

MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VT
MONDAY, MAY 10, 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, Lister Marvin Bailey, Lister David Warden, Charles Bucknam, Sally Cook (Caledonian-Record), Donald Easter, Eric Skovsted, and Shirley Warden.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion made by Faris to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held April 26, 2010. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

APPEARANCE BY RESIDENT DONALD EASTER REGARDING SPEED LIMIT SIGNS

Mr. Easter appeared to discuss several matters related to speed limit signs:

- New speed limit signs were recently placed at the southerly end of Roy Mountain Road. Signs indicating a speed limit of thirty-five miles per hour were replaced with signs indicating a speed limit of twenty-five miles per hour. Mr. Easter asked that the Board request the Caledonia County Sheriff's Department to send its Deputy Sheriff to patrol this section of road. Mr. Easter suggested that such enforcement should be generally in the form of warnings for the purpose of educating motorists of this change.
 - After brief discussion, the Board agreed to contact the Sheriff's Department to make this request.
- Regarding the portion of Harvey Mountain Road between the intersection with Aiken Farm Road the northerly end of the road at the intersection with West Main Street: Mr. Easter stated there are no speed limit signs within this portion of road. In such cases the State law maximum of fifty miles per hour is in effect. Mr. Easter requested that the Board consider posting a speed limit of thirty-five miles per hour for this portion of road.
 - After brief discussion, the Board requested that Mr. Easter collect signatures of residents living on this portion of road and deliver them to the Town Clerk. Upon their receipt the Board will consider posting a thirty-five mile per hour limit.
- Regarding the portion of West Main Street beginning at the intersection with Harvey Mountain Road and extending to the end of West Barnet Village: Mr. Easter stated that there is a "Reduced Speed Ahead" sign near the beginning of this stretch, but no speed limit sign thereafter. Mr. Easter requested that the Board cause signs indicating a twenty-five mile per hour speed limit to be placed on this road.
 - After brief discussion, the Board instructed Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs to place the requested signs.

APPEARANCE BY RESIDENT ERIC SKOVSTED REGARDING BARN ON JOE'S BROOK ROAD

Mr. Skovsted appeared to discuss his planned project involving a barn located on his property on Joe's Brook Road: This barn is located in close proximity to Joe's Brook Road, within the Town's right-of-way. This appearance is to inform the Board of his intention to do construction on the barn, and possibly to move the barn an as yet undetermined distance away from the road. The barn is currently so close to the road that it is actually holding the shoulder of the road in place. If the barn is moved, the road may need additional material to fill any damage caused.

Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs stated that the Town's Highway Department can supply cones to direct traffic for the construction and, if necessary, gravel material to fill any damage done to the road if the barn is moved. The Board requested that if Mr. Skovsted does decide to move the barn he move it entirely outside the Town's right-of-way.

APPEARANCE BY CHARLES BUCKNAM REGARDING CAMPAIGN FOR STATE SENATE

Mr. Bucknam appeared as a Republican candidate for State Senator representing the Caledonia-Orange district. He introduced himself and gave a brief talk stating the reasons he is running for office and the issues important to him.

APPEARANCE BY DAVID WARDEN REGARDING HISTORICAL SOCIETY USE OF TOWN HALL

At their February 22, 2010 meeting, the Board granted Mr. Warden's request for use of the Town Hall by the Barnet Historical Society in late summer 2010.

At this meeting, Mr. Warden requested that the Board permit use of the Town Hall beginning on July 1, 2010. Mr. Warden stated that this would also allow for use by the Barnet Public Library, which has some events planned for July.

After brief discussion, the Board agreed to permit this use of the Town Hall.

CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING POTENTIAL ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE (ATV) ORDINANCE

Noted the receipt of three letters from Barnet residents, all regarding recent discussion surrounding a proposed ATV ordinance.

Motion made by Faris to postpone reading this correspondence until the public hearing planned for this topic on May 17, 2010. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

DISCUSSION REGARDING DRAFT OF PROPOSED ATV ORDINANCE

Roberts read the entire draft text of a proposed ordinance for regulating ATVs.

David Warden asked the Board how the section of the proposed ordinance which is planned to state specific town highways on which ATV travel is permitted will affect the section of the

ordinance stating that these town highways will be subject to annual review. Specifically Mr. Warden asked whether such review would constitute an amendment of the ordinance itself, which would annually cause a sixty day period before such amendment becomes effective.

- Faris stated that the Board would take this question under consideration.

Motion made by Faris to print in the Caledonian-Record a warning for the May 17, 2010 public hearing with the full text of the proposed ordinance as read at this meeting. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

The Board noted that the public hearing will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 17, 2010 in the conference room of the Barnet Fire Station.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM KARME CHOLING & STATE OF VERMONT NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD REGARDING ACT 250 PERMIT APPLICATION

Read several sections of a notice from the Natural Resources Board concerning a public hearing regarding the Act 250 permit of application of Karne Choling for a project described as the construction of a non-habitable Buddhist religious monument known as a Stupa. This public hearing is scheduled for Monday, May 17, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Barnet Town Clerk's Office. A site visit will precede the hearing at 6:00 p.m.

Briefly reviewed copy of the full application as submitted to the Selectboard by Karne Choling.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM TRANSCANADA HYDRO NORTHEAST REGARDING E911 ROAD DESIGNATION AT MCINDOE FALLS STATION

Read letter stating that the private drive leading to the McIndoe Falls Station has not been officially recognized and assigned a name by the Town of Barnet. In order that TransCanada might establish numerous separate E911 Locatable Addresses on this drive, the letter requests that the Board officially designate it as "McIndoe Falls Station Drive."

Motion made by Faris that the Board draft a letter to TransCanada stating that it will respond to this request at such time as it finds convenient. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF NORTHERN VERMONT REGARDING COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY PROJECT SOLICITATION

Read cover letter soliciting input for a list of economic development projects for the region.

No action taken regarding this matter.

UNIFORM MUNICIPAL EXCESS WEIGHT PERMITS

Reviewed and approved single vehicle application of Donald Moore, Jr.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Roberts reported on his review of Scour Plans of Action as received from the State of Vermont Agency of Transportation and discussed at the Board meeting of April 26, 2010. Stated that the several bridges were reported to require “monitoring” but that the plans were vague as to what this monitoring would consist of.
 - After brief discussion, Board agreed that Roberts will contact the Agency of Transportation to ask more specifically what this monitoring would entail.
- Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs appeared to report to the Board regarding an upcoming highway construction project. Work on reclaiming Town Highway 4 (Groton Road) is scheduled to begin Wednesday, May 12, 2010.

OUTSTANDING CHECK WARRANTS

Reviewed and signed all outstanding check warrants.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS, PERSONNEL MATTERS, AND REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION

Motion made by Faris to enter executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:18 p.m.

Motion made by Faris to exit executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 9:00 p.m.

Board signed list of Highway Department policies as prepared by Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs.

DISCUSSION REGARDING GOSS’S MUD BOG

Faris and Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs reported on their traffic control efforts at the Goss’s Mud Bog event on Saturday, May 8, 2010. Brief discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Faris to adjourn. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk