

## MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING

### TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT

MONDAY, 27 JANUARY 2025

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

#### Other Town officials and employees participating:

- **In-person:** Road Foreman Mark Chase, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, and Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** None.

#### Members of the public participating:

- **In-person:** William Biddle, Joseph Breidenstein, Kaye Breidenstein, Joseph Mangiapane, Emil Pollak, Steve Siri, Mariann Sjolander, and Tom Turek.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** Maria, Lisa Adler, Mona Marceau, Sal Perillo, Maria Ruiz, and Tom Traina.

#### Approval of Minutes

##### 1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held January 13, 2025

- Mr. Gates moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held January 13, 2025. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

#### Appearances by Members of the Public

##### 2. Appearance by Lake Harvey Association (LHA) regarding petition to restrict use of enhanced wakes in wake sports on Harvey's Lake; take any action

The Board reviewed documents submitted by LHA, including their petition to the Vermont Legislature, letters of support from the Vermont Center for Ecostudies, The Federation of Vermont Lakes & Ponds, and

local citizens. LHA requests that the Board co-sign their petition to the legislature for restricted use of enhanced wake sports on Harvey's Lake. The Board heard testimony from Emil Pollak, President of LHA, and from a number of citizens representing different perspectives on this matter.

- Mr. Gates moved to sign the petition as proposed by LHA. Seconded by Mr. Adams. The motion was disapproved by voice vote.

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

###### a. Thank you to the road crew

Members of the public present expressed thanks to the Highway Department for their efforts in repairing roads following the July flood.

#### Appearances by Town Officers

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

a. Consideration of, and take any action on, quotes for dump truck

The Board reviewed quotes for purchase of a dump truck, as summarized below:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Make</u>	<u>Wheels</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Price</u>
H.P. Fairfield/Tenco	International	10	Fully assembled	\$297,705
H.P. Fairfield/Tenco	International	6	Fully assembled	\$251,825
H.P. Fairfield/Tenco	Freightliner	6	Fully assembled	\$250,988
H.P. Fairfield/Tenco	Freightliner	10	Fully assembled	\$307,395
H.P. Fairfield/Tenco	Western Star	6	Fully assembled	\$276,000
H.P. Fairfield/Tenco	Western Star	10	Fully assembled	\$307,395
R.R. Charlebois	Freightliner	6	Cab & chassis only	\$145,700
R.R. Charlebois	Freightliner	10	Cab & chassis only	\$156,750
R.R. Charlebois	Western Star	6	Cab & chassis only	\$155,100
R.R. Charlebois	Western Star	10	Cab & chassis only	\$169,250
ATG	Western Star	6	Cab & chassis only	\$151,755
ATG	Western Star	10	Cab & chassis only	\$161,048
ATG	Freightliner	6	Cab & chassis only	\$133,101
ATG	Freightliner	10	Cab & chassis only	\$148,441
Viking-Cives	Viking	6	Body & equipment	\$91,900
Viking-Cives	Viking	10	Body & equipment	\$98,800
H.P. Fairfield/Tenco	Tenco	6	Body & equipment	\$110,000
H.P. Fairfield/Tenco	Tenco	10	Body & equipment	\$115,000

Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Gates moved to purchase a six-wheel Freightliner per the quote from ATG (\$133,101) and a six-wheel Viking body and equipment per the quote from Viking-Cives (\$91,900). Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

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

- The Board reviewed and approved the fleet applications of Dead River Company dba Bourne's Energy and Newport Sand & Gravel, Inc./Carroll Concrete Co., Inc.

c. Other business

i. Loader repairs

Mr. Chase reported that the new loader is at the dealer (Anderson Equipment) for repairs; the Town is using a loaner loader.

ii. Frozen culverts

Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department has been performing culvert thawing in several locations, as necessary.

iii. Patneau Lane mirror

Ms. Ford discussed the proposed installation of a mirror at the intersection of Patneau Lane and West Barnet Road.

iv. Flooding reimbursement

Mr. Chase indicated that he continues to work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to compile data for submission for reimbursement of expenses related to the July 2024 flood.

#### **5. Other business presented by other town officers**

There was no other business presented by other town officers.

#### New Business

#### **6. Consideration of, and take any action on, warning for 2025 annual town meeting**

The Board reviewed the draft of a proposed 2025 Annual Town Meeting warning. The warning is similar to the 2024 Annual Town Meeting warning, with two differences: 1) the removal of an article for a social service agency appropriation request, and 2) the replacement of an article for the proposed renewal of a property tax exemption with an article for the proposed renewal of a different property tax exemption.

- Mr. Gates moved to approve the warning. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. The Board signed the warning.

#### **7. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from CAI Technologies regarding tax map maintenance contract**

The Board reviewed the 2025-2026 proposal and contract. Terms of proposal and contract are the same as the 2024-2025 proposal and contract.

- Mr. Gates moved to approve the contract. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. The Board signed the contract.

#### **8. Other business presented by Selectboard**

No other business was presented by the Selectboard.

#### Old/Continuing Business

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

##### **a. Progress report**

Mr. Gates reported on a meeting at the Town Hall to review final punch-list items. He indicated that the fire suppression system in the vault is installed and now requires only electrical and alarm wiring.

##### **b. Other business**

The Board discussed plans for moving furniture, equipment, books, and documents from the Town Clerk's Office to the Town Hall.

- The Board agreed to hire a moving company to perform the moving operation.

#### **10. Consideration of, and take any action on, execution of documents for 2025 tax anticipation borrowing**

The Board reviewed documents from Passumpsic Savings Bank relating to 2025 tax anticipation borrowing.

- The Board signed the tax anticipation borrowing documents.

#### Check Warrants

#### **11. Consideration of approval of outstanding check warrants**

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

#### Executive Session(s) Anticipated

**12. Consideration of, and take any action on, 2025 Town employee wage adjustments**

- Mr. Gates moved to enter executive session to discuss employee wage adjustments pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3). Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:20 p.m. Those present in executive session: Ms. Ford, Mr. Gates, Mr. Adams, Road Foreman Mark Chase, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.
- Mr. Gates moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:50 p.m.
- Mr. Gates moved to approve the rates as proposed in executive session. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

**13. Consideration of, and take any action on, evaluation of applications for Town Hall cleaning service**

- Mr. Gates moved to enter executive session to discuss evaluation of applications for Town Hall cleaning service pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3). Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:51 p.m. Those present in executive session: Ms. Ford, Mr. Gates, Mr. Adams, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.
- Mr. Gates moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:57 p.m.
- Mr. Gates moved to offer the position of Town Hall cleaning service on an employee basis to Scott Liveston. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

Budget

**14. Consideration of, and take any action on, 2025 Town General Fund budget**

The Board continued their review of the 2025 General Fund budget, adjusting various line items.

- Mr. Gates moved to approve the budget as amended. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

Adjournment

**15. Adjournment**

- Mr. Gates moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

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