

**MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING**  
**TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT**  
**MONDAY, 25 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 (presiding co-chair), Benjamin Gates, and Benjamin Adams.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** None.

**Other Town officials and employees participating:**

- **In-person:** Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt and Fire & Rescue Chief Ronald Morse.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** None.

**Members of the public participating:**

- **In-person:** John Fairchild, Roseann Leute, Dennis McLam, Ross Page, and Jan Parsons.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** Mona Marceau.

Approval of Minutes

**1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held 11 August 2025**

- Mr. Gates moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held 11 August 2025. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

Appearances by Members of the Public

**2. Appearance by Bayley-Hazen Road Snowmobile Club regarding use of Class 4 Town Highway Chamberlain Road**

Ross Page of the snowmobile club appeared and asked the Board if the club can do work to maintain the Class 4 portion of Chamberlain Road, which was severely damaged by flooding and is used as part of the snowmobile system.

- The Board agreed to permit the Bayley-Hazen Road Snowmobile Club to perform road maintenance on the Class 4 portion of Chamberlain Road.

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

John Fairchild, Roseann Leute, and Jan Parsons of BHS appeared and discussed basement storage space, as approved by the Board at the previous meeting. They asked about securing shelving and about the dimensions of the space in the undeveloped storage room.

- The Board agreed that any shelving anchors should be affixed to interior walls or ceiling/first floor joists and not to the exterior walls.
- The Board agreed that the dimensions of the space used by BHS in the undeveloped storage room could be changed from the agreed upon 20 feet x 20 feet, as long as the total area does not exceed 400 square feet.

Fire & Rescue Chief Ronald Morse asked if the basement undeveloped storage space is permitted for storage, as storage permits typically require sheetrock and do not allow exposed floor joists.

- The Board agreed that Mr. Gates will inquire about fire permitting for the space.

#### **4. Other business presented by members of the public**

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

#### Appearances by Town Officers

#### **5. 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, progress report on reimbursement funding for July 2024 flooding disaster**

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 Jonathan Roy for highway access permit on Garland Hill**

The Board reviewed an application for a permanent driveway access on the northwest side of Garland Hill approximately 100 yards south of its intersection with Whitehill Road. Mr. Gates indicated that he had received a report from Mr. Chase, who had visited the site and recommended approval of the permit.

- The Board agreed to approve the permit; the Board signed the permit.

##### **c. Consideration of, and take any action on, request for speed limit change on US Route 5 South**

The Board reviewed a request from Tracy Warner Hall, who resides at 2242 US Route 5 South, for a reduction in speed limit on US Route 5 South, from 50 miles per hour to 30 miles per hour, from the location of the former Town Clerk's Office to her residence. The Board also reviewed documentation provided by the Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding the process for the Town to request a change in speed limit on a State highway. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed that Mr. Gates will investigate this matter and report findings to the Board.

##### **d. Other business**

###### **i. Gravel crushing**

Mr. Gates reported that the annual gravel crushing project is nearing completion.

###### **ii. Roy Mountain Road construction project**

Mr. Gates reported that the Roy Mountain Road construction project is scheduled to commence in mid to late September.

#### **6. Appearance by Fire & Rescue Chief Ronald Morse regarding adoption of Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP); take any action**

The Board reviewed the LEMP as presented by Fire & Rescue Chief Ronald Morse.

- Mr. Gates moved to adopt the LEMP as presented. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. The Board signed the adoption form.

#### **7. Other business presented by other town officers**

There was no other business presented by other town officers.

### New Business

#### **8. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from SRH Law regarding Notice of Commencement of Project Operation on Barnet Solar LLC solar project**

The Board reviewed a letter providing notice that Barnet Solar has fulfilled all pre-operation Certificate of Public Good conditions and that the Project has been interconnected to the Green Mountain Power system.

- No action taken.

#### **9. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Zoning Administrative Officer regarding abutter notice for permit issued to Polymath Enterprises storage building on US Route 5 South**

The Board reviewed an abutter notice for a permit for a 16' x 24' storage building.

- No action taken.

#### **10. Other business presented by Selectboard**

There was no other business presented by the Selectboard.

### Old/Continuing Business

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

The Board reviewed a proposed contract with realtor Tim Scott, along with amendments proposed by Town Attorney James Barlow. The Board also discussed remaining tasks in removing items and cleaning out the building before its sale.

- No action taken.

#### **12. 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.

- No action taken.

#### **13. 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.

- The Board agreed to table this matter indefinitely.

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

The Board discussed their conversations about this matter at previous meetings. Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt reported that he had contacted Dennis McLam and C & C Maintenance. C & C Maintenance agreed that they will not perform the field mowing work this year; Mr. McLam agreed that he will perform the work. Mr. McLam was present at this meeting and noted that the small area on and around the beach field had already been mowed; Mr. Heisholt indicated that Shane Stevenson had performed this work. Mr. McLam indicated that he is willing to mow the field in future years.

- The Board agreed to offer the contract for mowing the beach field to Dennis McLam in future years indefinitely.

#### **15. Other business presented by Selectboard**

**a. Fuel delivery contract**

Mr. Gates suggested the Board consider signing a contract for fuel delivery for two or three years in the future, rather than one year at a time, citing administrative burden involved in changing vendors.

**16. Consideration of, and take any action on, plans for Harvey's Lake Dam safety cables**

Ms. Ford noted that the plans for the safety cables were not yet prepared and there is no new information to discuss regarding this matter.

- No action taken.

Check Warrants

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

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

Executive Session(s) Anticipated

**18. 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.

**19. 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

**20. Adjournment**

- Mr. Gates moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

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