09012001	22-021	GH HOUSING LLC GH Housing LLC 1246 BURGESS RD New Construction - Business Office, Work Area,	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 03/21/2022	1,254.25 200,000.00
45014900	22-022	BENTLEY DAKOTA & CECILY Dakota & Cecily Bentley 252 N BRANCH ST Renovation - Remove Existing Kitchen to Make	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 03/25/2022	25.00 300.00
58510700	22-024	SMITH FRANCIS & JACOB Francis Smith 46 CENTER ST 240 sq-ft Addition To Make Larger Master Bedroom	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 03/29/2022	56.00 10,000.00
50535800	22-025	204 MAPLE STREET LLC Hale Resources LLC 204 MAPLE ST 200 sq-ft Interior Renovation of Units 2 & 3	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 03/24/2022	50.00 10,000.00
48513000	22-026	ROGERS WILLIAM & MARCIA LIFE William & Marcia Rogers 410 FOX HILL RD Construct 12x10 Shed	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 03/30/2022	35.00 4,799.00

Town of Bennington Planning and Zoning
Detailed Permit Report

<i>Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages</i>	<i>Permit number</i>	<i>Owner's name Applicant's name Location</i>	<i>Permit type Cert. of Occ.</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Fee paid Cost of project</i>
56532300	22-029	PROUTY JO ANNE Jo Anne Prouty 117 NORTON ST Remodel Kitchen, Bathroom, Laundry Room & Living	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 03/31/2022	112.00 30,000.00
51527200	22-030	610 GAGE STREET LLC 610 Gage Street LLC 610 GAGE ST Remove Kitchen & Convert to Laundry Room, Also	Building C.O. Pending	Granted 03/31/2022	0.00 From 2-Family Dwelling to 1-Family Dwelling

Permit types included: Local/Custom

Approval status included: Granted

Occupancy status included: Any status

Decision dates included: Between 03/01/2022 and 03/31/2022

<i>Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages</i>	<i>Permit number</i>	<i>Owner's name Applicant's name Location</i>	<i>Permit type Cert. of Occ.</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Fee paid Cost of project</i>
44503200	2022	259 BENMONT AVENUE LLC 259 Benmont Avenue LLC 259 BENMONT AV Removal Of 12x18 Shed	Local/Custom C.O. Not required	Granted 03/21/2022	25.00
17503600	2022	BAM DEVELOPMENT LLC Brian Millard 1869 HARWOOD HILL RD Demo shed behind unit 1	Local/Custom C.O. Not required	Granted 03/07/2022	25.00
45014154	2022	BILODEAU MICHAEL L Michael Bilodeau 75 BELL ST Relocation of Mobile Home	Local/Custom C.O. Not required	Granted 03/25/2022	25.00

Town of Bennington Planning and Zoning
Detailed Permit Report

Permit types included: Sign
Approval status included: Granted
Occupancy status included: Any status
Decision dates included: Between 03/01/2022 and 03/31/2022

<i>Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages</i>	<i>Permit number</i>	<i>Owner's name Applicant's name Location</i>	<i>Permit type</i>	<i>Decision Cert. of Occ.</i>	<i>Fee paid Cost of project</i>
36512302	S22-004	BLS BENNINGTON LIMITED	Sign	Granted	03/22/2022 77.28
		AJ Signs			C.O. Not required 4,200.00
		214 NORTHSIDE DR Sherwin Williams Sign Replacement			
36512200	S22-005	BLS BENNINGTON OUTLOT LLC	Sign	Granted	03/22/2022 153.25
		Michael Rivette			C.O. Not required 12,000.00
		216 NORTHSIDE DR New Burger King Signs (4)			

Town of Bennington Planning and Zoning
Detailed Permit Report

Permit types included: Subdivision
Approval status included: Granted
Occupancy status included: Any status
Decision dates included: Between 03/01/2022 and 03/31/2022

<i>Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages</i>	<i>Permit number</i>	<i>Owner's name Applicant's name Location</i>	<i>Permit type Cert. of Occ.</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Fee paid Cost of project</i>
50510300	22-018	CLARK THOMAS R & LAURA L Beverly Sigsbury 201 DEPOT ST 2-Lot Boundary Line Adjustment	Subdivision C.O. Not required	Granted 03/04/2022	50.00

Town of Bennington Planning and Zoning
Detailed Permit Report

Permit types included: Zoning
Approval status included: Granted
Occupancy status included: Any status
Decision dates included: Between 03/01/2022 and 03/31/2022

<i>Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages</i>	<i>Permit number</i>	<i>Owner's name Applicant's name Location</i>	<i>Permit type Cert. of Occ.</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Fee paid Cost of project</i>
50517100	22-012	RGN BENNINGTON HOLDINGS LLC RGN Bennington Holdings LLC 113 DEPOT ST Mixed Use Building - Office/Apartments (65,717 sq-ft)	Zoning C.O. Pending	Granted 03/17/2022	800.00 20,000,000.0
17502800	22-020	MCKENZIE CATHERINE & MICLETTE Catherine Mckenzie & Colleen Miclette 1487 HARWOOD HILL RD Dog Training Facility and Mini Golf	Zoning C.O. Not required	Granted 03/17/2022	50.00

Town of Bennington Planning and Zoning
Detailed Permit Report

Permit types included: Fire Alarm
Approval status included: Granted
Occupancy status included: Any status
Decision dates included: Between 03/01/2022 and 03/31/2022

<i>Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages</i>	<i>Permit number</i>	<i>Owner's name Applicant's name Location</i>	<i>Permit type Cert. of Occ.</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Fee paid Cost of project</i>
50515100	F22-003	DIONYSUS LLC (50%) Monument Electric 186 NORTH ST Adding Devices to Existing System for New Tenant	Fire Alarm C.O. Pending	Granted	03/09/2022 60.00

Town of Bennington Planning and Zoning
Detailed Permit Report

Permit types included: Sprinkler System
Approval status included: Granted
Occupancy status included: Any status
Decision dates included: Between 03/01/2022 and 03/31/2022

<i>Parcel number Land Record Book and Pages</i>	<i>Permit number</i>	<i>Owner's name Applicant's name Location</i>	<i>Permit type Cert. of Occ.</i>	<i>Decision</i>		<i>Fee paid Cost of project</i>
50515000	F22-004	DIONYSUS LLC & WKT HOLDINGS LLC Atlantic Fire Sprinkler Inc 190 NORTH ST Relocate And Add To Existing Systems To	Sprinkler System C.O. Pending Renovations	Granted	03/21/2022	224.00
43513000	F22-005	NORTHEASTERN BAPTIST COLLEGE INC Atlantic Fire Sprinkler Inc CONVENT AV Install Complete Systems (Buildings 1, 2, 8 & 9)	Sprinkler System C.O. Pending	Granted	03/31/2022	587.36

Bennington Police Department
Public Safety

Report to the Bennington Select Board

April 2022

Chief Paul Doucette and Lieutenant Camillo Grande attended the New England Law Enforcement Regional Command College sponsored by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Chief Doucette and Lieutenant Grande participated in the week-long command college and received instruction from FBI National Academy Instructors, FBI Agents, and law enforcement professionals. Staff from the FBI Boston Field Office and the FBI New Haven Field Office organized and presented the training in Chatham, Massachusetts.

Subject areas included 1st Amendment in the Age of Facebook, Instagram and Instantaneous Expression, Decision Making for a Diverse Workforce, Hate Crimes, Law Enforcement Officers Killed or Assaulted, FBI LEEDA Program, Effective Communications, Communications and the Five Pillars of Wellness.

Chief Doucette and Lieutenant Grande participated in law enforcement networking events throughout the week with municipal, state and federal law enforcement partners from New England.

Planning for New Experience Camp 2022 is underway and applications for the camp will be released this month. The camp will take place August 1-5, 2022, and will be based out the Bennington Fire Facility again this year. Many exciting events are planned for the week and we look forward to working with area youth.

Dispatcher Kimberly Krawczyk and Officer Amanda Knox attended Traumatic Stress Relief and Peer Support training in South Burlington. They will be working with members of the Department in an effort to create a wellness program. We are looking forward to seeing what this will look like in the coming months.

Planning is also underway for National Night Out. National Night Out will be held on August 2, 2022, at Willow Park. We are looking forward to our second National Night Out and hope community members from Bennington and surrounding areas stop by and visit with us. As the date gets closer, we will release details.

Chief Paul Doucette and Lieutenant Camillo Grande both received Trilogy Awards from FBI-LEEDA following the completion of Supervisory Leadership Institute, Command Leadership Institute and the Executive Leadership Institute. It took approximately 5 months to complete the training and we are already implementing some new programs learned while attending the training programs.

Officer Ryan Racona, Officer James MaCaulay and Officer Brandon Rumley all completed Level III training at the Vermont Police Academy and are now progressing through the Bennington Police Department Field Training Program. The Officers will be assigned to a shift and will begin working on their own by the end of the month. We look forward to their continued success as members of the Bennington Police Department.

Corporal Keith Diotte attended the law enforcement program at Southwest Tech and spoke with students about drug impaired driving. Students were instructed on field sobriety exercises, signs of impairment and the consequences of driving while impaired. Corporal Diotte further explained the Drug Recognition Enforcement Program at the Bennington Police Department.