

Town of Barnet

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – TOWN PLAN

Monday, December 18, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Notice is hereby given to the residents of Barnet, Vermont, that the Barnet Selectboard will hold a public hearing in the Barnet Fire & Rescue Station (151 Bimson Drive), **Monday, December 18, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.** This hearing will be held for public review of and comment on a proposed amendment of the Barnet Town Plan, pursuant to Title 24 VSA, Chapter 117. The purpose of the proposed Town Plan is to establish a coordinated and comprehensive planning process to guide decisions made by the Town of Barnet. The proposed Town Plan, if and when adopted, will affect all lands within the Town and will replace the existing Town Plan adopted August 10, 2015 and amended May 13, 2019.

The proposed Town Plan contains an energy element that has been written with the intention of receiving a determination of energy compliance pursuant to 24 VSA §4352. If the proposed Town Plan receives this determination, it will be given substantial deference in Section 248 hearings for renewable energy projects that go before the Public Utilities Commission.

Contents of the Proposed Town Plan are:

Introduction: Purpose; Vision

Social Connections: Barnet’s Historic and Current Development Patterns; Population Trends; Recreation; McIndoes Academy; Churches & Religious Institutions; Lakeview Grange; Adjacent Towns and Region

Local Prosperity: Income and Employment Patterns; The Working Lands Economy; Recreation and Visitor Tourism; Housing; Education; Childcare; Communications

Climate Resilience: Flood Resilience; Hazard Mitigation Planning; Public Assistance from Natural Disasters; Climate Refugees; Energy; Energy Equity Challenges; Renewable Energy Siting Guidelines

Environmental Stewardship: Water Quality; Required Agricultural Practices/Best Management Practices; Restoration of Natural Infrastructure; Sediment and Erosion Control on Roads; Preventing Spread of Aquatic Invasives; Habitat Blocks; Extraction of Earth Resources

Governance and Services: Town Properties; Cemeteries; Solid Waste (Transfer Station and Recycling); Water and Sewer; Dam Committee; Transportation; Emergency Response (Police, Fire and Rescue); Barnet’s Good Neighbor Fund

A Sense of Place: Historic and Cultural Assets; Scenic Areas

Putting the Plan into Action: Priority Strategies

Appendices: Twelve Elements of Chapter 117; Location Codes; Supplemental Energy Plan Information; Plan Maps

The proposed Barnet Town Plan can be viewed at:

<https://barnetvt.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Town-plan-draft-updated-11.17.23.pdf>

Hard copies of the plan are available for review by appointment. Please call 802-633-2256 or email townclerk@barnetvt.org

Dated November 30, 2023, Barnet Selectboard