

**MINUTES – REMOTE REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING  
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT  
MONDAY, MAY 24, 2021**

**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:** Mona Marceau and Ross Page.

**1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held May 10, 2021**

- Ms. Ford moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held May 10, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

**2. Consideration of approval of minutes of special meeting held May 18, 2021**

- Ms. Ford moved to approve as presented the minutes of the special meeting held May 18, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

**3. Appearance by Ross Page regarding St. J Snow Blazers snowmobile club's request for snowmobile access on Meeting House Hill**

Ross Page appeared on behalf of the St. J Snow Blazers to request snowmobile access on Meeting House Hill for the forthcoming 2021-2022 snowmobile season. Mr. Page indicated that all but one of the property owners on Meeting House Hill had indicated that they would have no objection to the Board's approval of this access. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Jefferson moved to approve snowmobile access on Meeting House Hill for the forthcoming 2021-2022 snowmobile season. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

**4. Other business presented by members of the public**

**a. Local Fiscal Recovery Funds from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)**

Ms. Ford discussed her viewing of a Northeastern Vermont Development Association remote conference and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt discussed his viewing of a Vermont League of Cities & Towns remote conference, both relating to the distribution and administration of local fiscal recovery funds from ARPA. Ms. Ford and Mr. Heisholt indicated that much remains unknown about the funding, including the exact amount that will be awarded to Barnet and some of the parameters regarding allowable uses of the funds.

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

**a. Consideration of, and take any action on, paving of Church Street and Monument Circle in connection with Fire District #2 water infrastructure project**

Mr. Chase reported that Pike Industries and Blaktop have visited the site to evaluate for a paving quote. Pike Industries has indicated that they will not submit a quote; Blacktop has not yet responded.

**b. Consideration of, and take any action on, 2021 Roy Mountain Road construction project**

Mr. Chase reported that Green Mountain Power has indicated that they will cut down a few problematic trees within the Town's right-of-way on the project. The Town will perform brush cutting along the roadsides in preparation for construction work.

**c. Consideration of, and take any action on, request for reimbursement for 2019 Class 2 Roadway grant for Roy Mountain Road paving**

The Board reviewed a Request for Reimbursement form for a 2019 Roy Mountain Road Class 2 Roadway Grant.

- The Board signed the Request for Reimbursement form.

**d. Other business**

**i. New dump truck**

Mr. Chase reported that the new dump truck is at Tenco and is scheduled for commencement of installation of the body and equipment at the end of the week following this meeting. The Town expects to receive delivery of the truck approximately four to six weeks from the date installation begins. Mr. Chase also reported that the dump truck to be replaced by the new truck, #004, is no longer in use and can be scheduled for scrapping when convenient. Discussion ensued.

**ii. Dumpster packing at Transfer Station**

Mr. Jefferson asked Mr. Chase about the schedule for the Highway Department packing down the construction dumpsters at the Transfer Station. Mr. Chase indicated that this operation is performed every Monday.

**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, preparations for Memorial Day observances**

The Board discussed details of plans for Memorial Day observances to be held Sunday, May 30, 2021 at the Passumpsic Village and Barnet Village memorial monuments.

**8. Consideration of, and take any action on, scheduling of future in-person Selectboard meetings**

The Board discussed current health and safety regulations in connection with forecasting a schedule for return to in-person Selectboard meetings.

**9. Consideration of, and take any action on, applications for Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits**

The Board reviewed and approved the single vehicle applications of Robert Roy.

**10. Consideration of, and take any action on, Town Hall boundary line research, discussion, and negotiations**

- Ms. Ford moved that the Board make a specific finding, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1)(F), that premature public knowledge of discussion concerning Town Hall boundary line research, discussions, and negotiations, including confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the Board, would clearly place the Town of Barnet at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.
- Ms. Ford moved that the Board enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1)(F) to discuss Town Hall boundary line research, discussions, and negotiations, including confidential

attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the Board, as premature public disclosure of which would clearly place the Town of Barnet at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 7:55 p.m. Those present in executive session: Ms. Ford, Mr. Gates, Mr. Jefferson, 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 8:24 p.m.
- Ms. Ford moved instruct Town Attorney Steven Adler to communicate with the attorney of the Town Hall property abutters per the Board's discussion in executive session. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

## **11. Other business presented by Selectboard**

### **a. Town Clerk's Office fuel oil tank**

Mr. Gates indicated that, in the process of changing fuel providers to Irving Energy, the fuel oil tank at the Town Clerk's Office did not pass inspection. Mr. Gates indicated that Irving Energy has quoted installation of a used fuel oil tank for \$1,500.

- Mr. Jefferson moved to approve the expenditure \$1,500 to install a used fuel oil tank at the Town Clerk's Office. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

## **12. Adjournment**

Ms. Ford moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

*A true copy.*

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