

**MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016**

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, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, and Dan Heath (Raymond Heath Construction, Inc.).

1. Approve minutes of regular meeting held January 25, 2016

Mr. Bunnell moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held January 25, 2016. 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. **Church Street water leak.** Mr. Chase reported on a water leak appearing on the surface of Church Street near its intersection with US Route 5 South, which has been noted for several weeks and appears to be growing more severe. This is near the leak that appeared and was repaired in December 2015. Dan Heath of Raymond Heath Construction, Inc. (RHCI) appeared and discussed his inspection of the site. Mr. Heath indicated that the leak appears most likely to be emanating from the Barnet Village Water System, owned by Barnet Fire District #2, but that this cannot be determined for certain without excavation. Mr. Heath spoke regarding his opinion of the best course of action for repairing the leak, and his impression of the state of the water system as a whole. Discussion ensued.
 - The Board instructed Mr. Heath to commence with excavation and repair of the leak.
- b. **Gravel pit tree cutting.** Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department has been working on cutting trees at the gravel pit.
- c. **Equipment painting.** Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department has performed paint repairs on truck rims and the loader during time between winter storms.

4. Consideration of lease to Karme Choling of second floor of library building

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt indicated that the five-year lease expired February 1, 2016. Karme Choling has contacted the Town Clerk's Office and stated their willingness to agree to a new five-year lease identical to the current lease. Mr. Heisholt presented a proposed lease with the same terms. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to sign a new five-year lease on the same terms as the prior lease; Mr. Roberts signed the proposed lease.

5. Copy of correspondence from The Johnson Company to Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation regarding closed landfill groundwater/surface water monitoring

The Board read an email, and reviewed the attached letter, draft monitoring plan, and laboratory reports. These comprise a proposal presented to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation on behalf of the Town, which requests a reduction in monitoring according to correspondence from The Johnson Company to the Town discussed at the January 11, 2016 Board meeting.

6. Correspondence from Vermont Superior Court Caledonia Unit regarding annual account for Harriet S. Palmer Cemetery Trust

The Board reviewed a cover letter and attached Summary of Account and Motion to Allow Account, as completed by Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt.

- The Board signed these forms.

7. Correspondence from SunCommon with response to Vermont Division of Historic Preservation's (VDHP) comments on proposed solar project at 2742 US Route 5 South in Barnet

The Board reviewed a letter and attached map regarding the proposed project on the property of Thomas and Sherry Tolle. The letter discusses SunCommon's collaboration with VDHP "to determine how to ascertain

whether there are any archeological artifacts at the location of the proposed array while mitigating costs.”
VHDP and SunCommon agree on proposed revisions to the conditions of the Certificate of Public Good.

8. Correspondence from Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation regarding draft indirect discharge permit of Duncan’s Idea Mill LLC

The Board briefly reviewed a public notice for draft permit. Public comment period for this permit, for non-sewage wastewater from a distillery, is from January 25, 2016 to 4:30 p.m. February 23, 2016.

9. Correspondence from Cottage Hospital with report of 2015 activities

The Board briefly reviewed and discussed a letter discussing various 2015 activities at Cottage Hospital.

10. Other business

No other business was discussed.

11. Outstanding check warrants

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

12. Discussion regarding legal proceedings in the tax appeal of TransCanada Hydro Northeast, Inc. (executive session)

- Mr. Bunnell moved that the Board make a specific finding that premature public knowledge of discussion concerning the legal proceedings related to the tax appeal of TransCanada Hydro Northeast, Inc., in which the Town is a party, would clearly place the Town of Barnet at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.
- Mr. Bunnell moved that the Board enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1)(E) to discuss the legal proceedings related to the tax appeal of TransCanada Hydro Northeast, Inc., as premature public disclosure of which would clearly place the Town of Barnet at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:05 pm. 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 8:10 p.m.
- No action taken.

13. Adjournment

Mr. Bunnell moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk