

MINUTES - REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING

TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT

MONDAY, JUNE 12, 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: David Warden.

Members of the public participating via GoToMeeting: None.

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held May 22, 2023

Ms. Ford noted that, in item 13.a. the minutes indicate that the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary has offered to assist the Town with maintenance of monuments, whereas they should indicate the organization offering assistance is the Daughters of the American Revolution.

- Mr. Gates moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held May 22, 2023 with amendment as suggested by Ms. Ford. Seconded by Ms. 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, acquisition of tablet computer and cellular service for Highway Department

Mr. Chase reported that there was no new information to consider or on which to take action regarding this matter.

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

Mr. Chase reported that he had not yet committed to a truck for purchase per the Board's decision at their May 22, 2023 meeting. Discussion ensued.

c. Consideration of, and take any action on, Requests for Reimbursement for 2021 Class 2 Roadway Grant and Structures Grant for Roy Mountain Road project

The Board reviewed two request forms for reimbursement for 2021 Vermont Agency of Transportation grants projects, each requesting \$175,000.

- The Board signed the two request forms.

d. Consideration of, and take any action on, letter from Scott Cahoon regarding tire damage on Garland Hill

The Board read a letter and reviewed attached invoices. The letter indicates that the tires of Mr. Cahoon's motor vehicle sustained sidewall punctures from pieces of ledge protruding from the embankment at the edge of the road on Garland Hill. Mr. Cahoon requests reimbursement for expenses incurred as documented on the attached invoices, totaling \$876.76. The Board also reviewed three photographs of the site taken by Mr. Chase, showing ledge in the exterior bank of the ditch. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Gates moved to deny the request for reimbursement, finding that the ledge that caused the damages is not in the traveled portion of the road. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

e. Consideration of, and take any action on, proposed renewal of Alarm System Service Agreement for Town Garage from Alarmco, Inc.

The Board reviewed a proposed renewal contract for alarm services at the Town Garage for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Total annual cost is \$300.00.

- The Board signed the renewal agreement as proposed.

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

- The Board reviewed and approved the fleet application of Harold's Concrete Construction.

g. Other business

i. Pit stripping update

Mr. Chase reported that he is awaiting scheduling information from Mathews Excavating regarding stripping of the gravel pit.

ii. Dump Truck #001 repairs

Mr. Chase reported that Dump Truck #001 is currently at McDevitt Trucks for repair of an antifreeze leak.

iii. Mowing roadsides

Mr. Chase reported that he is awaiting scheduling of summer roadside mowing.

iv. New dump truck

Mr. Chase reported that the new dump truck is currently at Viking Cives for installation of the body. This work is scheduled to commence in July.

4. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Planning Commission & Zoning Board (PC/ZB) regarding nomination for re-election of members and expiring term of Secretary

The Board reviewed an email from PC/ZB Secretary Dawn Holtz, which indicates that the PC/ZB would like to nominate for re-appointment the following PC/ZB members whose terms expire July 1, 2023: Benjamin Adams (board Chair), Bruce Denio, and Trent Roy. The email also indicates that Ms. Holtz's term as Secretary expires July 1, 2023 and that, while she will remain a member of the board, she will not serve another term as Secretary.

- Mr. Gates moved to re-appoint Benjamin Adams, Bruce Denio, and Trent Roy to four-year terms on the PC/ZB commencing July 1, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

- The Board expressed thanks to Ms. Holtz for her service as Secretary.

5. Consideration of, and take any action on, estimate for communications radio for Second Constable David Stevenson

The Board reviewed an estimate from Pikcomm. Total cost of equipment and installation of law enforcement and fire radios is \$2,171.23. Mr. Jefferson reported that Mr. Stevenson did inquire with the Sheriff's Department about purchase of radios as requested by the Board; he found that they were available for an estimated cost of \$4,000 to \$5,000. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Gates moved to approve expenditures from the ARPA Reserve Account for equipment and installation for law enforcement and fire communications radios for use by the Second Constable, to be retained as Town property, as per the estimate of Pikcomm. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

6. Other business presented by other town officers

There was no other business presented by town officers.

7. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from McIndoes Academy regarding request for crosswalk on US Route 5 South in McIndoe Falls

The Board reviewed an email from the McIndoes Academy. The email indicates that the Academy has inquired with the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) regarding applying a crosswalk on US Route 5 South from Academy Lane to the McIndoe Falls Congregational Church; VTrans indicated that the Town of Barnet must initiate a request of this kind. The email requests that the Board initiate a request.

- Mr. Gates moved that the Town initiate a request for application of a crosswalk on US Route 5 South per the request of the McIndoes Academy.

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

a. Progress report

The Board reviewed notes from a meeting of Mr. Gates's building working group held June 5, 2023. Mr. Gates reviewed the highlights of the meeting.

b. Consideration of, and take any action, Zoning Permit Application

Zoning Administrative Officer appeared and presented a draft application for a Zoning Permit for the renovation and movement of the Town Hall as proposed by the Board. Discussion ensued.

- The Board signed the application.

c. Other business

No other business was discussed.

9. Consideration of, and take any action on, replacement of fencing at Barnet Public Library

Librarian Ms. Ford reported that she had contacted Doolan Fence of Barnet as discussed at the previous Board meeting; Doolan Fence have agreed to visit the site and evaluate the fence for replacement.

10. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Endyne, Inc. regarding groundwater monitoring at former landfill

The Board reviewed laboratory reports with results of analyses performed on samples collected in connection with annual groundwater monitoring at the former landfill.

11. Consideration of approval of outstanding check warrants

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

12. Other business presented by Selectboard

a. Daughters of the American Revolution stone cleaning

Ms. Ford indicated that the Daughters of the American Revolution plans to perform stone cleaning at the Stevens Cemetery and Palmer Cemetery on July 22, 2023.

b. Veterans' Memorial monument plaque funding

The Board discussed funding sources for the new Veterans' Memorial plaque to be installed in 2023.

c. Park & Ride maintenance

The Board noted that several maintenance items at the Park & Ride require attention. These include a stolen "Leigh Larocque Memorial Park & Ride" sign, damaged guardrail, and trash accumulation.

- The Board agreed to inquire with Mona Marceau regarding ordering a new sign, instruct Road Foreman Mark Chase to install a new guardrail to replace the damaged section, and inquire with the Vermont Department of Corrections regarding a work crew for clean-up of trash.

d. Town Plan amendment

The Board noted that the Planning Commission will review the amended Town Plan at their meeting June 13, 2023.

13. Adjournment

- Mr. Gates moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

A true copy. Attest: _____ Town Clerk