

**MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, MAY 25, 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: Lister John Cook, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, Dennis McLam, Stephanie Mitchel, Jennifer Quimby, and Kyle Ryan.

1. Approve minutes of special meeting held May 11, 2015, regular meeting held May 11, 2015, and special meeting held May 18, 2015

- Mr. Bunnell moved to approve as presented the minutes of the special meeting held May 11, 2015. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.
- Mr. Bunnell moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held May 11, 2015. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.
- Mr. Bunnell moved to approve as presented the minutes of the special meeting held May 18, 2015. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

2. Appearance by Stephanie Mitchel regarding dog complaint on Old Silo Road

Ms. Mitchel appeared along with Kyle Ryan and Jennifer Quimby. They discussed the the dog incident involving Ms. Quimby's dog and a dog owned by Ms. Mitchel and Mr. Ryan, which was originally discussed with the Board at their meeting held December 1, 2014, and subsequently at Board meetings held February 23, 2015 and March 23, 2015. The parties discussed the agreement resulting from their mediation, which Ms. Mitchel and Mr. Ryan indicated that they signed, but Ms. Quimby indicated that she did not sign. Ms. Mitchel and Mr. Ryan report that Ms. Quimby's dog has been on their property once since their last meeting with the Board (December 1, 2014), and off Ms. Quimby's property on several other occasions also. Ms. Quimby acknowledged that her dog did get loose and enter the property of Ms. Mitchel and Mr. Ryan on one occasion since December 1, 2014. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Roberts indicated that it is not in the purview of the Board to resolve disputes in civil litigation settlements. The Board will investigate the reports of new violations of the dog ordinance for reference on future enforcement action as necessary. Mr. Roberts indicated that he would speak to Animal Control Officer Josephine Guertin regarding the reports of violations mentioned at this meeting.

3. Appearances by members of the public

There were no appearances by members of the public.

4. Consideration of Town Garage mowing

Dennis McLam appeared to ask the Board if they wished for him to perform mowing services at the Town Garage as he did in 2014. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to authorize Mr. McLam to perform mowing services in 2015 in the same manner as performed in 2014.

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

Mr. Chase did not appear at this meeting. In his absence the Board did not discuss any Highway Department matters.

6. Correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) regarding calendar year 2014 bridge inspection summary reports

The Board reviewed the reports on bridges inspected in 2014. Bridges exceeding 20 feet in span are inspected by VTrans on a 24 month cycle; one-half of these bridges were therefore inspected in 2014.

7. Correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding 2015 Bicycle and Pedestrian Program

The Board reviewed a letter soliciting applications for projects through the Bicycle and Pedestrian Program. The intent of the program is “to improve access and safety for bicyclists and/or pedestrians through the planning, design and construction of infrastructure projects.”

8. Consideration of listing of unlicensed dogs

The Board reviewed listings of dogs licensed in 2014 but not yet licensed in 2015, and of dogs licensed in years prior to 2014, but not licensed since. There are 26 dogs in the former category and 12 in the latter. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Bunnell moved to deliver these lists to the Town Constables and to instruct the Constables to enforce the Animal Control Ordinance with respect to unlicensed dogs.

9. Consideration of enforcement action to be taken in connection with effective date of Animal Control Ordinance (May 26, 2015)

The Board discussed recent dog ordinance violations regarding which the Board was postponing further enforcement action until the effective date of the new Animal Control Ordinance.

- Mr. Roberts indicated that he will contact Town Attorney Jay Abramson regarding these violations.

10. Correspondence from Town Attorney Jay Abramson regarding noise complaint

Mr. Roberts read an email advising the Board regarding options for restricting noise. Mr. Abramson indicates that there is no state statute; if the Board wishes to regulate noise it must do so by Town ordinance. Mr. Abramson provided sample language to apply to all uses. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Roberts indicated that he would discuss the Passumpsic complaint brought before the Board with the complainant.

11. Correspondence from Nortrax, Inc. regarding December 2014 accident damaging Nortrax, Inc. truck

The Board read an email and attached pro forma invoice detailing costs of repairs of a Nortrax service truck that was damaged when, while parked in the Town Garage yard, it was struck by a Town of Barnet dump truck operated by a Highway Department employee. The cost of repairs, according to Nortrax, totaled \$2,080.65. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to pay for the damages per Nortrax’s pro forma invoice without processing an insurance claim.

12. Consideration of purchase of computer for Board of Listers office

Lister John Cook discussed the sole desktop computer dedicated to the use of the Board of Listers. The computer is at least ten years old and recently is running very slowly with frequent “crashes.” Software and memory demands placed on the computer are escalating as the State shifts more appraisal burdens onto local assessors. The Board of Listers prefers to replace the computer at this point rather than invest any more money in upgrading its components. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to authorize the purchase of a new computer.

13. Correspondence from Vermont Department of Taxes regarding letter of agreement for Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) cost tables services

The Board reviewed the Letter of Agreement, which states that the Town will pay the sum of \$238.81 and receive a license for the use of Marshall & Swift Cost Tables associated with the MicroSolve CAMA product by NEMRC until June 30, 2016.

- Upon the Board's approval, Mr. Roberts signed the Letter of Agreement.

14. Correspondence from surveyor Andrew Dussault regarding Town Hall property land survey

The Board reviewed an invoice and preliminary survey prepared by Mr. Dussault. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to postpone scheduling a meeting with Mr. Dussault until their June 8, 2015 meeting.

15. Other business

- a. **Appearance by Lister John Cook regarding Board of Listers identification.** Mr. Cook requested that the Selectboard authorize the purchase of a magnetic vehicle sign and name tags for the Listers to use to identify themselves when doing field work on private property.

- The Board agreed to authorize these purchases.

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 8:05 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk