

**MINUTES – RESCHEDULED REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING**  
**TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT**  
**TUESDAY, 27 MAY 2025**

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. in-person at Barnet Town Hall (154 Church Street) 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:** Road Foreman Mark Chase, Beach Committee Chair Christen Emerson, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** None.

**Members of the public participating:**

- **In-person:** James Barlow, Darcy Nelson, and Shirley Warden.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** Mona Marceau.

Approval of Minutes

**1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held 12 May 2025**

- Mr. Adams moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held 12 May 2025. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

Organization of the Board

**2. Consideration of, and take any action on, appointment of Town Attorney**

Attorney James Barlow appeared and introduced himself to the Board, discussing his legal experience and the services he offers. He presented a proposed engagement agreement, which the Board reviewed. The Board also reviewed a proposed engagement agreement from Attorney Brian Monaghan of Monaghan Safar PLLC. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Adams moved to appoint James Barlow as Town Attorney. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote. The Board signed Mr. Barlow's engagement agreement.

Appearances by Members of the Public

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

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

Appearances by Town Officers

**4. Appearance by Beach Committee regarding Harvey's Lake Beach matters; take any action**

**a. Consideration of, and take any action on, authorization for expenditures for repair of damages caused by July 2024 flooding disaster**

The Board reviewed cost estimates for repair of flood-caused damages to the beach house and other infrastructure damage unrelated to erosion damages repaired by an excavation contractor. The Board discussed with Beach Committee Chair Christen Emerson the process for authorization of expenditures for these costs.

- The Board agreed that any unbudgeted costs would need to be approved individually by the full Board in accordance with the Purchasing Policy.
- b. Consideration of, and take any action on, addition of internet service at Harvey's Lake Beach**  
The Board discussed with Ms. Emerson the Beach Committee's request for internet service at the beach.
- No action taken.
- c. Consideration of, and take any action on, application for Arts & Social Cohesion grant from Vermont Community Foundation**  
The Board discussed with Ms. Emerson the Beach Committee's application for a community-building grant for the beach.
- The Board agreed to approve the Beach Committee to move forward with the grant application.
- d. Other business**  
No other business was discussed.
- 5. Appearance by Road Foreman Mark Chase regarding Highway Department matters; take any action**
- a. Consideration of, and take any action on, bids for repair and clean-up of gravel/sand pit from damages caused by July 2024 flooding disaster**  
The Board reviewed bids for repair and clean-up of gravel/sand pit from damages caused by July 2024 flooding disaster, as summarized below:
- Manchester Brook Materials (Darcy Nelson) – \$36,500 (up to 6,000 cubic yards)
  - KML Excavation - \$55,000
  - Mathews Excavating (Darrell Mathews) – \$34,500
- Mr. Adams moved to accept the bid of Mathews Excavating. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.
- b. Consideration of, and take any action on, remediation of Patneau Lane bridge**  
Mr. Chase indicated that Austin Construction is scheduled to commence work on the bridge later in the week of this meeting or the following week. The Board noted that Karne Choling has offered to donate the cost of the installation of a foot bridge for the duration of the project; the Town has agreed to accept the donation and has instructed Austin Construction to plan to install a foot bridge.
- c. Consideration of, and take any action on, progress report on reimbursement funding for July 2024 flooding disaster**  
Mr. Chase and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt discussed the progress of compiling and reporting documentation for reimbursement funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency Management Agency.
- d. Consideration of, and take any action on, applications for Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits**  
There were no applications for uniform municipal excess weight permits.
- e. Other business**
- i. Routine maintenance**

Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department has spent much of its time the past few weeks performing routine spring highway maintenance such as ditch cleaning.

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

'There' was no other business presented by other town officers.

New Business

**7. Consideration of, and take any action on, bids for delivery of fuels for 2025-2026 season**

The Board reviewed the one bid received for delivery of fuels, as summarized below:

Fred's Energy:

Fixed Price for #2 oil: \$2.799 per gallon

Fixed Price for propane: \$2.25 per gallon

Fluctuating variable price for off-road diesel: \$0.30 per gallon over rack price (\$2.669 per gallon as of today)

- Ms. Ford moved to accept the bid of Fred's Energy. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

**8. Consideration of, and take any action on, disposition of former Town Clerk's Office at 1743 US Route 5 South**

The Board reviewed guidance from Vermont League of Cities & Towns (VLCT) regarding sale of Town property. The Board discussed any remaining tasks to be completed before a sale agreement is entered into.

- The Board agreed to begin to pursue the sale of the former Town Clerk's Office by way "option 1" as set forth in the VLCT guidance literature entitled "How Is Town Property Sold", pursuant to 24 VSA § 1061.

**9. Other business presented by Selectboard**

There was no other business presented by the Selectboard.

Old/Continuing Business

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

**a. Progress report**

Mr. Gates reported on developments on several final punch list items.

**b. Other business**

No other business was discussed.

Check Warrants

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

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

Adjournment

**12. Adjournment**

- Mr. Ford moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

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