

**MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING  
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT  
MONDAY, JULY 23, 2018**

**Meeting convened at 7:00 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:** Road Foreman Mark Chase, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Leah Benedict, Neil Benedict, Shawn Hilliker, and James MacDonald.

**1. Consideration of approval of minutes of public hearing held July 9, 2018 and of regular meeting held July 9, 2018**

- Mr. Gates moved to approve as presented the minutes of the public hearing held July 9, 2018. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.
- Mr. Gates moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held July 9, 2018. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

Ms. Ford noted the receipt of an email from Dam Committee member David Price regarding the minutes of the June 25, 2018 meeting. The email indicates that under item number 3, the minutes indicate that Alternative 2 was accepted, whereas Alternative 3 was actually accepted. Ms. Ford indicated that Mr. Price's correction is accurate. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Gates moved to note on the approved minutes of the June 25, 2018 meeting, under item number 3, that Alternative 3 was actually accepted, not Alternative 2. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

**2. Appearance by resident Neil Benedict regarding property line adjacent to Town Hall/Fire Station property**

Mr. Benedict and wife Leah Benedict appeared to discuss the Board's recent discussion and communication regarding the Benedicts' shared property boundary with the Town Hall/Fire Station property. The Benedicts objected to the manner with which the Board and the Town Agent approached them to execute the Board's decision relating to this matter at their June 4, 2018 regular meeting. The Benedicts commented that: they had not spoken to any Town representatives regarding this matter prior to receiving what they believed to be a contentious letter from the Town Agent; Town representatives should have been more diligent in attempting to contact them verbally; the letter demands that the Benedicts fence should be removed, whereas the Selectboard minutes only require that it be moved; the Benedicts should not be singled out with regard to parking vehicles at the Fire Station; the Benedicts do not object to moving their fence or to complying with the provisions of the Quit Claim Deeds referenced by the Town; the Benedicts would like to ensure that monumentation of the property lines is maintained after the Fire Station is removed. Discussion ensued.

- The Board apologized for any miscommunication or unintended contentious tone. They communicated that they simply intended to create a record of the communication.
- The Board agreed that any Fire Station parking restrictions would apply to all vehicles, not just the Benedicts'.
- The Board agreed to create monumentation of property lines when the Fire Station is removed.
- Ms. Ford moved to amend the language in the Town's letter to the Benedicts to read "your fence needs to be moved to follow your property line" rather than "your fence needs to be removed." Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote.

### 3. Appearances by members of the public

a. **Appearance by resident Shawn Hilliker regarding use of Town Hall.** Mr. Hilliker appeared to request to use the Town Hall for youth basketball events. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to request that Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt investigate the property and casualty insurance implications of allowing the requested use of the Town Hall.

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

a. **Review of Vermont Agency of Transportation Structure Inspection, Inventory, and Appraisal Sheets.** The Board agreed to table discussion of this matter.

#### b. Other business

- **Summer projects.** Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department has been spending time the past few weeks working in the gravel pit with the gravel crusher. He also indicated that the roadside mower has been in frequent operation.
- **New chipper costs.** Mr. Chase reported on his investigation into costs for a new chipper. He indicated that the Town's current chipper is a 10" drum style. Newer chippers are only available in 12" or 15" style. Mr. Chase obtained a quote for a new 15" chipper at \$44,000 minus the trade-in value of the Town's chipper. Discussion ensued.
  - The Board instructed Mr. Chase to investigate the cost of a 12" style diesel chipper.
- **New truck costs.** Mr. Chase reported on his investigation into the costs of a new dump truck. He obtained quotes from R.R. Charlebois for ten-wheel dump trucks, including chassis and body, at \$120,000 for Freightliner and \$126,00 for Western Star. Discussion ensued.
  - The Board instructed Mr. Chase to seek quotes for International and Mack dump trucks.
- **FEMA projects.** The Board reviewed quotes for three projects relating to a July 1, 2017 flooding event. Quotes were submitted as summarized below.
  - **Carter Street retaining wall project:**
    - C & C Bunnell Excavating LLC: \$17,250
    - Mathews Excavating: \$17,655
    - Raymond Heath Construction, Inc: \$24,640
    - Shane Stevenson General Contracting: \$30,516
  - **Denio Road culvert project:**
    - Mathews Excavating: \$32,534.50
    - Raymond Heath Construction, Inc: \$82,913
    - Shane Stevenson General Contracting: \$55,352
  - **Ferguson Road culvert project:**
    - C & C Bunnell Excavating LLC: \$26,780
    - Mathews Excavating: \$18,837
    - Raymond Heath Construction, Inc: \$57,098
    - Shane Stevenson General Contracting: \$27,900

Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Gates moved to accept the proposals of Mathews Excavating for the Denio Road and Ferguson Road projects, and the proposal of C & C Bunnell Excavating LLC for the Carter Street project, and to require a September 21, 2018 completion date for all projects. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

## **5. Consideration of adoption of revised Zoning Bylaw**

The Board reviewed the proposed revised Zoning Bylaw.

- Mr. Gates moved to adopt the revised Zoning Bylaw as presented. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

## **6. Consideration of lease agreement with Lake Harvey Association for “greeter station” at Harvey’s Lake boat access**

The Board reviewed a proposed lease agreement between the Town and the Lake Harvey Association, which grants the Town use of the “greeter station” and requires that the Town provide insurance for the structure. Discussion ensued.

- Ms. Ford moved to allow Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt to sign the agreement. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote.
- Ms. Ford moved to insure the “greeter station” as required by the agreement. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote.

## **7. Correspondence from Vermont Department of Health regarding recommendation for Town Health Officer**

The Board reviewed correspondence indicating that the term of Health Officer Theodore Faris is expiring. Mr. Heisholt indicated that Mr. Faris had expressed that he does not seek another term as Health Officer. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to seek a recommendation from Fire & Rescue Chief Ronald Morse.

## **8. Consideration of certification of 2018 property tax rates**

Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt indicated that property tax rates were not yet prepared.

- The Board agreed to table this matter.

## **9. Other business**

- a. Recycling Center project.** The Board discussed the proposed addition to the Recycling Center, addressing some logistical planning, and agreeing to commence work at the conclusion of the gravel crushing project.

## **10. Outstanding check warrants**

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

## **11. Consideration of negotiations with CALEX Ambulance Service regarding ambulance services contract arrangement**

- Ms. Ford moved that the Board make a specific finding, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1)(A), that premature public knowledge of discussion concerning the proposed CALEX ambulance services contract would clearly place the Town of Barnet at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote.
- Mr. Gates moved that the Board enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1)(A) to discuss the proposed CALEX ambulance services contract, 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 8:35 p.m. Those present in executive session: Mr. Roberts, Ms. Ford, Mr. Gates, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.
- Mr. Gates moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session 8:40 p.m.
- Mr. Gates moved to accept as presented the proposed ambulance services contract. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

**12. Adjournment**

Mr. Gates moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

*A true copy.*

*Attest:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Town Clerk*