

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

BENNINGTON SELECT BOARD

Monday, April 25, 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. Consent Agenda 6:00 PM - 6:05 PM
 - A. Minutes of April 11, 2022
 - B. Warrants
 - C. Liquor Licenses
4. Public Comment 6:05 PM - 6:20 PM
5. Board & Commissions Announcement 6:20 PM - 6:30 PM
6. Implementing the Town Vision Update 6:30 PM - 6:40 PM
 - A. File a Compliment or a Complaint (final)
7. Manager's Report 6:40 PM - 6:50 PM
8. Upcoming Agenda 6:50 PM - 6:55 PM
9. Other Business 6:55 PM - 7:00 PM
10. Executive Session
 - A. Legal Matters
 - B. Contracts

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 MEETING**

2 **130 RIVER STREET**

3 **BENNINGTON, VERMONT 05201**

4 **April 11, 2022**

5 **MINUTES**

6 **SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jeannie Jenkins-Chair; Jeanne Conner-Vice Chair; Bruce Lee-Clark;
7 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; Dr. Trey Dobson-
10 SVHC Medical Director; Joe Wiah-Ethiopian Community Development Council; Grace Winslow-Open
11 Arms; Marsh Hudson-Knapp; Clark Adams; Shirley Adams; Denise Main-Sunrise Family Resource Center
12 Executive Director; Jenny Dewar-BBC Executive Director; Jay Iskowitz; Nancy White; Rose Telford; 15
13 citizens; Jim Vires-CAT-TV; and Nancy H. Lively-Secretary.

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

15 *Jim Carroll moved and Bruce Lee-Clark seconded to amend the Agenda by adding “#5A.*
16 *Ethiopean Community Development Council”. The motion carried unanimously.*

17 **1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

18 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

19 **2. VISION STATEMENT**

20 Ms. Conner read the Town’s Vision Statement that was adopted by the Select Board on August
21 24, 2020:

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

24 **3. REORGANIZATION**

25 *Gary Corey moved and Sarah Perrin seconded to nominate Jeanne Conner as Vice-Chair of the*
26 *Select Board. The motion carried unanimously.*

27 *Jim Carroll moved and Bruce Lee-Clark seconded to nominate Jeannie Jenkins as Chair of the*
28 *Select Board.*

29 Mr. Carroll listed the many areas of work during the past year, such as, continued support of
30 Economic Development, the TIF District, Recreation and Pathways, Seniors, and Energy Preservation.

31 *The motion carried unanimously.*

32 **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

33 **A. MINUTES OF MARCH 25, 2022 AND MARCH 28, 2022**

34 **B. WARRANTS**

35 **C. LIQUOR LICENSES**

36 *Tom Haley moved and Jim Carroll seconded to approve the Consent Agenda amended as*
37 *follows:*

38 *March 14, 2022 Minutes -*

39 *Line 88, Change "Hamman" to "Hamann"*

40 *March 25, 2022 Minutes -*

41 *Line 140, Change "Led" to "Leddy"*

42 *March 28, 2022 -*

43 *Line 12 and Line 130, Change "Piedmont" to "Pedemonti"*

44 *Line 107, Change "Knits Knats" to "Nix Nax"*

45 *Line 495, Change "Janowski" to "Cichanowski"*

46 *The motion carried unanimously.*

47 **5. COVID UPDATE**

48 Dr. Trey Dobson, SVHC Medical Director, did the following presentation:

- 49 • Vermont has one of the lowest hospitalization and death rates in the country.
- 50 • Our mission is to decrease transmission as much as possible and protect the vulnerable. There
- 51 are 5 ways to do that:
- 52 ✓ Be up-to-date with vaccinations.
- 53 ✓ If you are at risk, vulnerable, around someone who is vulnerable, or in proximity to
- 54 others, such as on a plane, you should still wear a mask.
- 55 ✓ If you have symptoms, do a home test.
- 56 ✓ Have a plan if someone in your household tests positive.
- 57 ✓ Know how to get treatment if you are at risk.

58 *Board questions/comments answered by Dr. Dobson:*

59 Mr. Carroll: Have we seen a rise in numbers at SVHC? Not at SVHC but there has been a rise within the

60 State with 80%-85% of those unvaccinated.

61 Mr. Carroll: Have we seen any of the BA2 variants? Most likely but we don't test for it.

62 Mr. Carroll: Do you know the percent of Benningtonians that have been inoculated? Would have to
63 look up the numbers for Bennington but we are probably similar to the State which is 67%.

64 Ms. Conner: What is your recommendation on getting the additional booster? The first booster
65 created the highest degree of protection and, if you are eligible for the second booster - over 65, over
66 50 with an immune depression, or if you're anxious about getting it - then get it. However, the data
67 doesn't show that others really need it.

68 *Public questions/comments answered by Dr. Dobson:*

69 Clark Adams: Where do we fall with the fact that people "can be killed without being ill"? Although it
70 may be beneficial to test when asymptomatic or with mild symptoms, it isn't practical with the
71 resources available.

72 **5A. ETHIOPIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

73 Joe Wiah, Director of the Ethiopian Community Development Council (ECDC) did the following
74 presentation:

- 75 ○ The main office of ECDC is in Arlington, VA with 20 other offices around the country including
76 one in Brattleboro.
- 77 ○ We have 25 to 100 Afghan refugees with 19 families, 19 singles, and 5 families in Bennington.
- 78 ○ There are very positive reports from the families in Bennington for the support that they are
79 receiving and we are receiving requests from other families to come to Bennington.
- 80 ○ The Vermont ECDC is currently getting requests from other states for sponsorships to their
81 refugees that don't have any.

82 Grace Winslow from Bennington County Open Arms added:

- 83 ○ If you would like to volunteer with Open Arms contact bcopenarms@gmail.com.
- 84 ○ Also, we shop at an Afghan Circle Pizza and Market on Central Avenue in Albany, NY for Halal
85 meat.

86 **6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

- 90 1. Public Comment is to allow residents an opportunity to share information or make announcements
91 that benefit the community at large.
- 92 2. The topic should not be related to an agenda item. If a member of the public wants to comment on
93 an agenda item they can do so during the discussion of that item.
- 94 3. Comments should be 3 minutes or less.

- 95 4. You are required to state your real name and town of residence.
- 96 5. Sharing comments, announcements and concerns are encouraged rather than asking questions.
- 97 Public Comment is not a time for discussion. If you have specific questions it is best to call the Town
- 98 Manager to get a full explanation and accurate information.
- 99 6. If the topic requires much discussion the item will be considered as an agenda item at a future
- 100 meeting.

101

102 Ms. Jenkins shared that a suggestion was made for Public Comment and the question period of

103 an agenda item for those making their statement to sit down so any clarification, comment, or follow-

104 up by the Select Board can be made to allow for a smoother flow and allowing everyone to speak once

105 before anyone speaks twice. The Board will try this suggestion this evening.

106 Jay Iskowitz: A veteran of the Vietnam War, who “dodged bullets” with a black man who is still his

107 “brother”, stated that the Black Lives Matter flag doesn’t belong on the same flag pole as the Vietnam

108 Veterans flag. “The Vietnam War was all races, all genders, all religions, and All Lives Matter.” He also

109 noticed that on March 29th, Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day, the Black Lives Matter flag was still

110 flying and the Vietnam War flag was down. “If that flag is so important, put up another flag pole.”

111 Jay Iskowitz: Is it possible to have a traffic light at Burgess Road for traffic coming down? Ms. Jenkins:

112 We will have staff look into that and get back to you at the next meeting.

113 Nancy White: Takes offense to the “censorship” of the public’s comments and feels that the Board is

114 not welcoming the public. Ms. Jenkins: We made the change so that people are comfortable coming to

115 the meetings and having a question asked and answered in a timely way.

116 Nancy White: How many public hearings is the Select Board required to hold before proposed zoning

117 changes are made? Mr. Hurd: Two. Each meeting in May will have a Public Hearing. Mr. Monks: A

118 Bylaw change only requires one Public Hearing whereas a Town Plan change requires two.

119 Nancy White: The grocery store in the downtown was required to raise \$350,000 before they received

120 a \$200,000 loan from the Town. They have raised half of that and are already spending the money. It

121 seems like there should be policies that are fair to all. Ms. Jenkins: The Select Board is privy to who is

122 getting a loan and can express any objections that we may have concerning it, but we do not

123 administer the loan. Mr. Hurd: The loan program has always been a reimbursable program for monies

124 spent and we are following protocol with this project. They have been working and purchasing

125 supplies nearly up to the loan amount at this time.

126 Nancy White: Why is it said that there is a “desert” around Bennington when anyone can take a Green

127 Mountain Bus to go grocery shopping. Ms. Jenkins: The term “desert” is a USDA government term, not

128 ours, and they consider Bennington to be a “food desert”. We have gotten USDA grants in the past

129 because of this designation.

130 Nancy White: Why is the Town not having an Easter Egg Hunt this year? Mr. Hurd: The YMCA does our
131 recreational programming and they are doing something at the pool this year.

132 Jenny Dewar, BBC Executive Director: We have reached the fund raising goal of \$5,000 this weekend so
133 we will be receiving the \$10,000 from the State so Thursday Nights Live will be happening from June
134 2nd through September 29th. We have a rain location and are looking for 10 vendors. Our setup is at
135 the Splash Pad only - no road closures or use of the parking lot - so vendors will only be set up on
136 tables. Any vendors that can accommodate a table setup are welcome. We have until May 9th to
137 continue to raise money for it.

138 Jenny Dewar: Mayfest planning is “full steam ahead” for May 28th with many vendors lined up.

139 Jenny Dewar: Our membership meeting is coming up, so if you wish to become a member, go to
140 www.betterbennington.com.

141 Jenny Dewar: The market going up in the downtown is working with ~50 farms and she is excited about
142 its opening.

143 Jenny Dewar: Thanked the Board for being “super welcoming” to the public and having Public
144 Comment at the beginning of the evening. In her town they have it at the end of the evening, keep a
145 stop watch, and will stop you in mid-sentence.

146 Rose Telford: People don’t like that they can’t talk when they want to at the meetings.

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

148 *Discussions on the Resolution for CPARB:*

149 Page 2, Line 27-30, “**Composition and Eligibility**, The CPARB will consist of seven members from the
150 community. Community is defined as a resident of the Town of Bennington, Old Bennington or North
151 Bennington or someone who works or has demonstrated a significant (8 hours per week or more)
152 commitment to volunteerism in Bennington. Members must be Vermont residents.”

- 153 ❖ Line 27, Change “seven members” to “up to seven members” - it may be hard to find 7 people
154 to serve on the Board.
- 155 ❖ Prefer to keep it at “seven members” because “up to seven members” indicates that a Board of
156 3 members would be satisfactory and that isn’t the case.
- 157 ❖ Change “seven members” to “at least five members and as many as seven members” - with just
158 “up to” there could only be 2.
- 159 ❖ Prefer to leave it at “seven members” because we should be able to do that and be what we
160 aspire to.
- 161 ❖ Line 30, “Members must be Vermont residents.” - should we reconsider this due to our
162 proximity to New York and Massachusetts and the number that people that work in Bennington
163 from those states?

- ❖ Wants a commitment to the locality - this is a Vermont board based in a Vermont town and living is very different than living in New York or Massachusetts even if an individual works in Vermont.
- ❖ Those that work in Vermont and live in another state can still voice their opinion before the Board, just not be a member of the Board.
- ❖ **Clark Adams:** The Vermont resident requirement should remain to enforce the “Vermont integrity” established by Ethan Allen.
- ❖ **Beth-Bennmont Marketing:** Just because we don’t live in the Town doesn’t mean that we don’t have a vested interest or that we wouldn’t move to the Town if there were housing available. We do want to be a part of this Town and this organization.
- ❖ Page 3, Lines 37 and 38, “**Definitions**”, Complaint - A complaint documents when a person witnesses or experiences a personal.....” - should we reference the companion document there? We won’t change this tonight.
- ❖ Page 2, Line 26, “**Composition and Eligibility**” - should we include only one member/family can serve on CPARB at a time? This isn’t necessary because the Select Board will decide who is on the Board.

Public questions/comments:

Marsh Hudson-Knapp:

1. Thanked the Board for their vigilance in instituting Community Policing in Bennington.
2. “It is an urgent problem for our community” that our Charter doesn’t allow the Select Board to delegate the review of our Police Department. We need to work together to get this permission.
3. We need to get every aspect of CPARB legally possible established now. The police are looking forward to being trained on how to become more of a team with the community and vice versa.
4. Urged members of the community to serve on CPARB.

Nancy White: Takes issue with all of the “deep dark problems” in our Police Department. The Police Department has gone out of their way to make things work and it would be nice if we had that same transparency from the Select Board.

FILE A COMPLIMENT OR A COMPLAINT

Discussion on Filing a Compliment or a Complaint:

- ❖ Page 1, Line 32, Change “mailing” to “mail”
- ❖ Page 1, Line 27, Change “Complaints” to “Compliments and Complaints”
- ❖ Page 1, Line 27-Page 2, Line 9 - should that be at the top of the document instead of at the bottom?
- ❖ The opening is an introduction on the importance of filing a compliment or a complaint.
- ❖ Page 1, Lines 11 and 12, Reword to make submitting a Compliment broader.

❖ Page 1, Line 18, Add “These questions and concerns will be logged and if the caller agrees that their complaint is resolved it will be recorded as such.”

Public questions/comments:

Marsh Hudson-Knapp: Having 5 ways to make a complaint is a good step in making people safe when doing so.

Shirley Adams: Suggested being able to make compliments/complaints on the Town’s website, however, Ms. Jenkins stated that the Board chose not to do that because it would create a second portal when there are other ways to remain anonymous. Mr. Lee-Clark added that not only the complaintants can file, for example, third party witnesses or juveniles with a parent guardian or advocate can file. It’s important to keep it as open as possible so the police receive the information that they want to receive.

Jim Carroll moved and Bruce Lee-Clark seconded to amend the Resolution for Community Policing Advisory Review Board as follows:

Page 2, Line 27, Change “of seven members” to “of at least five and as many as seven members”

Ms. Perrin noted that she is concerned that the Board could consist of an even number of members at six.

Ms. Jenkins added that the Select Board functioned with six members for a year.

The motion carried with Sarah Perrin opposed.

Bruce Lee-Clark moved and Jim Carroll seconded to adopt the Resolution for Community Policing Advisory Review Board as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Lee-Clark stated that when the Resolution gets posted by our Communications Director to the Town website there can always be an active link to any place in the website.

Ms. Jenkins added that we have shared that Burlington had authorized their police commission to review complaints with Senator Sears and Senator Jeannette White who chairs the Committee where the review legislation has been, and ask her if she would recommend for Bennington to go to a Charter change or would she prefer general legislation. We haven’t heard back from her yet.

Mr. Carroll clarified that any Charter change has be approved by the voters, then approved by the Government Ops Committee, then approved by the House of Representatives, then approved by the Senate, and then goes in reverse of that.

Ms. Conner noted that the group that benefits the most from a Community Review Board are the police. This is a positive thing for them and they have embraced it.

8. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

234 Ms. Jenkins stated that the Economic Development Strategy and Infrastructure Subcommittee
235 voted 2-1 to move forward with a recommendation to fund the proposal from Sunrise Family Resource
236 Center at \$5,000 contingent on approval of grant funds of \$75,000 from the O'Neill Foundation.

237 Denise Main, Executive Director of Sunrise, did the following presentation:

- 238 ➤ Sunrise was asked to participate in the statewide effort of Whole Family Approach to Jobs at
239 the beginning of the pandemic.
- 240 ➤ Over the past 2 years, we have worked with Rutland and formed the Families at the Center of
241 Southwestern Vermont Team.
- 242 ➤ We have surveyed over 150 people in Bennington and Rutland counties, we've had focus
243 groups for parents and service providers, and wrapped up the pilot phase last fall with an 18-
244 month grant.
- 245 ➤ During the pilot we hosted events on sharing of food, sharing of company, and feeling less
246 isolated.
- 247 ➤ After the pilot we will enter the Implementation Phase of the program where we will expand
248 our numbers with the 3-year grant from the O'Neill Foundation.
- 249 ➤ Over the 3 years we will have 60 families - 20 each year - participate to help teach us how to
250 better help them to reach their full potential.
- 251 ➤ Our goal is to make them feel like more of a member of the community, undo the generational
252 poverty history that they have, and provide them with a sense of dignity and pride.
- 253 ➤ The cost of the project is \$85,000 - \$75,000 from the O'Neill Foundation; \$5,000 from ARPA
254 funds, and \$5,000 from the Vermont Community Foundation.

255 *Board questions/comments answered by Ms. Main:*

256 Mr. Carroll: Are the families impoverished? Many are but they don't have to be. The navigators would
257 help them navigate the system to improve their respective situations.

258 Ms. Conner: Is struggling with the idea that Sunrise can't comfortably raise \$5,000, which is not a lot in
259 the fundraising world, so how will you raise the \$5,000 in the 2nd and 3rd years? I'm confident that our
260 newly formed Board and Fundraising Committee would be able to do that in the future, however, we
261 have a time crunch this year because we decided to do this in February and the grant is due in May.
262 Also, the O'Neill Foundation wants to know that our community is behind us, but if we don't get the
263 ARPA funds, we're still going ahead with the project.

264 Mr. Corey: Are these funds focused toward COVID recovery for families? Not completely but they are
265 struggling because of COVID.

266 Mr. Corey: Are the 20 families served in the 1st year from Bennington County? Yes. 80% of those we
267 serve in general are from Bennington County and we expect a similar percentage with this, as well.

268 Mr. Haley: Is this \$5,000 separate from what Rutland is doing? Yes, they are doing the same process in
269 Rutland.

270 Ms. Jenkins: We are all affected when families are happier and feel that they belong to the community.

271 *Public questions/comments answered by Ms. Main:*

272 Rose Telford: Volunteered to help at Sunrise.

273 ***Gary Corey moved and Bruce Lee-Clark seconded to approve funding the Sunrise Family***
274 ***Resource Center proposal with \$5,000 of ARPA funds contingent on successful approval of grant***
275 ***funds from the O'Neill Foundation for \$75,000.***

276 Ms. Perrin isn't comfortable voting on this now.

277 ***The motion carried with Sarah Perrin abstaining.***

278 **9. IMPLEMENTING THE TOWN VISION**

279 Mr. Haley reported:

- 280 ▪ He and Ms. Jenkins met with Paul Dansereau and the process has started with the ADA
- 281 Plan.
- 282 ▪ He and Ms. Jenkins met with Jonah Spivak on having inclusive language in our meeting
- 283 documents.
- 284 ▪ Slowly but surely we are ticking things off the list.

285 Ms. Conner reported:

- 286 ▪ Having Mr. Miah here from ECDC is an example of implementing our town vision.
- 287 ▪ April 12th is the planning meeting for the Juneteenth Celebration and 8-10 partners have
- 288 been identified so far. Ms. Jenkins will be attending that meeting.
- 289 ▪ The Juneteenth Celebration will take place on June 18th at the Middle School.

290 Ms. Jenkins reported:

- 291 ▪ She, Ms. Conner, and Mr. Haley met with the Department of Health and they are looking
- 292 for health equity initiatives. They will report to the Select Board next month on the
- 293 work they are doing.
- 294 ▪ The week of May 9th is Statewide Inclusion Week with a proclamation by the Governor.
- 295 There will be opportunities for community members, businesses, and town governance
- 296 to share practices and talk about steps for equity and inclusion.
- 297 ▪ The Southern Vermont Economy Summit is on May 12th at Mt. Snow and one of the
- 298 threads there is looking at hiring, support, and retention of a diverse work force. Many
- 299 businesses have been invited to discuss this issue.
- 300 ▪ The Pathways of Vermont funding of \$390,000 for Bennington to work with 30
- 301 chronically homeless individuals was taken out of the House Appropriations bill.
- 302 Senator Sears has put it on the list for items to be put back in for the Senate version of
- 303 the Appropriations bill and is asking for us all to send our letters/e-mails of support to

304 him and the other members of the Appropriation this week. They are Jane Kitchel-
305 Chair; Alice Nitka-Vice-Chair; Robert Starr; Richard Westman; Becca Balint; and Philip
306 Baruth. The bill comes out on April 15th.

307 **10. MANAGER'S REPORT**

308 *Tom Haley moved and Jim Carroll seconded to close Union Street from Silver Street to*
309 *Valentine Street from 6:00pm until 9:00pm on August 6, 2022 for the Bennington Free Library's*
310 *Street Dance. The motion carried unanimously.*

311 April 13th at 7:00pm there will be a Putnam Block Phase II presentation at the Bennington
312 Performing Arts Center.

313 The Morgan Springs Delivery System relocation has the fill station nearly completed, the
314 building 50% done, and the pipe to be moved from the existing fill station to the new fill station soon.
315 Completion is forecast for May/June 2022.

316 There were 22 vendors that were interested in doing our website development ranging from
317 \$5,000 to \$300,000. We chose Revize for \$7,800 with the entire project not costing more than
318 \$12,000. EightOhTwo chose not to submit an RFP.

319 The Willow Park Redesign Meeting is also on April 13th at 6:30pm at the Mount Anthony Union
320 High School.

321 Green Up Day is May 7th so contact the Town Office to reserve your bags.

322 **11. UPCOMING AGENDA**

323 April 25, 2022 - Compliments and Complaints

324 April 25, 2022 - Public Hearing - Zoning Changes

325 Boards and Commissions, including CPARB, will be on the website soon.

326 **12. OTHER BUSINESS**

327 Mr. Carroll: Shared that today would have been his parents' 63rd wedding anniversary and honored
328 them for their service to their family and their community, as well as, those who serve our community
329 now.

330 Ms. Conner: Expressed her frustration in the repeated negative articles about Bennington in Vermont
331 Digger.

332 Ms. Perrin: Verified that the Willow Park meeting on April 13th will be recorded so people could attend
333 the Putnam Block meeting and see the Willow Park meeting at a later date.

334 Mr. Lee-Clark: Recognized that this is Holy Week for the Christians and Ramadan for the Muslims and
335 wished them all a good holiday.

336

337

338 ***At 8:12pm, Jim Carroll moved and Bruce Lee-Clark seconded the adjournment of the meeting.***
339 ***The motion carried unanimously.***

340

341

342 Respectfully submitted,

343 Nancy H. Lively

344 Secretary

FIRST/SECOND/THIRD CLASS LIQUOR LICENSE AND TOBACCO APPLICATION

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

Park McCullough House Assoc.
Print Name of Person, Partnership, Corp., Club or LLC
Park McCullough Historic Governor's Mansion
Doing Business as - Trade Name
1 Park Street
Street
N. Bennington, Vermont 05257
Town or City & Zip Code
802-442-5441
Telephone Number
PO Box 388 N. Bennington, VT 05257
Mailing Address (if different from above)
Email address: Christopher@ParkMcCullough.org

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

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FIRST CLASS | <input type="checkbox"/> Retail Delivery Permit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SECOND CLASS | <input type="checkbox"/> Tobacco Endorsement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THIRD CLASS | <input type="checkbox"/> Restaurant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TOBACCO | <input type="checkbox"/> Hotel |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Club |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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.

MISREPRESENTATION OF A MATERIAL FACT ON ANY LICENSE APPLICATION SHALL BE GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE, AFTER NOTICE AND HEARING.

If this premise was previously licensed, please indicate name Park McCullough Restaurant

I/we are applying as (please check one):

☐ INDIVIDUAL

☐ LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

☐ PARTNERSHIP

☒ CORPORATION

Please fill in name and address of individual, partners, directors or members.

LEGAL NAME

STREET/CITY/STATE

Are all of the above citizens or lawful permanent residents of the UNITED STATES? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If naturalized citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States, please provide a copy of the naturalization or lawful permanent resident documentation.

CORPORATE INFORMATION:

If you have checked the box marked CORPORATION, please fill out this information for stockholders (attach sheet if necessary).

LEGAL NAME

STREET/CITY/STATE

See Attachment

Date of incorporation October 27 1969

Is corporate charter now valid? Yes ☒ No ☐

Corporate Federal Identification Number 03-0220979

Have you registered your corporation and/or trade name with the Town/City Clerk? Y ☒ N ☐ and/or Secretary of State? Y ☒ N ☐
(as required by VSA Title 11 § 1621, 1623 & 1625).

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.

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

2022 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATIONS

2022 1st Class Renewals

1. Four Chimneys Inn (& Outside Consumption Permit)
2. Miller's Toll (& Outside Consumption Permit)
3. Your Belly's Deli

2022 2nd Class Renewals

1. Hazara Food Mart
2. Henry's Market
3. Martin's Mini Mart

2022 3rd Class Renewals

1. Four Chimneys Inn
2. Miller's Toll
3. Your Belly's Deli

**The Bennington Select Board hereby approves the above
2022 Liquor License Renewal Applications
Dated: April 25, 2022**

Jeannette Jenkins, Chair

Boards and Commissions

The following list of the Town of Bennington Boards and Commissions includes a brief description of the duties of each office and those positions that will become available June 2022.

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD - The Development Review Board hears and decides upon permit applications regarding development in the Town of Bennington including, Variance Requests, Conditional Use Requests, Site Plans, Design Plans, Planned Unit Developments, Planned Residential Developments, Subdivisions, and Appeals of the Zoning Administrator's decisions. Board members will be expected to attend at least one training session annually to develop and maintain the skills and knowledge necessary to perform their powers and duties on the Board.

(Appointed to 3-year term)	Term Expires
2 POSITIONS OPEN	6/25
1 POSITION OPEN	6/24

HOUSING AUTHORITY - An autonomous body appointed for terms of five years by the Select Board which acts as the Board of Directors for Housing Authority properties (Willowbrook, Brookside Apartments, Beech Court, and Walloomsac Apartments) and oversees the staff and sets policies for operation.

(Appointed to 5-year term)	Term Expires
1 POSITION OPEN	6/27

BOARD OF LISTERS - An appointed position with a term of two years. Meetings are held once or twice per month or as needed. The Listers inspect properties, approve assessments developed by the Assessor's Office and hear and act upon appeals by property owners.

(Appointed to 2-year term)	Term Expires
2 POSITIONS OPEN	6/24

PLANNING COMMISSION - An appointed position with a term of four years. Meetings will be established when the Commission meets. This is a five-member board. The Planning Commission drafts, revises, updates, and upholds the provisions of the Town Plan; makes recommendations to the Select Board regarding amendments to the Zoning Bylaw, sign ordinance, and subdivision regulations; actively participates in the preservation of historic sites and agricultural lands; and is charged with the overall planning of Bennington.

(Appointed to 4-year term)	Term Expires
1 POSITION OPEN	6/26

REGIONAL COMMISSION - An appointed position with a term of two years. The Regional Commission, part of a county-wide planning commission charged with development of the overall regional planning policies, is empowered to develop budgets, employ staff, and assist in development of a regional plan.

(Appointed to 2-year term)	Term Expires
1 POSITION OPEN	6/24

ENERGY COMMITTEE - A committee established by the Select Board to pursue implementation of the Town's Energy Plan, advocate for energy conservation and renewable energy projects, and report on a regular basis to the Select Board. The committee shall be comprised of seven (7) members.

(Appointed to 2-year term) Term Expires

1 SELECT BOARD MEMBER 6/23

2 POSITIONS OPEN 6/23

COMMUNITY POLICING ADVISORY REVIEW BOARD – This is an appointed position for a three-year term. The Board will consist of a minimum 5 members but not more than 7 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. All members must be Vermont residents. In collaboration with the Bennington Police Department (BPD), the Bennington Select Board, and Town staff, this Board will make recommendations on police training and community collaboration efforts, review proposed policies and procedures of the BPD, review anonymized data on complaints and compliments, analyze data focused on equity and areas of need and compare it to other local, state, and national trends, and foster collaborative efforts within the community.

7 POSITIONS OPEN

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.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION was not included in announcement as there are no openings.

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.

WHAT IS A COMPLIMENT OR A COMPLAINT?

A compliment documents when a person witnesses or experiences a personal encounter with Bennington Police Department personnel that they believe warrants special recognition.

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, or regulation of the Bennington Police Department.

FILING A COMPLIMENT INVOLVING 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 any of the ways listed below. 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. These questions and concerns will be logged and, if the caller agrees that their complaint is resolved, it will be recorded as such.

If an initial phone call does not resolve your concern, you may file a complaint. Please read through the following information in order to know how you may file a complaint.

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.

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.

COMPLIMENTS AND 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.
- Compliments or complaints can also be written and mailed to:
Chief of Police
Bennington Police Department
118 South Street
Bennington, Vermont 05201

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.

MANAGER'S REPORT
April 25, 2022

ACTION

Bennington Transfer Station Pricing As discussed earlier, I present to you a proposed price list with a small increase across the board. It is not as substantial as originally thought.

Action requested Motion to approve the price increases effective May 1, 2022.

Forest Fire Wardens Our two Wardens are switching positions. The State requires Board action to allow that to happen. Two forms are provided with contact information.

Action requested Motion to approve the change and circulate for Board signatures. Terms do not change.

INFORMATIONAL

Draft List of Impaired Waters I have received notice that the Walloomsac River below our WWTF is on the draft list of impaired waters. Nutrient loading is the problem. It is low priority according to the listing. This may be the result of our out of date sand filter which we plan to upgrade. The public comment period closes May 20, 2022. I will know more later.

Water Main Hydrant Flushing The semi-annual hydrant flushing begins the week of April 25 and will continue until May 6, 2022. We recommend scheduling use of clothes washers after the hydrant flushing in your neighborhood and after your water has cleared. Please remember to run your cold water until clear if your water is discolored.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day This is scheduled for May 7, 2022, from 9 am until 1 pm at the MAU Middle School on East Road. It is the same day as Green Up Day this year.

FOLLOW UP

Intersection of Burgess Road and Main Street It was mentioned at the last Board meeting that a traffic signal should be placed here. This is a difficult intersection to exit from given the extreme acute angle to view on-coming traffic from the east. It is not a high traffic accident intersection so a signal would not be found to be warranted. I have suggested studying the amount of right-of-way to determine if a more right-angle intersection can be created.

The Communication Coordinator's Report is attached.

Bennington Transfer Station Pricing

1 (802) 447-8737

Monday-Friday, 8AM-4PM

Saturday: 8AM-12PM

Solid Waste:	Per Item Charges	Pricing		Proposed New Pricing
	15 Gallon Kitchen Bag	\$ 2.75	Each	\$3.00
	30 Gallon Bag	\$ 3.75	Each	\$4.00
	39 Gallon Bag	\$ 4.75	Each	\$5.00
	55 Gallon Bag/Barrel	\$ 7.50	Each	\$7.75
	Per Ton Charges			
	Solid Waste (MSW) and Construction & Demolition Debris	\$ 127.50	Per Ton	\$138.00
	Commercial Hauler Brush and Yard Waste	\$ 117.00	Per Ton	\$117.00
	Residential Brush and Yard Waste	No Charge		No Charge
	Minimum Scale Weight	\$ 10.00	Each	\$15.00
Other Wastes:	Bulky Furniture & Mattresses/Box Springs	\$ 16.00	Each	\$16.80
	Waste Oil Per Gallon	\$ 0.10	Per Quart	\$0.10
	Appliances (Non-Freon Containing)	\$ 7.50	Each	\$7.50
	Appliances (Containing Freon)	\$ 10.75	Each	\$10.75
	Water Heaters (Up to 100 Gallons)	\$ 10.75	Each	\$10.75
	Sleeper Sofa	\$ 48.00	Each	\$50.40
	Loose Scrap Metal	No Charge		NC
	Food Scraps/Compost	\$1.00	Per Gallon	\$1.00
Electronics:	Electronic Waste as specified in Vermont Act 79: Computers, monitors, Printers, Computer Peripherals and Televisions from Covered Entities which are: Consumers, charities, School Districts, and small businesses that have ten or less individuals and are dropping off <u>seven or less</u> items.			
	Other Banned Electronic Devices as specified in Vermont Act 79 or items from Non Covered Entites: Minimum personal electronics, telephones, answering machines, VCR players, DVD players, digital converter boxes, stereo equipment, power supply cords, and electronic game consoles.			
		\$ 0.58	Per Pound	\$0.58
		\$ 5.00	Minimum	\$5.00
	Flourescent Light Bulbs	No Charge		NC
	Compact Flourescent Bulbs	No Charge		NC
Unacceptable items:	Liquid Waste, Wet Paint, Household Cleaners/Chemicals, Paint Thinner, Anti-Freeze, Transmission Fluid, Pesticides, Auto Batteries			

VERMONT TOWN FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Appointment Form



Mail to:

Agency of Natural Resources
VT Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation
271 North Main Street, Suite 215
Rutland, VT 05761

I hereby accept the appointment to the position of **TOWN FOREST FIRE WARDEN** for the town of Bennington, Vermont in Bennington County for a term to commence on April 26, 2022, and terminate on **June 30, 2024**, or until I resign or am removed for causes. I will discharge the duties of the office in accordance with the Vermont Statutes to the best of my ability.

Yours very truly,

X Signed

Bennington Town Forest Fire Warden

Henry Higgins
Printed Full Name of Warden

9 Mountain View Rd
Mailing Address

Bennington VT 05201
Mailing Town / State / Zip

same
Physical Address

same
Physical Town / State / Zip

N/A
Home Phone

802-379-7237
Cell Phone

N/A
Work Phone

cell
Which Is Your Primary Phone?

Email Address

Appointment Approved:

Chair - Selectboard

Member - Selectboard

Member - Selectboard

Member - Selectboard

Member - Selectboard

Date

X [Signature]
Town Forest Fire Warden

4-19-22
Date

Commissioner of Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation or Designee

Date

VERMONT DEPUTY TOWN FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Appointment Form



Mail to:

Agency of Natural Resources
VT Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation
271 North Main Street, Suite 215
Rutland, VT 05761

I hereby accept the appointment to the position of **TOWN DEPUTY FOREST FIRE WARDEN** for the town of Bennington, Vermont in Bennington County for a term to commence on April 26, 2022, and terminate on **June 30, 2024**, or until I resign or am removed for causes. I will discharge the duties of the office in accordance with the Vermont Statutes to the best of my ability.

Yours very truly,

Signed

Bennington Deputy Town Forest Fire Warden

Matthew G. Hathaway

Printed Full Name of Warden

819 Gage St.

Mailing Address

Bennington VT 05201

Mailing Town / State / Zip

same

Physical Address

same

Physical Town / State / Zip

802 442 2089

Home Phone

802 687 8058

Cell Phone

N/A

Work Phone

cell

Which Is Your Primary Phone?

bird dog 1899@yahoo.com

Email Address

Appointment Approved:

Chair - Selectboard

Member - Selectboard

Member - Selectboard

Member - Selectboard

Member - Selectboard

Date

+ [Signature]
Town Forest Fire Warden

4-19-22
Date

Commissioner of Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation or Designee

Date



Town of Bennington's Semi-Annual Water Main HYDRANT FLUSHING

2-Week Period

Monday through Friday

7:00am thru 5:00pm

Beginning

April 25 – 29, 2022

AND

May 02 – 06, 2022

- Bennington's Hydrant Flushing is a STATE Mandated Program that occurs every April and October.
- It ensures a higher Water Quality and allows for proper Hydrant Maintenance for Fire Protection.
- You may experience low water pressure.
- You may also experience discolored water.
- These are normal and unavoidable side effects of the program.
- We recommend you schedule clothes washing and other cleaning projects **after** daily flushing hours and **once your water has run clear**.
- If you experience discolored water **Run Your Cold Water Until It Is Clear**.

Any further questions please call the Bennington Town Offices at 442-1037.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

For Residents & Small Businesses of
Arlington, Bennington, Dorset, Glastenbury, Manchester, Pownal, Rupert, Sandgate,
Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Sunderland, and Woodford



Saturday May 7, 2022

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

**Mt. Anthony Union Middle School
747 East Rd,
Bennington, VT 05201**

The collection is free for residents. Proof of residency will be required. Small businesses must pre-register and prepay for the amount delivered by April 15, 2022.

WHAT TO BRING: Any substance with labels that say CAUSTIC, TOXIC, CORROSIVE, POISON, FLAMMABLE, DANGER, WARNING, CAUTION, USE IN AN OPEN ENVIRONMENT. **Examples include:** antifreeze, turpentine, stains, varnishes, carburetor cleaner, creosote, drain cleaner, oven cleaner, paint strippers, thinners, solvents, fertilizers (weed and feed only - no compost of manure), gas treatments, gasoline, kerosene, engine degreaser, floor, metal, and furnisher polishes, latex and oil based paint, pool chemicals, pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, mercury thermostats, batteries (single use/primary and rechargeable), driveway sealer, fire extinguishers, and one and twenty pound propane tanks.

Containers will not be returned. Any product received in a container (e.g., old gasoline) must be dropped off and left in its container. **No containers will be returned.**

WHAT NOT TO BRING: Used motor oil, auto or mower batteries, radioactive materials, smoke and CO2 detectors, **fluorescent bulbs (including CFLs)**, sharps (i.e. needles), tires, explosives (ammunition/fireworks), furniture, bulky items, mattresses, scrap metal, appliances, electronic waste, products in garbage bags, trash, empty cans/containers, dried paint, shampoos, soaps, pharmaceuticals, ointments, dish soap, dishwasher soap, candles, rock salt, drywall compound, dried out latex paint, empty cans, and fertilizers without herbicides.

Event Management: Please place all items to be disposed in the trunk of your car or the back of your van or truck. Do not exit your vehicle. Please wear a mask for personal protection. Please leave your pets at home.

Sponsored by the Bennington County Solid Waste Alliance, the VT Agency of Natural Resources, the VT Agency of Agriculture and Markets, Casella Waste Management, and the Mt. Anthony Union Middle School.

For more information or to pre-register a business contact Scott Grimm-Lyon at
sgrimmlyon@bcrcvt.org or (802) 442-0713 x 2

Visit: <https://bcswa.org/event/mt-anthony-union-middle-school-household-hazardous-waste-collection/> to download this flier.



Town of Bennington

Communications Coordinator Report — April 25, 2022

After seven months on the job...

It's exciting to be doing this work in the springtime! So much is happening that I am on my toes every day as the town ramps up its activities on everything from planning for major new projects to getting all the parks and playgrounds up and running for the summer season.

Willow Park Playgrounds:

Speaking of playgrounds! Last month we reported that ARPA funds had been allocated and vendor chosen for designing and building new playgrounds at Willow Park. Since then town staff have met with the vendor, developed initial designs, and have been implementing an aggressive outreach plan to the community for their input. The community has been following this closely on social media with a combined reach of over 24,000 on playground posts since outreach began. Interestingly, the public presentation was only very lightly attended with just five citizens (two of whom were select board members). The presentation was recorded and there have been over 220 link clicks on the post to view it so far. Overall input from the community on the designs and color schemes has been very high with over 1,400 votes to date. We are grateful to our collaboration with the SVSU with helping get the word out to teachers, students, parents, and grandparents.

This work is especially important as the date for the removal of the old playgrounds looms... the faster we complete the public outreach and finalize the playground design the sooner we get everything ordered and the new playgrounds can be built!

Citizen Outreach:

This month there were 13 outreaches to citizens, many of which were follow ups on existing issues, and a few were outreaches regarding recreational opportunities and informational requests. This past month there were two new Public Records Requests from prior requestors.

A.T. Community and Business Outreach

Planning continues for the July 30 "Bennington Trail-fest" to be held at the Bennington Community Center (Rec Center) from noon to 3 pm. There will be music, local beer, activities, and info tables. Free to the public.

Lead Lines Outreach:

In coordination with MSK Engineering, additional posts on "contract 4" have been placed on facebook. This is the final contract section for the lead line replacement project.

250th Planning:

The Bennington Select Board officially confirmed my role as Bennington's "voice" for 250th planning at the State, Federal, and Regional levels. Work will be starting to ramp up locally to begin planning for the 250th anniversaries of the founding of Vermont and the Battle of Bennington which will culminate in 2027.

Website Update:

A kickoff meeting was held with Revize, the vendor with whom the town is working with for the website redesign. Revize was selected from 22 firms who responded to the town's request for proposal. A couple of local web developers expressed interest in the work but did not end up submitting proposals. We are currently in the design stage of the new site which will take about another week or two.

ARPA Projects:

The town maintains a page on the website "ARPA Priorities" that tracks ARPA projects, spending, and remaining balance. As of now, all ARPA funding has been tentatively allocated. Changes to a project's feasibility as staff move forward could still affect remaining ARPA funds.

Organizational Collaboration:

The town has become an organizational member of CAT TV which allows me to regularly take out their

video equipment to generate content for the town to be played on CAT TV. A new series, "Inside Bennington" is our initial result with episodes airing occasionally. A first episode is out now and another is already in the pipeline.

I will also be working with the Police Department in beginning work on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with various organizations with whom the Police Department has regular interactions. The goal of the MOU is to streamline and improve communications between the police, the various organizations with whom they work, and the community as a whole.

Outreach to Seniors:

We regularly do outreach presentations to various groups in the community, but this past month we have had a particular focus on our senior community as we move ahead with planning for the Benn-Hi redevelopment which would include moving the senior center to Benn-Hi once the project is complete. The new space would double the amount of room specific to senior center use, allow greater access to programming already happening in that space, and give opportunities for new programming in the future.

The town will be meeting regularly with seniors to include them in the planning as we move ahead.

Facebook POST OF THE MONTH:

I thought our winner would be a post on Willow Park that had 17,800 reach, but at the last minute the post about the Battle Monument being lit in yellow and blue to honor the flag of Ukraine suddenly jumped ahead with over 18,300 reach!

Bennington has a deep historical connection and it shows when anything having to do with our Battle Monument comes up.

The monument was dedicated in 1891 at the 100th anniversary of Vermont Statehood. It is the most visited historic site in the state, and it continues to be the tallest man-made structure in Vermont at 306' tall.

If we could do something like that for a 100th Anniversary... what "big thing" can we do for our 250th anniversary in 2027?

