

**MINUTES – SPECIAL SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018**

Meeting convened at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Barnet Town Clerk's Office.

Board members present: Jeremy Roberts, Dylan Ford, and Benjamin Gates.

Others present: Town Agent Steven Adler, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, Jonathan Carpenter, John Cook, Sarah Cook, Carrie Dunbar, Kenneth Faris, Mary Faris, Frank Jannarone, Kathleen Monroe, and Janice Narey.

1. Consideration of Barnet School District property acquisition question, including review of map of school district property and decision on proposed property lines of proposed conveyance

- Mr. Roberts indicated that this meeting had been warned to discuss the possibility of the Barnet School District transferring a portion of its real estate to the Town of Barnet before the former merges with the Caledonia Cooperative School District (CCSD) on July 1, 2018. According to the Final Report of the Act 46 Study Committee, and the vote of the voters of the Town of Barnet on May 23, 2017, the Barnet School District will no longer be a legal entity as of July 1, 2018, and all of its assets will transfer to the CCSD.
- The Selectboard presented a map of a proposed subdivision of the school property. This was a school property map provided by the School Board, onto which the Selectboard had drawn approximate bounds of a proposed subdivision. In the proposal, the School District would retain approximately 15 acres, consisting of the school and its nearest grounds, including the playground and the septic system. It excludes approximately 83 acres, which includes most of Kid Row and the recreational fields near the eastern boundary of the current 98-acre parcel. Mr. Roberts indicated that the proposed subdivision would intend to retain as much of the property as possible under local control, regardless of whether the Town used the property for any specific purpose in the immediate future.
- Discussion was had about the maintenance of Kid Row. It was clarified that Kid Row is a town highway, so it will be maintained by the Town regardless of ownership of the parcel, unless the road is discontinued.
- Town Attorney Steven Adler indicated that in order to transact the proposed subdivision and transfer, a surveyor may need to be hired, or if there is sufficient physical monumentation, may not be necessary. In either case, it may be possible to complete the transaction before July 1. Mr. Adler indicated that if necessary a deed based on physical monumentation could be filed prior to July 1, then a corrective deed filed after a survey is conducted. Discussion ensued.
- Discussion was had about what the Selectboard's response will be if the School Board declines to transfer the property. Mr. Adler indicated that the acreage contribution of the Barnet School District was not an issue of public concern in the CCSD agreement.
- Discussion was had about a 4.5-acre parcel along the western portion of the school property's frontage on West Barnet Road. It had been suggested in previous discussions that this may be a buildable lot. Mr. Gates expressed his concern regarding line-of-sight problems with this lot's access onto West Barnet Road. Mr. Adler indicated that the School Board has been opposed to any activity that would increase non-school-related traffic on Kid Row, such as access to this 4.5-acre lot from Kid Row.
- Discussion was had about the school's water system, which is located on the Town's proposed property in the Selectboard's proposed subdivision. The Selectboard suggested that an easement could be granted for water rights.

- Discussion was had about a possible easement for use of the walking trails on the property, which fall on the Town's proposed property in the Selectboard's proposed subdivision. Resident Carrie Dunbar spoke, indicating that she opposes the granting of any easements, suggesting that the Town should pursue rental arrangements instead. The Selectboard agreed to pursue rental arrangements rather than easements.
- The Selectboard agreed to request that Mr. Adler attend the School Board's meeting, occurring on the same evening as this meeting, to present to them the Selectboard's proposed subdivision and transfer of school district property.

2. Other business

No other business was discussed.

3. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____ Town Clerk