

**MINUTES – REMOTE REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2020**

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. via GoToMeeting telephone/video conference. There was no physical meeting place for this meeting. This meeting was audio recorded via GoToMeeting.

Board members participating via GoToMeeting telephone/video conference: Dylan Ford, Benjamin Gates (presiding co-chair), and Mark Jefferson.

Other Town officials and employees participating via GoToMeeting telephone/video conference: Road Foreman Mark Chase and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.

Members of the public participating via GoToMeeting telephone or video conference: Jonathan Carpenter, Jane Casavant, Stephen Casavant, Janette Hoague, Laurie Jefferson, and Robert Patneau.

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held September 14, 2020

Ms. Ford moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held September 14, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

2. Consideration of, and take any action on, Animal Control Complaint regarding dogs kept at Anderson Street

The Board read an email and a formal complaint from Church Street resident Lisa Bowden. These complain that several dogs kept at 205 Anderson Street create excessive noise by barking throughout the day and night. The report indicates that this problem has persisted throughout the spring and summer. The Board noted that a similar complaint was received during the summer from abutters of the 205 Anderson Street property, but that the Board did not have the name of the dogs’ owner at the time and therefore issued a violation and penalty to the incorrect party. Since that time, five dogs have been licensed at the property, all owned by Sherry Barrett. Robert Patneau, owner of the property, and Janette Hoague appeared remotely at this meeting. They indicated that Mr. Patneau is in the process of selling the property and currently resides out of state. Discussion ensued.

- Ms. Ford moved to issue a \$50 fine plus \$25 delivery fee to Sherry Barrett for violation of the Animal Control Ordinance with regard to excessive noise, and to send her a notice of violation via Caledonia County Sheriff’s hand delivery, including with the notice a copy of the Animal Control Ordinance with indication that the Ordinance allows no acceptable timeframe for excessive noise. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

3. Appearance by Road Foreman Mark Chase regarding Highway Department matters; take any action

a. Consideration of, and take any action on, quotes for new dump truck purchase

The Board reviewed the quotes as discussed at the previous Board meeting. These are summarized below:

Cab/Chassis

<u>Vendor:</u>	<u>Make/Model</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>Trade-In</u>	<u>Net Price</u>
R.R. Charlebois	Freightliner 114SD (auto.)	\$124,068	\$19,000	\$104,710
R.R. Charlebois	Western Star 4700 SF (auto.)	\$132,008	\$19,000	\$112,650
McDevitt Trucks	Western Star 4700 SF (18 spd.)	\$115,921	\$4,000	\$111,921
McDevitt Trucks	Western Star 4700 SF (auto.)	\$125,747	\$4,000	\$121,747
Clark Trucks	International HV613 (auto.)	\$117,959	\$28,000	\$89,959

Body/Plow

<u>Make</u>	<u>Price</u>
Tenco	\$64,875
Viking	\$63,300

Mr. Gates reported that the Board did not receive any competitive bids subsequent to the previous Board meeting. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Jefferson moved to purchase the Western Star 4700 SF automatic cab/chassis from R.R. Charlebois, trading in the Town's current dump truck for a net price of \$112,650. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.
- Mr. Jefferson moved to purchase the Tenco body/plow for \$64,875. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

b. Other business

i. Bridge Street bridge project

Mr. Chase reported that the Bridge Street bridge project is complete and resulted in a much-improved road surface.

ii. Loader bucket repairs

Mr. Chase reported that the bucket of newer loader (#10) is at Robco to be rebuilt and that the bucket of the older loader (#11) was recently repaired by Ted Faris Welding.

iii. Street sign theft

Mr. Chase reported that there has been another rash of street sign theft.

iv. Political signs painted on pavement

Mr. Chase reported that political signs have been painted on several paved Town Highways. Discussion ensued.

- The Board instructed the Highway Department to paint over the political signs.

v. Routine seasonal maintenance

Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department continues to perform routine seasonal maintenance, including cleaning ditches and culverts. He reported that grading has been postponed due to dry conditions.

vi. Town Garage flag lighting

Mr. Jefferson reported that he had received a complaint that the flag at the Town Garage is not lighted or dimly lighted at nighttime.

- The Board instructed Mr. Chase to inspect and repair the flag light problem.

4. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Town Agent Steven Adler regarding speed limit on West Barnet Road

The Board reviewed a letter from Town Agent Steven Adler recommending that the Board obtain some traffic data on which to base its decision to lower the speed limit on West Barnet Road near the Barnet School, and providing advice on how to do so. The Board also reviewed the current speed limit ordinance, which was adopted in 1977 and amended in 1987. Ms. Ford discussed her conversations with Mr. Adler and Constable David Stevenson regarding this matter. She reported that Mr. Stevenson indicated he had monitored speed of traffic at the site prior to the Board's decision to enforce to the 1987 speed limit

ordinance for this section of town highway and that he would seek to locate the recorded data from that study. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to instruct Mr. Stevenson to monitor and record speed of traffic on West Barnet Road in the vicinity of Kid Row for two hours per day for four days.

5. Other business presented by members of the public

a. Fire District #2 Prudential Committee Chair Jonathan Carpenter regarding Church Street study

Mr. Carpenter reported that Fire District #2's engineering contractor will be at the Church Street bridge on Wednesday, September 30 to inspect for ledge on both sides of the bridge. The project is expected to require closing one lane of traffic at most.

6. Other business presented by other town officers

There was no other business presented by other town officers.

7. Consideration of, and take any action on, next steps in process of sale of Town Hall property

Ms. Ford discussed her meeting with surveyor Andrew Dussault. She reported that she plans to meet with abutting landowners Wednesday, September 30.

8. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Department of Health regarding expiration of term of Deputy Health Officer

Ms. Ford reported that resident Emil Pollak has volunteered to serve as Deputy Health Officer.

- Ms. Ford moved to recommend Emil Pollak to serve as Barnet Deputy Health Officer. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

9. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Emergency Management regarding Local Hazard Mitigation Plan grant

The Board reviewed correspondence regarding the approval of the Town's application and the requirement to competitively procure a consultant to perform the plan update. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to inquire with Stephanie Smith of Vermont Emergency Management for a list of qualified consultants for this project.

10. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regarding Great River Hydro, LLC minimum flow release deviation

The Board reviewed a copy of letter to Great River Hydro regarding a deviation on July 15, 2020 due to an outage of a transmission line owned by the local utility.

11. Consideration of, and take any action on, Library Building maintenance

Ms. Ford discussed the status of the exterior paint on the Library Building, suggesting that the Board consider requesting bids for painting the entire exterior in the spring of 2021. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to request bids from Charles Somers, Norman Stevenson, and Christopher Yancey (Clean Cut Painting), with a submission deadline of November 1, 2020.

12. Consideration of, and take any action on, proposed food truck at Harvey's Lake beach

Ms. Ford reported that the Planning Commission/Zoning Board meets on October 5, at which time they may discuss the subject of food trucks. Discussion ensued.

13. Other business presented by Selectboard

a. Payroll timecard from boat monitor Kathy Wirthwein

The Board reviewed email correspondence from Lake Harvey Association member Karla Cornelius regarding timesheets for data entry work performed by boat monitor Kathy Wirthwein. The work involved completing data compilation spreadsheets regarding boat monitoring and vehicle usage at the boat access parking lot. The timecards total 64 hours. From these timecards \$202.50 has already been paid by the Treasurer's Office. Ms. Ford explained that these timecards were not approved by boat wash supervisor Donald Easter and the Treasurer's Office has requested the Selectboard to approve or deny and additional payment for these hours. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Jefferson moved to approve payment of an additional \$300 (total of \$502.50) from the timecards submitted for Kathy Wirthwein. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

b. Recycling Center addition update

Mr. Gates reported that the Recycling Center addition is nearly completed. Remaining tasks include application of gravel by the Highway Department and installation of lighting by Jeremy Roberts.

14. Consideration of, and take any action on, incident and public complaint involving Transfer Station/Recycling Center employee (executive session anticipated, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3))

- Ms. Ford moved to enter executive session to discuss an incident and public complaint involving a Transfer Station/Recycling Center employee pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3). Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:26 p.m. Those present in executive session: Ms. Ford, Mr. Gates, Mr. Jefferson, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.
- Mr. Gates moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:42 p.m.
- Ms. Ford moved to draft and send a letter to the complainant regarding the Selectboard's decision and future course of action as discussed in executive session. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

15. Adjournment

Ms. Ford moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____ *Town Clerk*