

**MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 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, Benjamin Gates (presiding co-chair), and Benjamin Adams.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** None.

Other Town officials and employees participating:

- **In-person:** Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Planning Commission/Zoning Board member Dennis McLam, and Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** None.

Members of the public participating:

- **In-person:** Michael Gibson.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** Mona Marceau.

Approval of Minutes

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held 10 February 2025

- Mr. Adams moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held 10 February 2025. Seconded by Ms. Ford 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

Mr. Chase was not present at this meeting. In his absence, the Board discussed the following matters:

- a. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding town grant applications, certification of compliance for town road and bridge standards and network inventory, etc.**

The Board reviewed a completed certificate of compliance form; the Town is required to file this form annually with the Vermont Agency of Transportation.

 - The Board signed the certification.
- b. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding use of radar speed feedback signs on State highways**

The Board reviewed correspondence regarding permitting requirements and guidelines for use of radar speed feedback signs on State highways such as US Route 5 North, US Route 5 South, and Bimson Drive. Discussion ensued.

- No action was taken.

c. Consideration of, and take any action on, highway and bridge weight restrictions

The Board reviewed a list of highway and bridge weight restrictions for the current year; these, which have already been applied commencing February 10, 2025, are the same as applied the previous year.

- Ms. Ford moved to ratify the highway and bridge weight restrictions as applied. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

d. Consideration of, and take any action on, application of Town of Barnet for highway access permit on Church Street

The Board reviewed an application for the new park and ride parking lot at the corner of Bimson Drive and Church Street.

- The Board approved the permit.

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

- The Board reviewed and approved the fleet applications of Bethel Mills, Inc., Dead River Company, and VELCO, and the single vehicle application of Z. Lemieux & Son Trucking, LLC.

f. Other business

i. Loader repairs

Mr. Gates reported that the loader has returned from Anderson Equipment, where repairs were made to a faulty fuel injector.

4. Other business presented by other town officers

There was no other business presented by other town officers.

New Business

5. Consideration of, and take any action on, planning for 2025 Annual Town Meeting

The Board discussed plans for presentations to be made at the town meeting to be held 4 March 2025.

- No action was taken.

6. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Town Attorney Steven Adler regarding expiration of term as Town Attorney

The Board read an email indicating that Mr. Adler will not be available to serve as town attorney for the ensuing year. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed that Ms. Ford will contact Mr. Adler to discuss recommendations for Mr. Adler's successor.

7. Warning: Annual Review of Ordinance for Regulating All-Terrain Vehicles to be held 10 March 2025

The Board read a notice warning that the annual review of the Ordinance for Regulating All-Terrain Vehicles will be held 10 March 2025.

8. Other business presented by Selectboard

There was no other business 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 that progress continues to be made on the final punch list items. The Fire Marshall has issued an occupancy permit for the building.

b. Consideration of, and take any action on, planning for open house event

The Board discussed plans for an open-house event to be held sometime after the town offices have moved into the Town Hall space. Possible dates in March or April were discussed.

c. Other business

No other business was discussed.

10. Consideration of, and take any action on, renewal of lease of library building space to Karme Choling

The Board reviewed correspondence from Karme Choling consisting of proposed amendments to the lease agreement. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed that Ms. Ford will discuss the proposed amendments with Karme Choling.

11. Reminder: Fee assessed for late homestead declaration filings

The Board read a notice indicating that the Town will assess a fee in the maximum percentages allowable pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5410(g) for Homestead Declarations filed after 15 April 2025 and other non-compliance with Homestead Declaration filing requirements.

Check Warrants

12. Consideration of approval of outstanding check warrants

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

Executive Session(s) Anticipated

13. Consideration of, and take any action on, appointment of, and remuneration for, Zoning Administrative Officer (executive session anticipated pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3))

- Ms. Ford moved that the Board enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313(a)(3) to discuss, appointment of, and remuneration for, a Zoning Administrative Officer. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 7:39 p.m. Those present in executive session: Ms. Ford, Mr. Gates, Mr. Adams, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, and Planning Commission/Zoning Board member Dennis McLam.
- Mr. Gates moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 7:56 p.m.
- Mr. Gates moved to offer the position of Zoning Administrative Officer to Dennis Marquis, with financial remuneration offer as discussed in executive session. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

Adjournment

14. Adjournment

- Ms. Ford moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

A true copy. Attest: _____ *Town Clerk*