

MINUTES - REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING

TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT

MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2022

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. in-person at Barnet Fire & Rescue Station (151 Bimson Drive) and via GoToMeeting telephone/online conference. This meeting was recorded via GoToMeeting.

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

Other Town officials and employees participating in-person: Road Foreman Mark Chase, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, and Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden.

Other Town officials and employees participating via GoToMeeting: None.

Members of the public participating in-person: None.

Members of the public participating via GoToMeeting: Amy Ash Nixon (Caledonian Record).

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held August 8, 2022

- Mr. Gates moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held August 8, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

2. Other business presented by members of the public

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

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

a. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding Standard Grant Agreement for Municipal Mitigation Grants in Aid

The Board reviewed the grant agreement for the fiscal year 2023 Grants in Aid program.

- The Board signed the agreement.

b. Consideration of, and take any action on, application for Highway Access Permit on Roy Mountain Road

The Board reviewed the application of Jacob Stevenson for a permanent secondary property access. Mr. Chase indicated that he had inspected the site and found it to be suitable for an access with the condition of the installation of a 15-inch culvert in the ditch line. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to approve the permit; Ms. Ford signed the permit.

c. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding Bridge#10 inspection finding and repair plan

Mr. Chase indicated that he had not received any new communication from the Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding advice on the design and construction of the required temporary shoring.

d. Consideration of, and take any action on, complaint regarding dumping of waste off North Monroe Road

Mr. Chase reported that he is awaiting a quote for installation of guardrails on North Monroe Road.

e. Other business

i. Gravel crushing

Mr. Chase reported that the 2022 gravel crushing and hauling project had commenced the day of this meeting; he anticipates the project to be complete in two to three weeks.

ii. Town Hall trees

Mr. Gates discussed the Highway Department's participation in the planned removal of trees at the Town Hall property.

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, proposed Church Street traffic study

Mr. Gates indicated that he had inquired with the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTTrans) regarding the Town's authority to restrict traffic on Church Street to local traffic only with no through-traffic allowed. Mr. Gates indicated that he had not received a response from VTTrans.

6. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Zoning Administrative Officer regarding abutter's notice for permit issued for construction on Campers Lane

The Board reviewed an abutters notice for a permit issued to Charles and Mary Stinchfield for a seasonal dwelling on Campers Lane.

7. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding 2023 municipal park-and-ride grant program

The Board reviewed documents prepared by Nathan Sicard of Ruggles Engineering Services, Inc. for an application for a grant for the construction of a park-and-ride facility on the property at the southerly corner of Church Street and Bimson Drive, of which the Town is currently in process of acquisition from Wells River Savings Bank.

- The Board agreed to authorize the submission of the grant application using the documents prepared by Nathan Sicard.

8. Consideration of, and take any action on, regarding planning for American Rescue Plan Act funds expenditures

The Board noted that there were no new applications received for funding to non-municipal entities.

- No action taken.

9. Consideration of, and take any action on, sign for Fire & Rescue Station

The Board noted that there was no new activity to report or discuss regarding this matter.

- No action taken.

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

Mr. Gates noted that he had not received any recent communication regarding the planned memorial plaque; he suggested that the Board take some alternative action to re-initiate progress on this project.

- The Board agreed that Mr. Gates will discuss this matter with the local officials of Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ms. Ford will contact the Vermont Office of Veterans Affairs.

11. Consideration of approval of outstanding check warrants

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

12. Other business presented by Selectboard

There was no other business presented by the Selectboard.

13. Consideration of, and take any action on, next steps in Town Hall project

- The Board agreed to schedule a special Board meeting for Monday, August 29, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. to review proposals from construction manager firms, discuss funding from Preservation Trust of Vermont, and discuss any other business related to the Town Hall project.

Mr. Gates discussed his meeting at the Town Hall site with an engineer from M & W Soils Engineering to review layout for test borings.

The Board discussed demolition of the Fire Station building. The Board agreed that Ms. Ford will request from Black River Design a template for a request for proposals for the project.

14. Consideration of, and take any action on, tax appeal to Superior Court submitted by Great River Hydro LLC

The Board noted that there was no new activity to report or discuss regarding this matter.

- No action taken.

15. Adjournment

- Mr. Gates moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

A true copy. Attest. _____ *Town Clerk*