

MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VT
MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2010

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Barnet Town Clerk's Office.

Board members present: Selectmen Theodore Faris, Jeremy Roberts, and Gary Bunnell.

Meeting Chair: Co-Chair Jeremy Roberts acting as Chair for this meeting.

Others present: Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs, Steven Mosher, Susan Robinson, David Warden, and Shirley Warden.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion made by Faris to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held March 8, 2010. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

APPEARANCE BY STEVEN MOSHER OF THE BARNET TRAILBLAZERS ATV CLUB

Mr. Mosher appeared to request the use of Barnet town highways to connect trails for all terrain vehicle (ATV) use. Initially the club is requesting the use of roads to create a single trail from the Bogie Sugar House on Garland Hill to behind the West Barnet Quick Stop in West Barnet. Mosher stated that the Club would like to have the trail available to help the Town's Green-Up Day efforts this year. The Club views its purpose as partially to be an aid to the Town in any way possible. Mosher suggested that the Club would like to form a relationship with Barnet Fire & Rescue in order to assist in firefighting and search and rescue endeavors.

Lengthy discussion ensued, which centered upon the following questions and answers:

- Roberts asked if the ATVs using the trails would be registered and insured.
 - Mosher responded: The Club is to be a member of the Vermont All-Terrain Vehicle Sportman's Association, Inc (VASA). As such, ATVs using the Club's trails are required to be registered and insured.
- Roberts asked if there is an age limitation for use of the trails.
 - Mosher responded: Unrestricted ATV operators must be at least sixteen years of age. Operators between twelve and sixteen years of age may use the trails after passing a safety course, but must be accompanied by an adult.
- Roberts asked if there is a map of the trail that the Club plans to use.
 - Mosher responded: There is not one available at this time.
- Roberts asked if there would be posted time restraints for usage of the trails.
 - Mosher responded: No hourly time restraints are presently planned. However there will be seasonal restraints in that the trails would be open only from May through November.
- Shirley Warden asked the Selectboard if the Club would be required to obtain highway access permits for access from trails to town highways.
 - Faris responded: The Town requests that the Club not create new highway accesses but use existing drives.
- Roberts asked if there are sound restrictions on the ATVs using the trails.
 - Mosher responded: Does not have the answer to this question at this time.

The Board agreed to postpone decision regarding this matter until the next Board meeting to allow for further discussion and information collection. Roberts requested that for the next meeting Mosher obtain information regarding a trail map and time and sound restrictions.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR FOR TWO YEARS REMAINING OF A THREE-YEAR TERM

Roberts stated that he has spoken with Jonathan Smires regarding this position and that Smires indicated he would be willing to serve in this capacity.

Motion made by Faris to appoint Jonathan Smires to fill the two years remaining of a three-year term of Auditor. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES & TOWNS (VLCT) REGARDING HAZARD IDENTIFICATION SURVEY AT NEW TOWN GARAGE

Read letter describing the findings of a March 9, 2010 hazard survey conducted by VLCT. These findings identify six specific hazards that need to be addressed at the new Town Garage. Recommendations were rated according to loss potential and severity from "A" to "C" with "A" being the most significant hazard. Four of the hazards listed were rated as "B" and two as "C."

Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs, who was present for the hazard survey, stated that each of the hazards identified have either been addressed or are currently being addressed.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT REGARDING SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION REPORT

Reviewed highlights of report detailing 2009 waste disposed and waste recycled at the Barnet Transfer Station and Recycling Center. Annual totals were as follows (in tons):

Waste Disposed:	
Municipal Solid Waste	222.25
Bulky Wastes	84.32
Total	306.57

Waste Recycled:	
Glass Containers	13.45
Metal Cans	3.22
Other Plastic	6.99
Books	0.06
Boxboard/Paperboard	5.68
Corrugated Cardboard	9.72
Mixed Paper	31.05
Scrap Metal, Appliances & White Goods	18.99
Total	89.16

**CORRESPONDENCE FROM NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD
REGARDING ACT 250 PERMIT APPLICATION OF MILAREPA
CENTER**

Briefly reviewed draft permit application. Zoning Administrator Shirley Warden explained that following this draft application the Town has until April 1, 2010 to schedule a hearing to voice any issues requiring the presentation of evidence.

Motion made by Faris to refer this matter to the Zoning Board & Planning Commission. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

**CORRESPONDENCE FROM TRANSFER STATION SUPERVISOR
BRUCE MARSTON REGARDING DUMPSTER MAINTENANCE**

Read email requesting more frequent maintenance of the area around the Transfer Station dumpster by the Town Highway Department with the use of a bucket loader. Also states that Marston is seeking the owner's manual for the compactor at the Transfer Station.

Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs stated that he will address Marston's concern regarding clean-up around the dumpster.

Roberts stated that he forwarded Marston information regarding the purchase of the compactor and that since the composition of the above mentioned email Marston has obtained the manual.

Roberts also stated that he discussed with Marston plans for an addition to the Recycling Center.

UNIFORM MUNICIPAL EXCESS WEIGHT PERMITS

Reviewed and approved fleet permit applications of: Cardinal Logistics Management Corporation; Camp Precast Concrete Products, Inc.; and Chief Logging & Construction, Inc.

Reviewed and approved single vehicle applications of: A. Withers Trucking; and Martin Larrabee.

CASH BALANCE AUDIT REPORT

Faris noted the receipt of a draft report of a cash balance audit conducted for the Town of Barnet by independent accountant firm Mudgett Jennett & Krogh-Wisner. The cash balances are reported as of March 3, 2009. This report was requested by the Board to verify cash balances at the conclusion of the term of William Hoar and inception of the term of Benjamin Heisholt as Town Treasurer. The change in Town Treasurers occurred on 2009 Town Meeting Day (March 3, 2009).

The report indicates all general ledger cash account balances accurately reflecting actual cash balances with one minor exception. This exception was with regard to a little-used grant fund account, which had an understated general ledger balance due to small sum of unrecorded interest.

INSURANCE INSPECTION OF NEW TOWN GARAGE

Roberts noted conversation with a representative of the Vermont League of Cities & Town's property insurance division with regard to conducting an insurance inspection and establishing a value for the new Town Garage. At this time the inspection has not be scheduled.

Brief discussion ensued regarding changes in value of the contents of the new Town Garage as compared with the old Town Garage.

ROAD FOREMAN'S REPORT

Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs appeared to discuss several matters concerning recent activities of the Highway Department:

- Per discussion at previous meeting, Gibbs inspected damage at Palmer Cemetery caused by the falling of a tree. Gibbs stated that several gravestones had been damaged. Gibbs will pursue having these gravestones repaired.
- Brakes were replaced on two Town dump trucks. All of the labor on these jobs was performed by Highway Department employees.
- The Highway Department has been spending a great deal of time of late putting gravel on roads. Rain this week will prevent further progress at this time.

Roberts noted a recent telephone conversation with a resident who stated that a culvert on County Hill Road needs to be lengthened.

- Gibbs stated that he is aware of this situation and plans to address it.

2010 MOWING OF TOWN PROPERTIES

Faris noted William Warden has stated that he will not be performing the mowing of Town properties for the 2010 season.

In the absence of Mr. Warden's services, the Board instructed Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt to place an advertisement to collect bids for 2010 mowing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING PERSONNEL MATTERS

Entered executive session at 8:08 p.m.

Exited executive session at 8:32 p.m.

Motion made by Faris to honorably dismiss from temporary employment Highway Department employee Christopher Bunnell at the end of April. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Faris to adjourn. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk