

**MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING  
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 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, Lister John Cook, Highway Department Employee Thomas Gould, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.

**1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held September 10, 2018**

Mr. Gates noted that the draft minutes do not list him as present, whereas he was actually present. Mr. Roberts noted the receipt of an email from Fire & Rescue Chief Ronald Morse, indicating that on item 2.a., “The draft minutes should be amended to indicate the vehicle in question belongs to the State of VT, Hazardous Materials Response Team and not Lyndonville Fire Department and that the State Team members will be responsible for it. Lyndonville Fire has only been housing it and no longer can accommodate it.”

- Ms. Ford moved to approve, with the corrections noted above, the minutes of the regular meeting held September 10, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote.

**2. Appearances by members of the public**

There were no appearances by members of the public.

**3. Appearance by Board of Listers regarding Grand List Errors and Omissions Certificate**

Lister John Cook appeared to present an Errors and Omissions Certificate for the 2018 Grand List. The Certificate indicates that the Grand List is changed with respect to SPAN 033-010-11061, owned by Vermont Transco. The real value of this parcel is changed from \$5,266,700 to \$4,429,300. Mr. Cook indicated that this change, which was caused by an unknown and unintentional use of a wrong value for the fair market value, will affect a decrease in Town General and Local Agreement tax of \$5,077.40 and a decrease in Non-Residential Education tax of \$11,971.47. Discussion ensued.

- The Board acknowledged the described Errors and Omissions Certificate and change in the 2018 Grand List.

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

**a. Consideration of purchase of new chipper.** Mr. Chase indicated that Essex Equipment has offered \$2,000 in trade-in value for the Town’s chipper. Relating to the chippers considered at the previous meeting, this offer would reduce the overall cost for the used gasoline-engine chipper to \$21,900 and the overall cost for the new diesel-engine chipper to \$34,950. Mr. Chase indicated that Champlain Valley Equipment has not inspected the Town’s chipper nor provided an offer for trade-in value; their prices remain unchanged. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Gates moved to purchase the used gasoline-engine chipper from Essex Equipment, opting to retain the Town’s current chipper for future sale rather than trading it in. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

**b. Consideration of purchase of new dump truck.** Mr. Chase indicated that he had received a trade-in value offer from McDevitt Trucks, in the amount of \$5,000. With this latest offer included, the current bids for the purchase of a new dump truck are summarized as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Make</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Trade-In Offer</u>	<u>Price (with trade)</u>
Clark’s Truck Center	International	HV	\$20,000	\$91,886
Clark’s Truck Center	International	HX (Cummins)	\$20,000	\$102,951

McDevitt Trucks	Western Star	4700	\$5,000	\$117,060
Peterbilt of Vermont	Peterbilt	567	N/A	\$132,278
R.R. Charlebois	Freightliner	114	\$8,000	\$111,700
R.R. Charlebois	Western Star	4700	\$8,000	\$117,730

Mr. Chase indicated that each of these prices reflect the inclusion of an automatic transmission; opting instead for a manual transmission would decrease each of the prices by approximately \$10,000. Discussion ensued.

The Board also discussed the purchase of a body for the truck under consideration. Mr. Chase reported that no new information had been submitted with regard to bids for bodies: all of the bid information from the previous meeting remains applicable. These bids are summarized below:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Make</u>	<u>Price</u>
H.P. Fairfield	Everest	\$74,260
Viking	Viking	\$60,750
Tenco	Tenco	\$58,956

- Mr. Gates moved to purchase the Western Star truck with standard transmission and drum brakes from McDevitt Trucks with trade-in of the Town's dump truck #006 (2003 Freightliner) and to purchase a Tenco body for this truck. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.
- c. **Consideration of maintenance of Barnet School property and proposed indemnification and hold harmless agreement.** Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt indicated that he had sent the draft agreement to the Towns of Walden and Waterford, with a copy to Caledonia Cooperative School District School Director Louis Bushey. He indicated that he had received a response from the Town of Walden, who confirmed that they no longer provide school maintenance services. Discussion ensued.
- d. **Review of Vermont Agency of Transportation Structure Inspection, Inventory, and Appraisal Sheets.** The Board tabled discussion of the inspection, inventory, and appraisal sheets, but discussed bridge maintenance in general terms. Ms. Ford indicated that Bridge #37, over the South Peacham Brook in West Barnet, was visited and inspected at a recent meeting pertaining to the Harvey's Lake Dam project. She indicated that the bridge requires maintenance, and that the Town will be receiving a recommendation regarding the bridge from Dr. Richard Downer, a Federal Emergency Management Agency engineer. The Board agreed that the process of targeting bridges for maintenance and repairs should be prioritized.
- e. **Correspondence from Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation regarding Municipal Roads General Permit.** The Board reviewed an email and attached approved permit certifying that the Town of Barnet meets the criteria necessary for inclusion under General Permit 3-9040. Discussion ensued.
- f. **Consideration of quote for new computer.** The Board read an email from RB Technologies regarding the quote provided for a new computer for the Town Garage. It was revealed that the original quote did not include a monitor; the revised quote including monitor increases the cost by \$139. Discussion ensued.
  - The Board agreed to re-affirm the purchase of the computer, and to also purchase a monitor at the quoted price.
- g. **Other business.**
  - **Grant opportunity for ditch work.** Mr. Chase reported on his meeting with Doug Morton of Northeastern Vermont Development Association. Mr. Morton discussed a grant opportunity for ditch-work in hydrologically connected road segments. The grant

would provide a maximum of \$24,000 at 80% state funding. Mr. Morton recommended utilizing the grant for the top of Cloud Brook Road and Symns Pond Road. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Gates moved to apply for the above-referenced grant for projects on Cloud Brook Road and Symns Pond Road. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.
- **Transfer Station metal dumpster.** Mr. Roberts asked about the status of the metal dumpster project. Mr. Chase reported that the project is still planned for this year, but other road-related projects have been prioritized.
- **West Main Street culvert and drainage project.** Mr. Gates asked about the status of the planned project near the West Barnet Quick Stop. Mr. Chase reported that he has received non-binding informal statements from the Vermont Agency of Transportation that the project will be approved, and has instructed excavation contractor Daryl Mathews to schedule the work. Mr. Mathews has scheduled the project for mid-October.

#### **5. Consideration of asbestos inspection at Town Hall/former Fire Station**

Mr. Heisholt discussed the decision of the Board at their previous meeting in the context of the Board's purchasing policy. Mr. Heisholt suggested that the Board should seek a second estimate for the inspection, to ensure compliance with the policy. To this end, Claypoint Associates has been contacted with a request for a proposal. Discussion ensued.

#### **6. Consideration of Animal Bite Report and response by Health Officer, relating to incident at 821 US Route 5 North**

The Board reviewed an animal bite report received from Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital on September 11, 2018. The report indicates that an individual was bitten by a domestic pig owned by Billy Noyes at 821 US Route 5 North. The Board also reviewed notes submitted in response to the incident by Deputy Health Officer Maurice Roberts. Mr. Roberts indicates that at the advice of the Vermont State Veterinarian, the pig's owner was instructed to confine the animal for fifteen days and monitor it for abnormal behavior, which may suggest rabies infection. Discussion ensued.

#### **7. Correspondence from Ben's Mill Trust regarding dedication of historic marker at Ben's Mill**

The Board read an invitation to the dedication of a historic marker at Ben's Mill on October 5, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. The Board agreed that one or more Board member would attend the event.

#### **8. Correspondence from Peacham Fall Fondo regarding bicycle ride event**

The Board reviewed an email and attachments describing a bicycle ride event occurring in the towns of Peacham, Barnet, and Danville on October 13, 2018. Mr. Roberts indicated that he had spoken one of the event representatives via telephone. The group organizing the event advises that a large group of bicyclists will be traveling on certain portions of Barnet roads, and requests that road maintenance activities be scheduled to accommodate safe bicycle travel on the date of the event.

#### **9. Applications for Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permit**

The Board reviewed and approved the fleet application of Grizzly Mountain Trucking, LLC.

#### **10. Other business**

- a. **Chair absence.** Mr. Roberts indicated that he will be absent for several meetings following a medical procedure planned for December 3, 2018.

#### **11. Outstanding check warrants**

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

**12. Adjournment**

Mr. Gates moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

*A true copy.*

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