

**MINUTES – SELECTBOARD MEETING  
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT  
MONDAY, MARCH 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, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Second Constable David Stevenson, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, Jean Chase, Wayne Chase, Leann Despina, Donald Foster, John Jefferson, and Shawn Larocque.

**1. Approve minutes of regular meeting held March 9, 2015**

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

**2. Appearances by members of the public**

- a. Appearance by Wayne & Jean Chase regarding noise complaint in Passumpsic.** Mr. and Mrs. Chase appeared to lodge a complaint regarding a neighbor running an electric generator in lieu of purchasing electricity from the power company. Mr. and Mrs. Chase stated that this activity has a detrimental effect with regard to noise and air quality. Discussion ensued.
- The Board requested that Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt inquire with Town Attorney Jay Abramson regarding state law, if any, that may be enforceable, and any other enforcement actions that may be available to the Board.

**3. Annual review of Ordinance for Regulating All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)**

The Board continued their review, as commenced at the previous Board meeting, of the Ordinance, as adopted in 2010, which includes a provision (Section IX) for annual review of the sub-section (Section IV.C.) naming specific roads on which ATV travel is permitted.

- John Jefferson of the Barnet Trailblazers ATV Club (Club) spoke, indicating that the Club had spoken with all residents along the proposed restricted access sections of Little France Road, Barnet Center Road, Warden Road, and Goss Hill Road, as discussed at the previous meeting. Mr. Jefferson indicated that all residents he spoke with were agreeable with the restricted access. Discussion ensued regarding this restricted access.
- Donald Foster, resident of Keenan Road, spoke, indicating a concern about granting access on Keenan Road.
  - Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt indicated that, although it was listed in original listing of Town Highways under consideration, Keenan Road is not a part of the Club's requested access.
- Mr. Bunnell moved to renew the Ordinance for Regulating All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) as adopted in 2010, with changes only in the modification of specified town highway use permitted; this new permitted use being as requested by the Barnet Trailblazers ATV Club at this Board meeting, to include all or a portion of Anderson Street, Barnet Center Road, Bony Woods Road, Brook Hill Road, Chamberlain Road, Cloud Brook Road, Ferguson Road, Garland Hill Road, Gilfillan Road, Goss Hill Road, Joe's Brook Road, Keyser Hill Road, Knights Lane, Little France Road, Little Scotland Road, McLaren Hill Road, Morse's Mill Road, Roy Mountain Road, Water Andric Road, West Barnet Road, West Main Street, and Whitehill Rd; also to include restricted Club access on other portions of Barnet Center Road, Goss Hill Road, Little France Road, and Warden Road; said restricted access to be granted individuals dwelling at four specific residences on Little France Road provided that they furnish insurance and registration documentation to the Town Clerk, and when accessing

restricted use Town Highway, carry an identification card provided by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

- The Board agreed to grant the Club's request for permission to use all town highways for collection of litter on Green Up Day on May 2, 2015. The Club must provide the Town with a list of the members who will participate along with proof of driver's license, vehicle registration, and insurance. Numbered tickets will be issued to confirm receipt of this documentation, without which access will be denied.

#### **4. Appearance by Road Foreman Mark Chase regarding Highway Department matters**

- a. Green Mountain Power pole placement.** Mr. Chase indicated that Green Mountain Power has approached him to ask about the process for obtaining permission to install a pole in the Town's right-of-way on South Main Street.
  - Mr. Roberts indicated that Green Mountain Power must present the Board with a petition for placement of the poles, including an engineered drawing.
- b. Dump Truck #008 repair.** Mr. Chase indicated that the rear spring on Truck #008 was replaced.
- c. Dump Truck #009 refurbishment.** Mr. Chase indicated that the Highway Department has sanded and painted the body and wheels on Truck #009.
- d. Dump Truck #009 replacement.** Mr. Chase indicated that he received a quote from R.R. Charlebois, Inc. for a replacement of Truck #009. The quote indicates that a single axle truck would cost approximately \$155,000 and a tandem axle truck would cost approximately \$190,000. The trade-in value for Truck #009 would be \$43,000; by selling it retail the Town might expect approximately \$47,000. Discussion ensued.
  - The Board instructed Mr. Chase to explore the possibility of exchanging the bodies on trucks #008 and #009.
- e. Grader stingers.** Mr. Chase reported that the stingers on the grader are worn and in need of replacement.
- f. Town Garage maintenance.** Mr. Roberts reported that he would be at the Town Garage to repair lighting during the week of this meeting.

#### **5. Consideration of amendment to Animal Control Ordinance adopted February 23, 2015**

The Board reviewed the proposed ordinance, as revised by Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt per the discussion at the previous Board meeting. Discussion ensued.

- Ms. Ford moved to adopt the Animal Control Ordinance as presented at this meeting, thereby amending the Ordinance for the Control of Dogs adopted June 7, 1982 in its entirety and the Animal Control Ordinance adopted February 23, 2015 in its entirety. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.
- A true copy of this ordinance follows these minutes.

#### **6. Consideration of Acceptance of Gift and Dedication of the Barnet Public Library**

The Board reviewed the Gift and Dedication as executed by the Trustees of the Barnet Public Library pursuant to the authorization of the voters of the Town of Barnet at its Town Meeting held March 3, 2015.

- The Board executed the Acceptance of the Gift and Dedication.
- A true copy of this Acceptance of Gift and Dedication follows these minutes.

#### **7. Correspondence from Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation regarding permit for Next Flood Measure at Harvey's Lake Dam**

The Board reviewed the permit issued March 10, 2015 per the application Robert Desrochers of Fairbanks Mill on behalf of the Town. The permit authorizes removal of flood debris, sediment and associated vegetation blocking the spillway of the dam.

## **8. Consideration of mowing of town properties for 2015 season**

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt indicated that he had spoken to Jeremy Bean of J & B Property Maintenance, as discussed at the previous Board meeting. Mr. Bean quoted a price of \$2,400 for the 2015 mowing season, which is the same price for which Mr. Bean provided these services in 2014. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Bunnell moved to hire J & B Property Maintenance to perform 2015 mowing services at Mr. Bean's quoted price. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

## **9. Consideration of payment of insurance claim in connection with snow falling from Town Clerk's Office roof**

Mr. Roberts read emails from the Town's insurance carrier Vermont League of Cities & Towns (VLCT) regarding an insurance claim resulting from snow falling from the roof of the Town Clerk's Office onto the hood of a vehicle parked below. Total damage to the claimant's vehicle is \$1,205.14; the Town's deductible is \$1,000. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Bunnell moved to pay the entire damage estimate and to not process the insurance claim. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

## **10. 2015 Liquor License Renewal Application of Paul's Whistle Stop**

The Board reviewed and approved the application of Paul's Whistle Stop for a 2015 Liquor License Renewal.

## **11. Correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) regarding center line pavement markings on Class 1 and Class 2 highways**

The Board reviewed a letter advising the Town that paved Class 2 town highways are due to be marked by VTrans this summer.

## **12. Correspondence from IVI Telecom Services regarding construction of 143 foot monopole telecommunications tower off West Barnet Road**

The Board reviewed a letter soliciting the Town's input regarding this proposed project. Discussion ensued.

## **13. Applications for Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits**

The Board reviewed and approved fleet applications of Agri-Mark, Inc. DBA Cabot Creamery, Barrett Trucking Co., Inc., Calkins, Gilman J. & Sylvia J. LaCourse/Gil's Construction, Limlaw Chipping & Land Clearing, Inc., William Murray, Brian Tallmadge/B.I.T. Enterprises, and United Natural Foods, Inc., and single vehicle application of Larry Flood.

## **14. Other business**

- a. Tablet computer for Board of Listers.** Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt presented the Board with cost research performed by the Listers for the purchase of a tablet computer. The Listers propose to purchase the computer using the reappraisal reserve fund and use it for entering data directly into their software from the field during site visits. Cost estimates for the computer range from \$1,000 to \$1,300, with additional equipment and programming expected to cost an additional \$300 to \$500. Discussion ensued.
  - The Board agreed to authorize this purchase.
- b. Vermont League of Cities & Towns (VLCTR) and Shoreland Protection Act.** Ms. Ford indicated that she sent an email to Millie Archer of VLCT to ask for further information, and a meeting with the Board, per the discussion at the previous Board meeting; Ms. Archer has not yet replied.
- c. Barnet Village Water System and zoning permits.** Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden spoke regarding her conversation with engineer Michael Duffy, who is designing

improvements to the Barnet Village water system to comply with the State's requirements for public water sources. Mr. Duffy may be applying for a permit for a chlorination building on Carter Street. Discussion ensued.

- d. **Old Silo Road dog complaint.** Mr. Roberts spoke regarding his conversations with Kyle Ryan and Stephanie Mitchel in connection with their complaints about a dog owned by Jennifer Quimby, as discussed at previous meetings. Mr. Roberts indicated that he requested that Mr. Ryan and Ms. Mitchel arrange a meeting with the Board at which Ms. Quimby would be invited to be present.

#### **15. Outstanding check warrants**

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

#### **16. Consideration of Highway Department performance reviews and wage adjustments (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 performance reviews and wage adjustments. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:20 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 8:40 p.m.
- Mr. Bunnell moved to give pay rate increases to Highway Department employees as discussed in executive session. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.
- Mr. Bunnell moved to provide a weekly stipend of \$100 to full-time employees who opt to decline the health insurance benefit provided by the Town; said stipend benefit would be contingent on the employees' annual completion a Vermont Department of Labor Declaration of Health Care Coverage form indicating that they have health care coverage from another source. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

#### **17. Adjournment**

Mr. Bunnell moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

*A true copy.*

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Town Clerk*