

**MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2019**

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Barnet Town Clerk’s Office.

Board members present: Dylan Ford, Benjamin Gates (presiding co-chair), and Mark Jefferson.

Other Town officials and employees present: Town Agent Steven Adler, Road Foreman Mark Chase, Planning Commission/Zoning Board member Bruce Denio, Highway Department employee Thomas Gould, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.

Members of the public present: Jonathan Carpenter.

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held October 28, 2019

- Ms. Ford moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held October 28, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

2. Comment on agenda items, and any other business, by members of the public

a. Planning Commission/Zoning Board Member Bruce Denio regarding spending on municipal office project

Mr. Denio requested that the Board provide updates at Board meetings regarding Town funds expended on the current municipal office project.

- The Board discussed making a financial report available at meetings or directing inquirers to the project website.

b. Steven Adler regarding Harvey’s Lake water level lowering

Mr. Adler asked about the status of the Town’s annual lowering of the water level of Harvey’s Lake.

- The Board indicated that they had intended to perform water level lowering according to the usual schedule, but the State of Vermont had intervened and instructed the Town to cancel the water level alteration.

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

a. Consideration of, and take any action on, proposed Snow Plowing and Maintenance Services Agreement with Caledonia Cooperative School District

The Board reviewed the agreement, as signed by the School Board Chair Heather Gonyaw. This is the same version of the agreement as signed by the Selectboard September 23, 2019.

b. Other business

i. Shoulders on new paved surfaces

Mr. Chase reported that surfacing of shoulders on all newly paved roadway is complete.

ii. New guardrails

Mr. Chase reported that guardrail installations are complete on Old Silo Road and Knights Lane.

iii. Truck inspections

Mr. Chase reported that Dump Trucks #001 and #005 have passed State inspections, and that Dump Truck #003 is awaiting inspection.

iv. Dump Truck #003 repair

Mr. Chase reported that Dump Truck #003 has returned from the repair shop.

v. Dump Truck #001 repair

Mr. Chase reported that Dump Truck #001 is currently in the repair shop for repair of cracks in its body.

vi. Winter equipment preparations

Mr. Chase reported that all equipment has been prepared for winter road maintenance.

vii. Tree debris clean-up

Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department continues to retrieve and remove tree limb debris on roadways resulting from the October 31, 2019 wind-storm.

viii. Monument Circle/Anderson Street patch-paving

Mr. Chase asked for the Board's direction with regard to patch-paving the portions of Monument Circle and Anderson Streets that were disturbed for recent repair and maintenance of Fire District #2's water distribution system. Discussion ensued.

- The Board instructed Mr. Chase to call Pike Industries to inquire if they are available to patch-pave these sections of road.

4. Other business presented by other Town officers

There was no other business presented by other Town officers.

5. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Fire District #2 regarding access to property on Anderson Street

The Board reviewed email correspondence indicating that the Connecticut River Conservancy (Ron Rhodes, River Steward) does not object to the work the Fire District intends to clear brush and trees growing over the Fire District's water distribution system, as discussed at the previous Board meeting. Discussion ensued.

6. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Zoning Administrative Officer regarding permit for Town Garage storage sheds

The Board reviewed a letter and copy of approved permit #36-19, for two storage sheds with connecting roof.

7. Consideration of, and take any action on, appointment of Planning Commission/Zoning Board members

No new information was available regarding recruitment of a Planning Commission/Zoning Board member to fill the current vacancy.

8. Consideration of, and take any action, correspondence from Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District regarding 2020 hazardous waste collection date

The Board reviewed an email proposing a tentative date for the Barnet hazardous waste collection for Saturday, August 8, 2020 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

- The Board agreed to approve the proposed date for hazardous waste collection.

9. Consideration of, and take any action on, proposed upgrade of Windows 7 computers

The Board reviewed an email quote from RB Technologies, with pricing updates from their April 2019 quote. Because Windows 7 support is expiring, it is recommended that the Town Clerk's computer be upgraded to Windows 10 and the Listers computer be replaced with a new machine running Windows 10. Costs are estimated at \$879 for equipment and \$1,080 for labor. Discussion ensued.

- Ms. Ford moved to upgrade the Town Clerk’s computer to Windows 10 and replace the Listers computer with a new machine running Windows 10, as per the quote from RB Technologies. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

10. Consideration of, and take any action on, 2020 health insurance benefits

The Board continued their discussion of 2020 health insurance benefits.

- No action taken.

11. Outstanding check warrants

- The Board signed all outstanding check warrants.

12. Other business presented by Selectboard

a. November 25 meeting re-scheduled

The Board announced that its November 25, 2019 regular meeting would be re-scheduled to December 2, 2019.

b. Town Office project update

Mr. Gates provided a brief update on recent activities on the municipal office project. He indicated that an inspection team including himself, Cynthia Stuart, and Stephen Pitkin visited four sites for possible new construction. He also indicated that a team including himself, Cynthia Stuart, Shirley Warden, and Benjamin Heisholt plan to visit newly constructed municipal offices in Moretown and Waitsfield on November 13.

c. Fire District #2 gravel use

The Board discussed use of Town gravel by Fire District #2 for their recent water distribution system repair/maintenance project on Monument Circle/Anderson Street. Approximately 28 cubic yards were used by the Fire District; this in-kind material was not included in the grant application associated with the project.

- The Board agreed to charge Fire District #2 \$300 (\$150 for each of two 14-cubic-yard loads) for use of the Town’s gravel.

13. Consideration of Highway Department personnel matters

- Ms. Ford moved to enter executive session to discuss Highway Department personnel matters, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(1)(3). Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:15 p.m. Those present in executive session: Ms. Ford, Mr. Gates, Mr. Jefferson, Road Foreman Mark Chase, Highway Department employee Thomas Gould, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.
- Ms. Ford moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 9:17 p.m.
- Ms. Ford moved to terminate the employment of Highway Department employee Thomas Gould effective November 12, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote.

14. Adjournment

- Ms. Ford moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____ Town Clerk