

**MINUTES-REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING**  
**TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**

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

**Other Town officials and employees present:** Fire and Rescue Chief Ron Morse & Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden.

**Members of the Public Present:** Johnathon Carpenter, Gary Thompson.

**1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held August 23, 2021.**

- Ms. Ford moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held August 23, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

**2. Appearance by Barnet Fire District #3 (McIndoe Falls) Prudential Committee regarding water shed roof project**

- Mr. Thompson appeared and discussed the need for repair or replacement of the roof of the McIndoe Falls water treatment facility. He was informed of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding coming to Barnet and encouraged to request funding. The Selectboard asked Mr. Thompson to please request via email to the Town Clerk that we consider his request for funding for ARPA funds.

**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, Listers' Errors and Omissions Certificate**

- The Selectboard signed the certificate.

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

- Mark Chase was not in attendance.

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

- The project is due to begin on Monday, September 20. No new information.

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

- The project is proceeding as planned.

c. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding Bridge #10 (TH3) over Passumpsic River on Comerford Dam Road

-The Selectboard signed the document from the Vermont Agency of Transportation stating that we intend to repair the bridge. No start date yet.

d. Other business

-The selectboard received a quote for a new grader. Discussion ensued. No action taken.

## **6. Consideration of and take any action on determination of whether Town will bid on 2021 tax sales**

-The Selectboard discussed the benefits and downsides to bidding on tax sales. They are hesitant to conduct real estate transactions however, the purchasing of some properties would halt the accrual of interest and penalties. Discussion ensued. No action was taken.

## **7. Consideration of, and take any action on, Snow Plowing and Maintenance Services Agreement with Caledonia Cooperative School District**

-Ms. Ford moved to maintain the same agreement with the CCSD that was followed in 2020. Mr. Jefferson seconded. Approved by voice vote.

## **8. Other business presented by other town officers**

-Ms. Warden stated that she, as substitute Town Clerk had received numerous phone calls from an individual regarding the Town Highway Department traffic on Town Forest Road. The individual became very agitated angry on the phone. The phone call was terminated by Ms. Warden upon the use of profanity.

-Ms. Warden inquired whether she could request a mylar copy of a property map from Truline. The owners need a wastewater permit and the mylar copy registered with the town would prevent having to get a variance for a flood zone. The Selectboard approved.

## **9. Consideration of, and take any action on, remote public access to Selectboard meetings.**

-Ms. Ford stated that at some point the Selectboard should make a plan for individuals to attend should they desire to do so remotely.

-Mr. Gates stated that to do a hybrid model, as the emergency order has lifted and no remote only meeting is allowed, we would need a coordinator of the remote access. The process is more complicated than simply having a cell phone on in the meeting.

-The Selectboard decided to table this discussion.

## **10. Consideration of, and take any action on, next steps in municipal office building project**

-Ms. Ford stated that with the survey of the Town Hall complete, and the possibility of septic at the Town Hall site, she would like to see the Selectboard take the next sensible step and revisit the Town Hall site for potential use for Barnet Municipal Offices. She commented on the central village location and proximity to the library and Town Garage as beneficial for local government function.

-Mr. Gates agreed that the next logical step seemed to be to look into the possibility as the offices would utilize a building we already own and would be a less expensive option than a larger, newer building.

-Mr. Jefferson stated that in the years we have been talking about the offices, there have been no other locations offered or suitable. Mr. Jefferson stated that the North Monroe Bridge site seems inadequate and out of the way. He suggested we find an engineer to detail parking plans.

-Discussion ensued.

Ms. Ford made a motion that the Selectboard would move forward in the site investigation by contacting NVDA and Cynthia Stuart for their interest and fees for consulting services for the feasibility of the Town Hall as Municipal Offices.

Mr. Jefferson seconded.

Motion approved by voice vote

#### **11. Consideration of, and take any action on, Transfer Station & Recycling Center facilities maintenance**

-Tabled

#### **12. Consideration of, and take any action on, sign for Fire & Rescue Station**

-Mr. Morse spoke about the process of ordering and permitting for the Fire and Rescue Station sign. The process is moving forward.

#### **13. Consideration of, and take any action on, memorial for veterans of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan**

-Roland Bigelow of the VFW is helping us order a memorial plaque.

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

-There was no other business presented by the Selectboard.

#### **15. Adjournment**

- Mr. Gates moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:08. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.