

MINUTES - REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING

TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT

MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024

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.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** None.

Other Town officials and employees participating:

- **In-person:** Road Foreman Mark Chase, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Planning Commission/Zoning Board Secretary Susan Sinclair, and Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** None.

Members of the public participating:

- **In-person:** Tim Cramer, Neil Glassman, and Norman Patenaude
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** None.

Approval of Minutes

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held April 8, 2024

- Ms. Ford moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held April 8, 2024. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote.

Appearances by Members of the Public

2. Other business presented by members of the public

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

Appearances by Town Officers

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

a. Consideration of, and take any action on, paving bids

The Board reviewed and discussed bids submitted by Blaktop, Inc. and Pike Industries, Inc. Representatives from Blaktop (Tim Cramer) and Pike (Norman Patenaude) appeared and answered questions about their bids. The bids were as summarized below:

<u>Project</u>	<u>Blaktop, Inc.</u>	<u>Pike Industries, Inc.</u>
South Monroe Road	\$5,153.00	\$4,620.55
Carter Street	\$37,008.00	\$33,183.95
Joe's Brook Road	\$157,774.00	\$141,472.84
West Barnet Road	\$117,113.00	\$105,012.50
West Barnet Road	\$80,105.00	\$71,828.55
Church Street	\$39,192.00	\$33,183.95
Town Hall parking lot	\$15,875.00	\$21,760.00
Roy Mountain Road	\$166,183.92	\$156,299.85

- Ms. Ford moved to accept the bid of Pike Industries for projects on South Monroe Road, Carter Street, Joe's Brook Road, Church Street, the Town Hall parking lot, and Roy Mountain Road. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.
- b. Consideration of, and take any action on, price quote(s) for chloride**
The Board reviewed a price quote from Innovative Surface Solutions, with a delivered cost for liquid chloride of \$1.11 per gallon.
- Ms. Ford moved to accept the quote of Innovative Surface Solutions. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.
- c. Consideration of, and take any action on, fiscal year 2025 Grants in Aid participation**
The Board reviewed an email and attached letter of intent form regarding the Grants in Aid program, which provides funding for municipalities to implement best management practices in accordance with the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation Municipal Roads General Permit.
- The Board agreed to sign the letter of intent to participate in the fiscal year 2025 program. Mr. Gates signed the letter of intent.
- d. Consideration of, and take any action on, annual financial plan for town highways**
The Board reviewed the annual financial plan for town highways, as drafted based on the Town's 2024 Highway Department budget and the Highway Department's annual meeting with District 7 of the Vermont Agency of Transportation.
- The Board signed the annual financial plan.
- e. Consideration of, and take any action on, applications for Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits**
There were no applications for Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits.
- f. Other business**
- i. Pick-up truck repairs**
The Board reviewed quotes for insurance work on body repairs to the pick-up truck from Darling's Auto and Erik's Auto Body.
 - The Board agreed that Mr. Gates would call Erik's Auto Body for clarification of their quote.
 - ii. Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) training**
Mr. Chase reported that all employees of the Highway Department had completed their required annual MSHA training.
 - iii. Grading roads**
Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department has spent much of its recent time grading roads.
 - iv. Equipment health**
Mr. Chase reported that all Highway Department equipment is currently functioning and in operation.
 - v. New loader delivery**

Mr. Chase reported that the new wheel loader is in transit and is expected to be delivered in approximately one week.

vi. Town Hall soil

The Board discussed the potential use of the Highway Department to transport soil to be removed from the Town Hall parking lot.

4. Other business presented by other town officers

No other business was presented by other town officers.

New Business

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

a. Progress report

Mr. Gates reported that work is concluding on wiring and framing the interior of the building and work will commence soon on installing drywall walls and historic tin coverings for wall and ceiling surfaces. Mr. Gates also reported that a buried heating fuel tank had been discovered in excavation of the parking lot; environmental testing for contaminated soil has commenced and is postponing further excavation.

b. Consideration of, and take any action on, acquisition of automated external defibrillator (AED)

The Board reviewed an email from CALEX Ambulance Service regarding an AED group purchase proposal. Cost for participation in purchase is \$1,069 per unit.

- Mr. Jefferson moved to purchase an AED for the Town Hall through the CALEX group purchase program. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

c. Other business

No other business was discussed.

6. Consideration of, and take any action on, salary for back-up/deputy Zoning Administrative Officer

Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden appeared and discussed her eventual retirement as Zoning Administrative Officer and the proposal to hire a candidate for a second Zoning Administrative position to serve as a back-up for Ms. Warden while also training to fill the position when Ms. Warden retires. Planning Commission/Zoning Board (PC/ZB) Secretary Susan Sinclair also appeared and discussed the PC/ZB's efforts to recruit for this proposed position, including seeking to pool resources with other local towns.

7. Consideration of, and take any action on, proposal for tree removal at Stevens Cemetery

The Board reviewed a proposal for removal of a hazardous tree, as discussed by John Fairchild in a previous Board meeting, for a total cost of \$750.

- Mr. Jefferson moved to accept the proposal. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

8. Consideration of, and take any action on, application of West Barnet Quick Stop for renewal of liquor license

The Board reviewed the application for the annual renewal of a second-class liquor license of West Barnet Quick Stop.

- Ms. Ford moved to approve the application. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

9. Other business presented by Selectboard

No other business was presented by Selectboard.

Old Business

10. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Northeast Kingdom Broadband regarding appointment of Town representatives to governing board

The Board reviewed emails from former Alternate Representative Kathleen Monroe and current Representative Neil Glassman. Ms. Monroe's email included the following statement: "On April 17, Ms. Monroe contacted the Selectmen informing them that it is the responsibility of Mr. Neil Glassman, Primary representative, to propose a replacement for alternate. Mr. Glassman began his search for a suitable candidate on or about March 25. I trust Neil will bring a suggested nomination to the April 22 Selectboard meeting." Mr. Glassman appeared at this meeting and discussed his search for a nomination for an alternate. He indicated that he had been unsuccessful in finding a willing candidate. Discussion ensued.

- Ms. Ford moved to re-appoint Neil Glassman as Barnet's representative to the Northeast Kingdom Broadband governing board. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote.

11. Consideration of, and take any action on, plans for 2024 Memorial Day observances

The Board continued to discuss details of plans for the 2024 Memorial Day observances to be held Sunday, May 26, 2024.

12. Consideration of, and take any action on, replacement of library fence

The Board noted that there was no new information to discuss on which to take action on this matter.

- No action taken.

Check Warrants

13. Consideration of approval of outstanding check warrants

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

Anticipated Executive Session(s)

14. Consideration of, and take any action on, zoning permit application for parcel #0021-21-01 (executive session anticipated pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(1)(E))

The Board noted that there was no new information to discuss or on which to take action on this matter.

- No action taken.

15. Consideration of, and take any action on, zoning permit application for parcel #0001-01-23 (executive session anticipated pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(1)(E))

The Board noted the receipt of decisions from Vermont Superior Court dismissing the challenge of interested party Gregory Jackmauh and closing the case.

- No action taken.

Adjournment

16. Adjournment

- Ms. Ford moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Jefferson and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

A true copy. Attest: _____ *Town Clerk*