

**MINUTES – REMOTE REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, JUNE 14, 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: Planning Commission/Zoning Board Chair Benjamin Adams, Road Foreman Mark Chase, Beach Committee Chair Christen Emerson, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.

Members of the public participating via GoToMeeting telephone or video conference: Jonathan Carpenter, John Cook, Sarah Cook, John Heartson, Heather Lindstrom, Kathleen Monroe, and Jackie Sprague.

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held May 24, 2021

- Ms. Ford moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held May 24, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

2. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence regarding excessive speeding on Town Highways

Mr. Gates read two emails from resident Kathleen Monroe. The first, dated June 7, 2021, requests Board discussion of community concern over vehicles speeding in West Barnet village, Harvey Mountain Road, McIndoe Falls, Pavillion Lane, and Joe’s Brook Road. The second, dated June 9, 2021, contains a compilation of comments submitted to the Barnet community Facebook page by Barnet residents regarding speeding concerns in McIndoe Falls, Harvey Mountain Road, Garland Hill, Joe’s Brook Road, West Barnet village, and Church Street. Ms. Monroe joined the meeting remotely and discussed the areas of concern and strategies for speed limit enforcement. Resident John Heartson also appeared remotely and discussed the principles of “traffic calming.”

- The Board agreed to request from the Caledonia Sheriff’s Department additional patrols and placement of the “speed cart” speedometer display.

3. Other business presented by members of the public

There was no other business presented by members of the public.

4. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Planning Commission/Zoning Board regarding appointments to fill positions for expiring Planning Commission/Zoning Board terms

Mr. Gates read a letter from the Planning Commission/Zoning Board (PC/ZB) recommending residents Elizabeth Evans and Eric Skovsted for the two PC/ZB terms expiring July 1, 2021. The Board reviewed letters from Ms. Evans and Mr. Skovsted expressing their interest in appointment. The Board also reviewed an email received from resident Jacob Rivers indicating his interest in appointment. The Board noted that Mr. Rivers’s email was received June 9, 2021, the day after the PC/ZB recommended Ms. Evans and Mr. Skovsted. PC/ZB Chair Benjamin Adams joined the meeting and discussed the appointments with the Board.

- Ms. Ford moved to appoint Elizabeth Evans and Eric Skovsted to the Planning Commission/Zoning Board for four-year terms commencing July 1, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

5. Consideration of, and take any action on, facilities repair and improvements at Harvey’s Lake Public Beach

Beach Committee Chair Christen Emerson appeared remotely and discussed several repairs and improvements the Beach Committee believes to be necessary for the maintenance of the Beach. Among these were replacement of doorknobs and addition of security plates for the beach house doors, replacement of “no parking” signs for the area of the parking lot near the septic tank, replacement of a light on the beach house exterior, replacement of buoys, and addition of security cameras to the beach house. Ms. Emerson indicated that the majority of Board-approved funds for 2021 maintenance has been expended on repair and replacement of picnic tables. Lake Harvey Association (LHA) member Jackie Sprague appeared remotely and indicated that LHA will donate \$500 for new buoys.

- The Board requested that the Beach Committee present a thorough listing of maintenance expenditure requests for the 2022 season during the 2022 budgeting season in the coming autumn and winter.
- The Board instructed Road Foreman Mark Chase to install a new “no parking” sign in the parking lot near the septic tank.

6. 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 the Town requested bids for paving of Church Street and Monument Circle from Blaktop, Inc. and from Pike Industries, and that a bid was received only from Blaktop, Inc. The Board reviewed the bid, which included two options. Option I, which would pave from Church Street’s intersection with US Route 5 South to just above the bridge on Church Street, is quoted at an estimated cost of \$43,321.60. Option II, which would pave from Church Street’s intersection with US Route South to its intersection with Bimson Drive, is quoted at an estimated cost of \$83,385.00.

- Mr. Jefferson moved to accept the bid of Blacktop, Inc. in their “Option I,” to pave from Church Street’s intersection with US Route 5 South to just above the bridge on Church Street, at an estimated cost of \$43,321.60. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Mr. Gates signed the quote.

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

The Board reviewed grant agreements for the Vermont Agency of Transportation Class 2 Roadway and Structures grants.

- With the Board’s approval, Mr. Gates signed the grant agreements. Mr. Chase indicated that the Town has received culverts for the project.

c. Consideration of, and take any action on, new dump truck assembly and delivery

Mr. Chase reported that there were no new developments in the process of assembly and delivery of the new truck. It remains at Tenco; the Town expects to receive delivery in approximately one month.

d. Consideration of, and take any action on, amendment to Diesel Fuel Reduction Grant

The Board reviewed an amendment to the grant agreement to change the end date of the grant term from June 30, 2021 to September 30, 2021. Mr. Chase indicated the term end must be changed because the Town does not expect to receive the new dump truck before June 30, 2021.

- The Board agreed to request that Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt electronically sign the grant agreement amendment.

e. Consideration of, and take any action on, Vermont Agency of Transportation Municipal Roads Grants-in-Aid program

The Board reviewed email correspondence regarding the opportunity to participate in the fiscal year 2022 Grants-in-Aid program. This program provides funding for municipalities to implement best management practices in accordance with the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP).

- Mr. Jefferson moved to sign a letter of intent to participate in the fiscal year 2022 Grants-in-Aid program. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

f. Other business

i. Sign graffiti

Mr. Jefferson noted that there is graffiti on an East Peacham Road sign.

- The Board instructed Mr. Chase to remove the graffitied sign.

ii. Paving progress

Mr. Chase reported that Pike Industries has completed paving on Academy Lane and Groton Road. He indicated that Pike plans to return to finish other scheduled paving.

iii. Seasonal hire

Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department has re-hired Paul Gibson as a temporary seasonal truck driver to assist with hauling materials out of the gravel pit.

iv. Interstate 91 project and town gravel pit

Mr. Chase reported that CCS continues to use the gravel pit for staging and exchange of products for their Interstate 91 project, per the Town's agreement.

7. Other business presented by other town officers

a. Animal Control Complaint

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt reported that he had received an oral complaint from resident Shirley Warden regarding dogs owned by Brent and January O'Donnell. He indicated that Ms. Warden intends to submit a written complaint.

8. Consideration of, and take any action on, Local Fiscal Recovery Funds from American Rescue Plan

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt reported that the State of Vermont Department of Finance and Management has opened a web portal where Vermont municipalities may request their share of American Rescue Plan Local Fiscal Recovery Funding. The Board reviewed documentation indicating that the Town of Barnet should expect to receive a total of \$170,850 in two annual payments of \$85,425. Mr. Heisholt indicated that, in order to request the funding, the Town is required to appoint a representative authorized to do so.

- Mr. Jefferson moved to appoint Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt as representative authorized to request Barnet's share of American Rescue Plan Local Fiscal Recovery Funding. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

- Ms. Ford moved to request that Mr. Heisholt request Barnet's share of American Rescue Plan Local Fiscal Recovery Funding through the State of Vermont Department of Finance and Management web portal. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

9. Consideration of, and take any action on, Town Clerk's Office heating fuel tank maintenance

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt indicated that Irving Energy did not install a new fuel tank at the Town Clerk's Office as approved by the Selectboard. The tank would not fit into the opening to the basement. The old tank pipes and fittings were re-sealed to ensure the tank will not leak; the tank then passed inspection.

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

The Board reviewed and approved the single vehicle application of Stan Robinson Wood Procurement.

11. Other business presented by Selectboard

a. Library heating system

Ms. Ford indicated that Irving Energy indicated several concerns about the library heating system during their recent inspection. Discussion ensued.

b. Recycling Center sliding door

Mr. Gates reported that Transfer Station/Recycling Center Supervisor Bruce Marston indicated that the sliding door on the Recycling Center has become more difficult to slide and requires repair.

c. Transfer Station compactor shed water damage

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt reported that Transfer Station staff have indicated that the compactor shed has water damage from surface water entering the low-lying shed.

- The Board agreed that Ms. Ford will inspect the water damage and report to the Board.

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

Mr. Gates reported that there were no new developments regarding this matter.

- The Board agreed to table this matter.

13. Adjournment

Mr. Jefferson moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____ *Town Clerk*