

**MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 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, Building Committee Chair William Graves, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Library Trustee Julie Roos, Building Committee Member Laurajean Stewart, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, Matthew Seaver (Lyndon State College News 7), and Taylor West (Lyndon State College News 7).

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held October 24, 2016 and of special meeting held October 31, 2016

Mr. Bunnell moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held October 24, 2016. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

Mr. Bunnell moved to approve as presented the minutes of the special meeting held October 31, 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 Library Trustees regarding installation of exterior lighting at library building

Library Trustees Chair Julie Roos appeared on behalf of the Board of Trustees. She indicated that her task at this meeting was to follow up on the Trustees' meeting with the Selectboard in March. The March meeting involved discussion of exterior lighting; the Selectboard requested that the Trustees return during budget discussion season to discuss funding for the project. Ms. Roos indicated that Fire District #2 recently updated street lighting in Barnet Village to LED bulbs, and relocated the light pole nearest the Library. This greatly improved the lighting in the parking lot (the street light now lights approximately two-thirds of the lot), but does not resolve the lighting deficiency on the walkway from the parking lot to the Library. Discussion ensued about possible locations of light poles, and other logistical concerns regarding installation.

- The Selectboard requested that the Trustees visit an electrical supplier, select a few proposed lighting options, and return to a Selectboard meeting in mid-December.

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

- a. Routine maintenance.** Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department has been spending the majority of its time performing routine maintenance such as ditch work and cleaning culverts.
- b. Truck maintenance.** Mr. Chase reported that dump truck #6 is out of service for repairs to a hydraulic pump. All other equipment is currently in service.
- c. Short-staffed.** Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department will have less than their usual staff during the next two weeks; several employees are taking vacation time for rifle deer season.

5. Correspondence from FairPoint Communications regarding petition for conduit/buried location on Schoolhouse Road

The Board reviewed a letter and attached petition request and design prints for the project discussed at the previous Board meeting. Discussion ensued.

- The Board signed the petition.

6. Correspondence from Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc. regarding inspection of bridge on North Monroe Road over Connecticut River

Mr. Roberts read an email, which indicates that the bridge inspection was completed on October 28, 2016.

7. Consideration of appointment to Building Committee

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt asked the Board for clarification regarding the Building Committee membership status of Dennis McLam. Although Mr. McLam has participated in Committee meetings, Mr. Heisholt's records do not indicate that the Board appointed him to the Committee. It is not clear whether this is an omission in Mr. Heisholt's records, or if the Board had not appointed him. Discussion ensued.

- Ms. Ford moved to appoint Dennis McLam to the Building Committee. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

8. Consideration of Building Committee action regarding new space for municipal offices and recommendation for Town Hall maintenance

Building Committee Chair William Graves appeared and briefed the Board on the actions of the Building Committee at their most recent meeting. These actions centered on two primary topics:

- a. Municipal offices – new construction option.** Mr. Graves indicated that the Building Committee agreed with the Selectboard's assessment that the voters should be provided with two options for a new location for municipal offices. The Building Committee also agreed that it would be beneficial to have a detailed and researched estimate on cost for the new construction option. The Committee determined, however, that it would be preferable for this estimate to be performed by the same firm that performs the feasibility study on the McIndoe Falls Academy, rather than by Mr. Graves or any other member of the Committee. The Committee has reviewed some possible sites, but has not determined a suitable location as yet.
- b. Ongoing maintenance of the Town Hall.** Mr. Graves reported that the Committee agreed that although the Town Hall is not an optimal choice for location of municipal offices, it should be retained by the Town and maintained for some useful function. A suggested function would involve restoration for seasonal use, with a Recreation Committee appointed to oversee its care. The Recreation Committee could rent the space for functions to offset the cost of maintenance. This model has seen success in other Vermont towns. The Committee agreed to formally recommend that the Selectboard actively pursue necessary maintenance on the historic Town Hall building by preventing further deterioration, painting, roofing, repairing the brick foundation, and demolishing the unnecessary attached masonry building, and that the Selectboard appropriate a budget of \$35,000 in 2017, and \$7,500 per year in 2018 through 2021 for this purpose.

Mr. Graves also indicated that Committee member Laurajean Stewart has suggested that the Selectboard consider use of the Esden Fund as a possible source of funding for Town Hall repairs and maintenance. Mr. Graves, who is a member of the Trustees of Public Funds, but appeared at this meeting as Building Committee Chair only, indicated that the Selectboard has full control over the gains (increase in value, interest, etc.) on the original bequest, but suggested that the Selectboard may consider asking the voters for their input on whether this would be a suitable use of the Esden Fund. Discussion ensued.

9. Correspondence from Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation regarding noise complaint at Transfer Station

- Mr. Roberts read an email indicating that the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources received a complaint that on October 24, 2016 “an All Metals truck came to Barnet Transfer Station at 0200HRS and made a tremendous amount of noise picking up a load – truck was observed by complainant as it left the site.” The report indicates that “the complainant called All Metals directly the next day and was told that they can operate at that time of day.” The email states that “the Solid Waste Program has determined that this was not a violation of the solid waste facility permit because the certification only regulates hours that the facility is open to the public” but that “restrictions more stringent than the certification’s may be applied through a contract.”
- Mr. Roberts also read an email from Transfer Station & Recycling Center Supervisor Bruce Marston. Mr. Marston indicates that he contacted All Metals and requested that they perform pick-ups only during business hours (Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.). All Metals agreed to this restriction and indicated that they have put a note in the Town’s file to indicate this.

10. Correspondence from Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation regarding draft General Permit 3-9007 for Stormwater Discharges from the Transportation Separate Storm Sewer System (TS4 General Permit)

The Board reviewed an email and attached notice providing public notice of the draft General Permit 3-9007 for Stormwater Discharges from the Transportation Separate Storm Sewer System (TS4 General Permit). The email indicates that, “the draft TS4 General Permit covers stormwater discharges from all Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) owned and controlled impervious surfaces. The Transportation Separate Storm Sewer System (TS4) General Permit combines the post-construction operational stormwater requirements for VTrans associated with regulated small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s); industrial activities, commonly regulated under the Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP); and previously permitted, new, redeveloped, and expanded impervious surface, commonly regulated under State Operational Stormwater permits.” Discussion ensued.

- The Board instructed Mr. Chase to contact the Vermont Agency of Transportation to determine what effect this permit will have on the Town, and what action may be required of the Town.

11. Other business

No other business was discussed.

12. Outstanding check warrants

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

13. Adjournment

Mr. Bunnell moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____ Town Clerk