

MINUTES - REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING

TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023

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: Benjamin Gates (presiding co-chair) 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: Leland Alper and David Warden.

Members of the public participating via GoToMeeting: None.

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held April 10, 2023

- Mr. Jefferson moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held April 10, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Gates 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, Certification of Compliance for Town Road and Bridge Standards and Network Inventory

The Board reviewed the certification form.

- The Board signed the certification form.

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

The Board reviewed and approved the fleet applications of Chief Logging & Chipping Services, Inc. and of Chief Crushing & Excavation, Inc.

c. Other business

i. Spring maintenance

Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department has been spending much of its time recently performing routine spring road maintenance such as grading, cleaning culverts and ditches, and washing bridges.

ii. Harvey's Lake Beach parking lot

The Board discussed maintaining the patch of trees and brush at the center of the beach parking lot.

- The Board instructed Mr. Chase to perform tree and brush removal at the parking lot.

iii. Municipal Roads General Permit

Mr. Chase discussed the status of the Town's Municipal Roads General Permit. The Town's application is deemed administratively incomplete, as the Town continues to complete the entry of road erosion inventory data.

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, next steps in Town Hall project

a. Appearance by Barnet Historical Society (BHS) regarding proposed Historical Society use of renovated Town Hall space; take any action

BHS member David Warden appeared and discussed the proposed use of portions of the lower level (basement) of the renovated Town Hall. Mr. Warden discussed municipal office space used by historical societies of other local towns and BHS's current display and storage spaces. Mr. Warden submitted a sketch of a proposed layout for the lower level including current and future use spaces for BHS.

- The Board agreed that space will be made available for use by BHS in the lower level of the renovated Town Hall.

b. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Black River Design

The Board reviewed emails, which indicate that costing information is not available yet, but will be available soon.

c. Other business

No other business was discussed.

6. Consideration of, and take any action on, results of tax sale held March 30, 2023

The Board read an email from the Town's insurance provider, Vermont League of Cities & Towns PACIF, which discusses the Town's insurance options regarding the two properties of which the Town was the winning bidder at the March 30, 2023 tax sale. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to request that a Vermont League of Cities & Towns PACIF loss consultant visit the properties to view their exteriors and provide an exposure assessment.

7. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Zoning Administrative Officer with abutters notice for permit issued to 1008 Higgins Hill LLC

The Board reviewed a letter and permit copy regarding construction of additions at 764 Town Forest Road, which abuts the Town's property at the Transfer Station & Recycling Center/gravel pit.

- No action taken.

8. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation regarding Fire Warden re-appointment

The Board reviewed an email and attached forms indicating that the term of the current Town Forest Fire Warden, Christopher Bunnell, is due to expire June 30, 2023, and asking for the Board to approve or reject a five-year re-appointment. The Board noted that Mr. Bunnell is willing to serve another term and the Fire & Rescue Department recommends his re-appointment.

- Mr. Jefferson moved to approve the re-appointment of Christopher Bunnell for a five-year term as Town Forest Fire Warden. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote. The Board signed the re-appointment approval form.
- The Board agreed to pay the Town Forest Fire Warden for mileage at the standard Town mileage rate for visiting burn permit sites.

9. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation regarding 2023 Aquatic Nuisance Control grant

The Board reviewed an email and attached letter indicating that the Town has been awarded up to \$9,140.00 for a Greeter Project contingent on meeting the State's grant requirements.

10. Consideration of, and take any action on, planning for Memorial Day services

The Board discussed planning for the Memorial Day observances to be held Sunday, May 28, 2023 at the monuments in Passumpsic and Barnet Village.

11. Consideration of approval of outstanding check warrants

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

12. Other business presented by Selectboard

a. Boat monitor employee age

The Board discussed the minimum age for employees working at the boat monitoring greeter program at Harvey's Lake, as discussed at the previous meeting.

- Mr. Jefferson moved to require that employees of the boat monitoring greeter program must be at least sixteen (16) years of age. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote.

13. Adjournment

- Mr. Jefferson moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

A true copy. Attest: _____ Town Clerk