

MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, 14 JULY 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:** 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, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, and Dam Committee Member Joseph Mangiapane.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** None.

Members of the public participating:

- **In-person:** Richard Carilo and Shirley Warden.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** None.

Approval of Minutes

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held 23 June 2025

- Mr. Adams moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held 23 June 2025. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote.

Appearances by Members of the Public

2. Appearance by Barnet Historical Society (BHS) regarding storage space at Town Hall; take any action

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt reported that BHS would not make an appearance at this meeting and would like to request a meeting with the Board at their 28 July 2025 meeting.

- The Board agreed to table this matter.

3. Other business presented by members of the public

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

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

Mr. Adams reported on his communications with realtor Tim Scott. Mr. Scott proposes the Town list the property for approximately \$125,000. Discussion ensued regarding the timing of the sale in connection with statutory requirements for sale of Town properties.

- No action taken.

Appearances by Town Officers

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

- a. **Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding grant agreement for Municipal Mitigation Grant in Aid**
The Board reviewed the grant agreement for a total award amount of \$33,500 with \$8,375 in-kind match.
 - The Board agreed to sign the agreement; Mr. Gates signed the agreement.
- b. **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 and Federal Highway Administration.
- c. **Consideration of, and take any action on, applications for Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits**
 - The Board reviewed and approved the fleet applications of Beacon Sales Acquisition and Consolidated Communications.
- d. **Other business**
 - i. **Sand screening**
Mr. Chase reported that progress continues on annual sand screening and hauling. This project is expected to be completed this week.
 - ii. **Gravel crushing**
Mr. Chase reported that annual gravel crushing is expected to commence soon after the completion of the sand screening project.
 - iii. **Truck repairs**
Mr. Chase reported that repairs to the spare dump truck are completed.

6. Other business presented by other town officers

- a. **Appearance by Beach Committee regarding Reserve Fund purchases**
Beach Committee Chair Christen Emerson appeared and requested approval for three purchases: 1) from Shane Stevenson General Contracting for removal of flood damaged fencing and preparation for new fencing - \$500; 2) from Caledonia Essex Ambulance Service for an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) - \$595; and 3) for a garden cart - \$150.
 - The Board agreed to approve these three purchases.

New Business

7. Consideration of, and take any action on, appointment of Town representative to Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) board

The Board reviewed an email from NVDA asking if the Board would like to appoint a Town representative to the NVDA board. It appears the Board's most recent appointment was Leigh Larocque (now deceased) in 2015. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed that Mr. Adams will inquire with the Planning Commission/Zoning Board to see if there is a member interested in serving as NVDA representative.

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, proposed sale of Town property on Anderson Street

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt reported that he had spoken to Board member Dylan Ford, who had indicated there was no new information to report or on which to take action regarding this matter.

- No action taken.

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

Dam Committee member Joseph Mangiapane reported on the status of beaver dams in the channel. Volunteers continue to manually remove dams. The Dam Committee continues to monitor the lake water level.

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

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt reported that he had spoken to Board member Dylan Ford, who had indicated there was no new information to report or on which to take action regarding this matter.

- No action taken.

12. Consideration of, and take any action on, quotes for library building upgrade to oil tank and installation of outdoor water faucet

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt reported that he had spoken to Board member Dylan Ford, who had indicated there was no new information to report or on which to take action regarding this matter.

- No action taken.

Check Warrants

13. Consideration of approval of outstanding check warrants

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

Executive Session(s) Anticipated

14. 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))

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

- No action taken.

Adjournment

15. Adjournment

- Mr. Gates moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

A true copy. Attest: _____ Town Clerk