

**MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING**  
**TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT**  
**MONDAY, 11 AUGUST 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, 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, John Fairchild, Neil Glassman, Jan Parsons, and David Warden.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** Mona Marceau

Approval of Minutes

**1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held 28 July 2025**

- Mr. Adams moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held 28 July 2025. Seconded by Ms. Ford 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**

Several members of BHS appeared to inquire with the Board about the timing of moving shelving and materials into the Town Hall's basement spaces, per the Board's decision at their previous meeting.

- The Board agreed that BHS may move their shelving and materials into the authorized spaces in the Town Hall basement at any future date.

**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 Road Foreman Mark Chase regarding Highway Department matters; take any action**

**a. Consideration of, and take any action on, progress report on reimbursement funding for July 2024 flooding disaster**

Mr. Chase and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt reported on the progress in compiling and reporting documentation for reimbursement funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Federal Highway Administration.

**b. Consideration of, and take any action on, application of Northeast Kingdom Community Broadband (NEKBB) for highway access permit on West Barnet Road**

The Board reviewed the application for an access entrance for a broadband OLT site near West Barnet Road's intersection with Gilfillan Road. Road Foreman Mark Chase discussed his inspection of the site. He recommended that the Board deny the permit due to concerns about line of sight; he indicated that the proposed access is in a blind spot, particularly for eastbound traffic. Discussion ensued between Mr. Chase, the Board, and Barnet's representative to NEKBB, Neil Glassman.

- The Board agreed to deny the application.

**c. Other business**

**i. Gravel crushing**

Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department will commence gravel crushing operations soon.

**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, plans for Harvey's Lake Dam safety cables**

Dam Committee member Ms. Ford indicated that the plans, as discussed at the previous meeting, are not yet ready for review.

- No action taken.

**7. Consideration of, and take any action on, mowing of field at Harvey's Lake Beach property**

Mr. Adams reported that he had spoken to Dennis McLam, per the Board's discussion at their previous meeting, and that Mr. McLam is willing to perform the mowing. Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt indicated that he had contacted the Beach Committee, who had then contacted current mowing contractor C & C Maintenance LLC, and that C & C Maintenance is also willing to perform the mowing. Mr. Heisholt indicated that he will contact Mr. McLam and the Beach Committee to determine a solution.

**8. Consideration of, and take any action on, certification of 2025 property tax rates**

The Board reviewed the certification of 2025 property tax rates, as presented by Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt. Total rates, including all Town and Educations rates, are 2.5005 for homestead and 2.4311 for non-homestead.

- Ms. Ford moved to approve the property tax rates as presented. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. The Board signed the certification.

**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, sale of former Town Clerk's Office at 1743 US Route 5 South**

Mr. Adams indicated that he plans to meet with realtor Timothy Scott to view the property in preparation for listing it.

- No action taken.

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

Ms. Ford reported that she had discussed with the prospective buyer the Board's discussion at its previous meeting. The prospective buyer indicated that it may be a while before he is prepared to consider accepting or countering the Board's proposal.

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

Mr. Gates reported that he had spoken with excavation contractor Caleb Temple regarding excavation services to remove alder trees and brush in the channel area, per the Board's discussion at their previous meeting. Mr. Temple had indicated that he would be available to perform the work.

The Board reviewed a proposal from trapper Nicholas Smith. Costs for trapping services are \$100 per beaver and a \$150 set-up fee or a flat-fee service for \$700 annually for three years for a more intensive beaver control program in the area of the channel. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Adams moved to hire Nicholas Smith to perform beaver control trapping in the channel for three years at \$700 per year. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

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

Ms. Ford reported that there was no new information to report or on which to take action regarding this matter.

**14. Consideration of, and take any action on, appointment of Town representative to Northeastern Vermont Development Association board**

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

Check Warrants

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

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

Executive Session(s) Anticipated

**16. Consideration of, and take any action on, personnel matter (executive session anticipated pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3))**

- Mr. Adams moved that the Board enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. Section 313(a)(3) to discuss a personnel matter. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 7:44 p.m. Those present in executive session: Ms. Ford, Mr. Gates, Mr. Adams, Road Foreman Mark Chase, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt,
- Ms. Ford moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:03 p.m.
- No action taken.

**17. Consideration of, and take any action on, Summons in a Civil Action from United States District Court regarding United States of America v. Marvin R. Kendall et al (executive session anticipated pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(E))**

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

- No action taken.

**18. 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

**19. Adjournment**

- Ms. Ford moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

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