

**MINUTES – SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2015**

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

Board members present: Chair Jeremy Roberts, Gary Bunnell, and Dylan Ford.

Others present: Road Foreman Mark Chase, Building Committee Chair William Graves, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Building Committee Member David Warden, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, Mike Casella, and Denise King.

1. Approve minutes of regular meeting held February 9, 2015

Mr. Bunnell moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held February 9, 2015. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

2. Appearances by members of the public

There were no appearances by members of the public.

3. Appearance by Road Foreman Mark Chase regarding Highway Department matters

a. Winter maintenance. Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department continues to spend much of its time plowing, sanding, and salting roads. Additionally some time has been spent recently in thawing culverts.

b. Truck maintenance. Mr. Chase reported that on dump truck #008 a broken spring was repaired, on dump truck #003 a headlight problem was repaired, and on the pick-up truck (#007) two corroded power steering lines were replaced.

c. Joe's Brook Road driveway maintenance concern. Mr. Chase indicated that he received a complaint regarding a hazardous pile of snow in Joe's Brook Road. It appears that this snow appears repeatedly as a result of a resident using a snow-blower in his driveway. Mr. Chase inquired whether the Board has a policy regarding this situation. Discussion ensued.

- The Board indicated that it is the Board's policy that the above-described action is not allowable. They instructed Mr. Chase to speak to the resident in question and advise him of this policy.

d. Roadside mower. Mr. Chase presented the Board with a contract from H.P. Fairfield for lease of a roadside mower for the period of July 6, 2015 to July 31, 2015 at a total cost of \$8,400. Discussion ensued.

- With the Board's agreement, Mr. Roberts signed the contract.

e. Pick-up truck. Mr. Chase presented quotes for a new pick-up truck, as summarized below, including trade allowance for the current pick-up truck (#007):

- Crosstown Motors: 2015 Ram 2500 Tradesman	\$33,750
- St. J Auto: 2015 GMC Sierra 2500	\$30,384
- Twin State Ford: 2015 F350 SRW	\$34,225

Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Bunnell moved to purchase a 2015 GMC Sierra 2500 from St. J Auto. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

f. Dump truck #009 body. Mr. Chase presented a quote from H.P. Fairfield for the replacement of the body on dump truck #009. The quoted cost is \$29,610. Discussion ensued.

g. Town Meeting day. Mr. Chase asked the Board regarding the Highway Department's responsibilities for Town Meeting Day.

- The Board indicated that the Highway Department is responsible only for ensuring that the Barnet Elementary School drive is plowed and salted, and that the snowbanks are pushed back to allow for parking.

4. Appearance by representatives of Casella Waste Systems, Inc. regarding solid waste disposal and recycling programs

Denise King and Mike Casella appeared to discuss various items relating to the Town's solid waste disposal and recycling programs. Much of this discussion was related to Act 148, Vermont's new universal recycling law. The parts of this law which will have the greatest impact on the Town are not yet in effect. Ms. King and Mr. Casella suggested that some aspects of the law are untenable, and suggested that the Board contact its legislators to encourage a reconsideration of these elements.

5. Correspondence from Town Agent Jay Abramson regarding animal control ordinance revision

The Board reviewed a memo indicating the process for adopting an ordinance. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Bunnell moved to adopt the Animal Control Ordinance as presented at the previous meeting, thereby amending the Ordinance for the Control of Dogs adopted June 7, 1982 in its entirety. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.
- A true copy of this ordinance follows these minutes.

6. Other business

- Old Silo Road dog complaint.** Mr. Roberts discussed the dog complaint that was discussed at the previous meeting. Mr. Roberts indicated that the dog in question was not impounded. Jennifer Quimby, its owner, licensed the dog. Ms. Quimby also indicated that she is in mediation with the other party, Kyle Ryan and Stephanie Mitchel, regarding restitution for the damages caused by her dog.

7. Warning for Pre-Town Meeting Public Hearing

Mr. Roberts read a warning for a Pre-Town Meeting Public Hearing to be held at the Barnet Elementary School on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

8. Correspondence from Barnet Trailblazers All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Club regarding use of town highways during 2015 season

Mr. Roberts read an email indicating the town highway use requested for 2015. This request includes all or portions of the following roads: Barnet Center Rd, Bony Woods Rd, Brook Hill Rd, Chamberlain Rd, Cloud Brook Rd, Ferguson Rd, Garland Hill Rd, Gilfillan Rd, Goss Hill Rd, Joe's Brook Rd, Keenan Rd, Keyser Hill Rd, Little Scotland Rd, McLaren Hill Rd, Morse's Mill Rd, Roy Mountain Rd, Water Andric Rd, West Barnet Rd, and West Main St. Mr. Roberts indicated that the Board performs its annual review of the Ordinance for Control of All-Terrain Vehicles at the first Selectboard meeting following Town Meeting, which in 2015 will be on March 9.

9. Correspondence from Vermont Department for Children and Families regarding Town Service Officer appointment

Mr. Roberts read a cover letter advising the Board that the term of office of the present Town Service Officer expires April 14, 2015, and that Vermont law provides for the appointment of such an officer on or before April 15th of each year.

- The Board agreed to appoint Dylan Ford as Town Service Officer, and signed a form to effect this appointment.

10. Correspondence from Auditor Robert Roos regarding resignation

Mr. Roberts read a letter indicating that Mr. Roos is resigning from the office of Town Auditor effective February 20, 2015.

11. Discussion regarding revision of Personnel Policy's provisions for paid holidays and personal time

The Board reviewed proposed changes to Section VI, Parts A. and D. of the Personnel Policy, as prepared by Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt at the Board's request at their previous meeting. Mr. Heisholt's proposal with reference to Section VI, Part A is to add the following language at the end of the current language: "Employees who terminate their employment prior to the end of a calendar year shall be entitled to pay for floating holiday hours associated with holidays that have transpired during the current year prior to termination, provided the employee has not already taken time off for these hours." Regarding Section VI, Part D Mr. Heisholt proposes several changes. These are to: a) add the phrase "by Highway Department employees" after the phrase "Time taken off" in the third sentence; b) add the following language after the fifth sentence: "For employees who terminate their employment before the end of a calendar year personal hours for the current year will be calculated based upon the accumulation of four (4) hours per month. Employees terminating their employment shall be entitled to pay for the difference of accumulated personal hours less personal hours taken during the year."; c) to delete the following language in the sixth sentence: "If any employee uses all forty-eight (48) hours before the end of the year and terminates his employment before the end of the calendar year" and d) to replace the language deleted with the following language: "If personal hours taken during the year are greater than those accrued". Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Bunnell moved to amend the Personnel Policy per Mr. Heisholt's proposal. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

12. Correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding construction on Waterford's VT Route 18, Bridge 7 over Mad Brook

The Board reviewed a letter and attachments regarding a project for which the proposed detour travels through Barnet.

13. Applications for Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits

The Board reviewed and approved the fleet application of Gould Well Drilling.

14. Appearance by Building Committee Chair William Graves regarding Town Hall renovations

Mr. Graves appeared to discuss with the Board their presentation of information to voters at Town Meeting regarding the Town Hall project. Mr. Graves presented a summary of the Committee's findings thus far in connection with the proposed project. Discussion ensued.

15. Other business

- a. Correspondence from Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) regarding representative from Barnet.** Mr. Roberts read an email relating to the discussion at the previous meeting. This email indicates that Leigh Larocque can serve as Barnet's representative to NVDA if he is appointed as a member of the Building Committee.

- The Board signed a letter indicating their appointment of Mr. Larocque as Barnet's representative to NVDA.

- b. Discussion regarding personnel matters (executive session)**

- Mr. Bunnell moved that the Board enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a) (3) to discuss Highway Department salaries. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:15 p.m. Those present in executive session: Mr. Roberts, Mr. Bunnell, Ms. Ford, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.
- Mr. Bunnell moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:30 p.m.
- No action taken.

16. Outstanding check warrants

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

17. Adjournment

Mr. Bunnell moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk