

**MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2017**

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: Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, and Kevin Daniels.

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held March 13, 2017

Mr. Bunnell moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held March 13, 2017. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

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

Mr. Chase did not appear at this meeting.

3. Consideration of 2017 mowing of town properties

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt indicated that he had spoken to Jeremy Bean of J & B Property Maintenance, per the Board's request at their previous meeting. Mr. Bean quoted a price of \$2,600 for the 2017 season. This is a \$100 increase compared with 2016. Mr. Heisholt indicated that he also spoke with Dennis McLam, who for the past several years has performed mowing for the Harvey's Lake Beach, the field at the Harvey's Lake Beach, and the landfill. Mr. McLam quoted prices at the same amounts as 2016: \$85.00 for each mowing at the beach (mowed thirteen times in 2016), \$50.00 for each mowing at the beach field (mowed once in 2016), and \$50.00 per hour for the landfill (six hours in 2016). Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Bunnell moved to accept the quotes of Mr. Bean and Mr. McLam, and to hire these two contractors to perform mowing of Town properties in 2017 under the same terms as in 2016. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

4. Consideration of quotes for financing of dump truck purchase

Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt discussed financing for the dump truck the Board agreed to purchase at their regular meeting held January 23, 2017. The total cost of the truck, body, and equipment is \$140,695. The Truck Fund has a current balance of \$96,600, including the 2017 appropriation. Based on this information, Mr. Heisholt requested interest rate quotes for financing \$50,000. Bids were solicited from Community National Bank, Passumpsic Savings Bank, and Union Bank. Bids were received from Passumpsic Savings Bank and Union Bank. Mr. Heisholt also included the standard rate for the State of Vermont's Municipal Equipment Loan Fund for consideration. All rates under consideration were as follows:

- Passumpsic Savings Bank: 2.75% fixed
- Union Bank: 1.27% fixed
- Municipal Equipment Loan Fund: 2.00% fixed

Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Bunnell moved to accept the bid of Union Bank. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

5. Correspondence from State of Vermont Wetlands Program with proposal for biological assessment of wetlands adjacent to Harvey's Lake Beach

The Board reviewed an email from Charlie Hohn of the Wetlands Program (Program). The email indicates that the Program conducts biological assessments of wetlands throughout the state each

summer. The assessments include identifying plants within a plot area, collecting water samples, and sampling the soil with a small soil auger. One of the wetlands the Program hopes to assess in the summer of 2017 is directly adjacent to Harvey's Lake Beach; the Program therefore requests access to the area. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to approve the Program's access to the wetlands area adjacent to Harvey's Lake Beach as proposed in the above-described email.

6. 2017 liquor license renewal application of Paul's Whistle Stop

The Board reviewed and approved the 2017 liquor license renewal application of Paul's Whistle Stop.

7. Applications for Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits

The Board reviewed and approved the fleet applications of Agri-Mark Inc DBA Cabot Creamery, Carroll E. Ainsworth, Beacon Sales Acquisitions Inc., Brian Tallmadge/BIT Enterprises, and Limlaw Chipping & Land Clearing Inc.; the Board reviewed and approved the single vehicle application of Kennedy Excavation.

8. Appearances by members of the public

a. Resident Kevin Daniels regarding mailboxes damaged by Town equipment. Mr. Daniels, who resides at 15 Granger Street, appeared to inquire about the Town's policy regarding mailboxes damaged by Town equipment. Mr. Daniels reported that Town plow trucks have struck and damaged his mailbox twice this winter. Discussion ensued.

- The Board indicated that the Town does not have a written policy, but the unwritten policy is that the Town is not responsible for the repair or replacement of objects within the Town's right of way that are damaged by Town equipment. The Board also communicated that it is understood that the Post Office requires the placement of mailboxes in the right of way, and therefore the Board will take action through training of personnel to avoid the recurrence of Mr. Daniels's complaint.

9. Other business

a. McIndoe Falls Academy feasibility study progress. Ms. Ford reported that Arnold & Scangas, the Town's architectural firm for the project, will be at the Academy on Friday, March 31, 2017 to look at the septic system. The Town's backhoe will also be present to excavate the area to view the septic cap, etc. Ms. Ford also reported that an administrative public meeting with Arnold & Scangas is planned, but not yet scheduled.

10. Outstanding check warrants

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

11. Adjournment

Mr. Bunnell moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____ Town Clerk