

MINUTES - REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING

TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT

MONDAY, MAY 8, 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: 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: Norman Patenaude (Pike Industries) and David Warden.

Members of the public participating via GoToMeeting: None.

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held April 24, 2023

- Mr. Gates moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held April 24, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

2. Consideration of approval of minutes of special meeting held May 3, 2023

- Mr. Gates moved to approve as presented the minutes of the special meeting held May 3, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

3. Other business presented by members of the public

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

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

a. Consideration of, and take any action on, bids for 2023 gravel crushing; Consideration of, and take any action on, bids for 2023 sand screening

The Board reviewed and discussed bids for gravel crushing and for sand screening, as summarized below:

Gravel Crushing:

- Chief Crushing & Excavation, Inc.: \$7.80 per cubic yard
- Simpson Dirtworx: \$7.00 per cubic yard

Sand Screening:

- Chief Crushing & Excavation, Inc.: \$2.21 per cubic yard
- Simpson Dirtworx: \$2.25 per cubic yard

- Mr. Jefferson moved to accept the bids of Simpson Dirtworx for gravel crushing and for sand screening. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote.

b. Consideration of, and take any action on, bids for 2023 gravel pit overburden removal

The Board reviewed and discussed bids for stripping and moving overburden over sand/gravel and over ledge, as summarized below:

- Mathews Excavating: \$1.55 per cubic yard over sand/gravel;
\$1.95 per cubic yard over ledge
 - Simpson Dirtworx: \$3.25 per cubic yard over sand/gravel;
\$3.25 per cubic yard over ledge
- Mr. Gates moved to accept the bid of Mathews Excavating for stripping and moving overburden over sand/gravel and over ledge. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

c. Consideration of, and take any action on, bids for 2023 Town Highway paving projects

The Board reviewed and discussed one bid for paving projects received from Pike Industries. The bid includes three projects (North Monroe Road, two West Barnet Road sections) totaling 2,400 tons of paving material at \$82.00, for a total price of \$196,800.00.

- Mr. Gates moved to accept the bid of Pike Industries. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Ms. Ford signed the bid form.

d. Consideration of, and take any action on, acquisition of tablet computer and cellular service for Highway Department

Mr. Chase discussed requirements for reporting road data to the State of Vermont for road erosion inventories, etc. He indicated that these requirements are now the responsibility of the Road Foreman and that the most efficient means of completing them include the use of a cellular-capable tablet computer to make entries from the field. Discussion ensued regarding acquiring this equipment and the possibility of changing the Road Foreman's cell phone to a Town-owned plan.

- The Board agreed to instruct Mr. Chase to investigate pricing for tablet computers with cellular service.

e. Consideration of, and take any action on, replacement of pick-up truck

The Board and Mr. Chase discussed the timing of replacement of the Highway Department's pick-up truck.

- The Board agreed to instruct Mr. Chase to investigate the availability of trucks and the timing of delivery from Ford and Chevrolet.

f. Consideration of, and take any action on, annual financial plan for Town Highways, pursuant to 19 VSA § 306(j)

The Board reviewed and discussed the annual financial plan, based on the Town's 2023 budget. Total estimated income and expenses are \$1,439,690.66.

- The Board signed the plan certification.

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

- The Board reviewed and approved the fleet application of Darrell Mathews DBA Mathews Excavating and the single vehicle application of Speers Crane Service LLC.

h. Other business

i. Harvey's Lake Beach

Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department had completed parking lot maintenance at Harvey's Lake Beach, including thinning trees in the center of the lot and applying gravel to and grading the lot.

ii. Routine spring road maintenance

Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department has spent much of its recent time performing routine spring road maintenance, such ditching, grading, and cutting brush.

5. Other business presented by other town officers

a. Town Plan revision

Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden appeared and discussed the Planning Commission's ongoing process of revising the Town Plan. A draft of the new version of the Plan is now available and will be discussed at the Planning Commission/Zoning Board's meeting Tuesday, May 9, 2023. Ms. Warden suggested several amendments to the revision.

- The Board agreed that Ms. Ford will attend the May 9, 2023 Planning Commission/Zoning Board meeting to represent the Selectboard.

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

a. Consideration of, and take any action on, scheduling and meeting participation with Estes & Gallup and Black River Design

The Board discussed the scheduling of future meetings and decision-making for the Town Hall project.

- The Board agreed to designate Mr. Gates as the point person for the Board to meet with contractors, Clerk of the Works, and town advisors and make urgent and less significant decisions between Board meetings.

b. Other business

i. Septic system/permitting

Mr. Gates reported that he has spoken to Nate Sicard at Ruggles Engineering to request that he commence work on septic system planning and permitting.

7. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Harvey's Lake Dam Committee regarding hydrologic and hydraulic reclassification study

The Board reviewed an email from the Dam Committee and attached proposal from McFarland Johnson for an engineering reevaluation of the hazard classification for Harvey's Lake Dam. The proposed services consist of preparation of a hydrologic and hydraulic study and report sufficient to meet the Vermont Dam Safety Program for a dam hazard classification. Total proposed compensation for proposed services is \$16,000. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Gates moved to authorize the project as proposed. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Ms. Ford signed the proposal.

8. 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.

9. Consideration of approval of outstanding check warrants

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

10. Other business presented by Selectboard

a. Consideration of, and take any action on, bids for delivery of fuel oil, diesel fuel, and propane

The Board reviewed and discussed bids for delivery of fuel oil, diesel fuel, and propane, as summarized below:

	Dead River Co	Fred's Energy	Irving Energy	Thomson Fuels
Fuel Oil				
Fixed	\$ 2.9045	\$ 2.9990	\$ 2.8280	\$ 3.8000
Above rack	No bid	\$ 0.4000	\$ 0.4350	No bid
Current above rack price	No bid	Not reported	\$ 2.5990	No bid
Cap	No bid	\$3.499 plus \$0.45 cap fee	No bid	No bid
Propane				
Fixed	\$ 1.9990	\$ 2.2500	No bid	\$ 3.1500
Above rack	No bid	No bid	\$ 1.5500	No bid
Current above rack price	No bid	No bid	\$ 2.2400	No bid
Diesel Fuel				
Fixed	\$ 2.9390	No bid	No bid	\$ 4.1800
Above rack	No bid	\$ 0.4000	\$ 0.3450	No bid
Current above rack price	No bid	Not reported	\$ 2.6700	No bid

- Mr. Gates moved to accept the bid of Irving Energy at the variable/above rack price for all products. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

b. Consideration of, and take any action on, evaluation of appointed public officers/employees

- Mr. Gates moved to enter executive session to discuss evaluation of appointed officers/employees pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a) (3 & 4). Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:31 p.m. Those present in executive session: Ms. Ford, Mr. Gates, Mr. Jefferson, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.
- Mr. Gates moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:47 p.m.
- No action taken

11. Adjournment

- Mr. Gates moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

A true copy. Attest: _____ Town Clerk