

MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, 23 JUNE 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:** Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Fire & Rescue Chief Ronald Morse, and Fire & Rescue member David Shields.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** Tom Berthofd.

Members of the public participating:

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

Approval of Minutes

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held 9 June 2025

- Mr. Adams moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held 9 June 2025. Seconded by Ms. Ford.

The Board reviewed correspondence from Beach Committee Chair Christen Emerson. The email states that, in Item #7.a., the Board approved a \$5,000 expenditure from the Municipal Buildings Fund specifically for the purchase of doors, whereas the minutes reference the \$5,000 approved expenditure from the Municipal Buildings Fund but do not indicate that the expenditure is specifically for doors.

- Mr. Adams moved to amend the minutes to reflect that, under Item #7.a., the Board approved a \$5,000 expenditure from the Municipal Buildings Fund specifically for the purchase of doors, and to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by Mr. Adams 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 Fire & Rescue Department regarding expenditure for repair/replacement of fire truck engine; take any action

Fire & Rescue Chief Ronald Morse and Fire & Rescue member David Shields presented and discussed quotes for repair of the engine on the 2005 International pump truck, as summarized below:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Price</u>
Advantage Truck Group, LLC	In-frame overhaul	\$17,412.08
Allegiance Trucks	Trimmed remanufactured	\$23,454.58

Allegiance Trucks	Trimmed remanufactured	\$4,000.00
Allegiance Trucks	Engine overhaul kit	\$5,176.86
Allegiance Trucks	In-frame overhaul	\$28,725.11

- Ms. Ford moved to accept the proposal of Advantage Truck Group for an in-frame overhaul for the price of \$17,412.08. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

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

Mr. Chase did not appear at this meeting. In his absence the Board discussed the following matters:

- Consideration of, and take any action on, remediation of Patneau Lane bridge**
Mr. Gates reported that the project has proceeded as planned. Currently, the construction crew is working on removal of the old bridge.
- Consideration of, and take any action on, progress report on reimbursement funding for July 2024 flooding disaster**

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt discussed the progress of compiling and reporting documentation for reimbursement funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

c. Other business

i. Roadside mowing

Ms. Ford thanked the Highway Department for work well done on roadside mowing on West Barnet Road.

New Business

5. Consideration of, and take any action on, proposed alarm system service agreement for Town Garage from Alarmco

The Board reviewed a proposed alarm system service agreement for the one-year period commencing 1 July 2025. Discussion ensued.

- Ms. Ford moved to approve the agreement. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

6. Other business presented by other town officers

a. Appearance by Fire & Rescue Chief Ronald Morse regarding Town Hall alarm panel

Chief Morse inquired about keys for the alarm panel at the Town Hall. Discussion ensued.

- No action taken.

7. Other business presented by Selectboard

a. Correspondence from Zoning Administrative Officer regarding zoning permit abutters notices

The Board reviewed two abutters notices: 1) a 8 July 2025 hearing notice for an application of NEKCV Broadband for a site plan and conditional use approval to install an equipment cabinet on West Barnet Road on property owned by Caledonia Cooperative School District and an application of Kevin Drake and John Hatley for a site plan and conditional use approval to operate a Tier 3 Cannabis manufacturing facility on US Route 5 North, and 2) a permit issued to Susan Chandler for construction of a door and deck on Church Street.

- No action taken.

Old/Continuing Business

8. Consideration of, and take any action on, proposed sale of Town property on Anderson Street

Mr. Adams reported on his discussions with real estate agent Tim Scott. Mr. Scott recommends the Board use a price of \$30,000 if the lot is buildable and \$15,000 if it is not. The Board noted that it understands the lot is not buildable.

- The Board agreed to offer to sell the property to the interested party for \$15,000.

9. Consideration of, and take any action on, beaver management in Harvey's Lake outlet channel

Ms. Ford reported on her communications with the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife regarding trapping beavers in the channel. For a brief period, traps were set on the banks of the channel, but as it later became unclear if traps are permissible, they were removed. Ms. Ford continues to work on a resolution to this uncertainty.

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

Ms. Ford reported that she had spoken to Karne Choling's interim director and indicated the Board is not interested in dividing the leased space, as discussed at the previous meeting. Ms. Ford will continue talks with Karne Choling to negotiate lease renewal terms.

11. Consideration of, and take any action on, quotes for upgrade to library building oil tank

Ms. Ford reported that there were no new developments to discuss or on which to take action regarding this matter.

- No action taken.

12. Consideration of, and take any action on, quotes for installation of outdoor water faucet at library building

Ms. Ford reported that there were no new developments to discuss or on which to take action regarding this matter. The Board discussed adding this project to the request for proposals for the oil tank upgrade.

- No action taken.

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

Mr. Adams reported that he had visited the property with real estate agent Tim Scott. Mr. Scott inquired about the status of the septic system and indicated he would do more market analysis before recommending a course of action.

Check Warrants

14. Consideration of approval of outstanding check warrants

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

Executive Session(s) Anticipated

15. Consideration of, and take any action on, negotiations on payment of retainage on Town Hall construction management contract (executive session anticipated pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(A))

Mr. Gates provided an update on the status of negotiations regarding payment of retainage on the Town Hall construction management contract. Approximately \$15,000 of retainage remains due; the

Town is requesting warranty statements to confirm the whole HVAC system is under warranty prior to issuing payment of retainage. Discussion ensued.

- No action taken.

Adjournment

16. Adjournment

- Ms. Ford moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

A true copy. Attest: _____ Town Clerk