

# DRAFT

## MINUTES - REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING

### TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 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, Benjamin Gates (presiding co-chair), and Mark Jefferson

**Other Town officials and employees participating in-person:** Road Foreman Mark Chase, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Dam Committee member Joseph Mangiapane, 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:** John Cook and Sarah Cook.

#### 1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held September 11, 2023

- Ms. Ford moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held September 11, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

#### 2. Other business presented by members of the public

##### a. Appearance by Dam Committee member Joseph Mangiapane

Mr. Mangiapane discussed several Dam Committee-related matters with the Board, including the following:

- The Dam Committee recommends Shane Stevenson to fill a vacancy on the Committee.
- Mr. Mangiapane has had discussions with Ted Faris regarding fabrication of hooks and a stanchion base plate for the dam.
- There appears to be a beaver dam in the channel. Mr. Mangiapane suggested that a Town official inspect the channel from the property owned by Blue Sky Builders.
  - The Board agreed that Ms. Ford will contact the owner of the Blue Sky Builders property regarding permission to inspect the channel.

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

##### a. Consideration of, and take any action on, application for Highway Access Permit by William Graves for access on West Barnet Road

The Board reviewed an application for a permit for a permanent access 1,356 feet west of West Barnet Road's junction with Anderson Street. Mr. Chase reported that he had

inspected the site and found it to be an existing access with an appropriate culvert; Mr. Chase recommended approval.

- The Board agreed to approve the permit; Mr. Gates signed the permit.

**b. Other business**

**i. Roadside mower**

Mr. Chase reported that the new roadside mower has arrived and is in service.

**ii. County Hill Road grant project**

Mr. Chase reported that work on the County Hill Road grant project is complete.

**iii. West Barnet Road pavement**

Mr. Gates discussed the joint between new pavement and old pavement on West Barnet Road near its junction with Kid Row. Mr. Gates noted that the joint is not smooth and asked Mr. Chase to inquire with Pike Industries regarding a remedy.

**4. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Beach Committee regarding appointment to fill Committee vacancy**

The Board read an email indicating that the Beach Committee has nominated Aaron Hall to fill a vacancy on the Beach Committee.

- Ms. Ford moved to appoint Aaron Hall as a member of the Beach Committee. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

**5. Consideration of, and take any action on, appointment to fill pending vacancy on Planning Commission/Zoning Board**

Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden indicated that there was no new information regarding this matter.

- No action taken.

**6. Other business presented by other town officers**

There was no other business presented by other town officers.

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

**a. Progress report**

Mr. Gates provided an update on project progress, including the following:

- The building has been moved onto its new foundation.
- At the most recent Building Working Group meeting, an issue regarding lower-level egress was resolved.
- Another Building Working Group meeting will be held October 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- The project is currently awaiting approval of State of Vermont Fire and Safety permitting.

**b. Other business**

No other business was discussed.

**8. Consideration of, and take any action on, appointment of Animal Control Officer**

The Board reviewed an email from Peacham Selectboard member Richard Browne regarding a proposed shared Animal Control Officer between Barnet and Peacham.

- The Board agreed that Ms. Ford will follow up with Mr. Browne regarding his proposal.

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

Librarian Ms. Ford indicated that she had received approval from the Library Board of Trustees to seek an estimate from Steve Allen for a split-rail fence. She will report to the Selectboard when she receives an estimate.

**10. Consideration of approval of outstanding check warrants**

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

**11. Other business presented by Selectboard**

**a. Correspondence from Dam Committee member Robert Dufresne regarding drain gate stanchion base plate**

The Board reviewed an email and discussed this matter with Dam Committee members Joseph Mangiapane and Ms. Ford. The stanchion for the drain gate has pulled out of the concrete and is not usable. Richard Downer has designed a new steel base plate to reattach the stanchion. The Committee would like to request a quote from Ted Faris for fabrication of the plate; if the quote is acceptable, the Committee would like to order fabrication and install the plate and affix the stanchion to the plate. The Committee estimates that the work will cost less than \$1,000.

- Mr. Jefferson moved to approve the Dam Committee's proposed repairs to be completed as needed. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

**12. Consideration of, and take any action on, zoning permit application for parcel #0014-01-70**

- Ms. Ford moved that the Board make a specific finding, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1)(E), that premature public knowledge of discussion concerning a zoning permit application for parcel #0014-01-70 would clearly place the Town of Barnet at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.
- Ms. Ford moved that the Board enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313 (a)(1)(E) to discuss a zoning permit application for parcel #0014-01-70, as premature public disclosure of which would clearly place the Town of Barnet at a substantial disadvantage. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 7:32 p.m. Those present in executive session: Ms. Ford, Mr. Gates, Mr. Jefferson, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.
- Ms. Ford moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 7:37 p.m.

**13. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Highway Department employee Glenn Fearon regarding fringe benefits**

The Board reviewed correspondence from Vermont League of Cities & Towns regarding the Board's requested quotes for short-term and long-term disability insurance.

- The Board agreed to request quotes for Plan B short-term disability (60% of pay to maximum benefit of \$500 per week) and Plan D long-term disability insurance (50% of pay to maximum benefit of \$1,500 per month.).

**14. Adjournment**

- Mr. Gates moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

*A true copy. Attest:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Town Clerk*