

MINUTES – SPECIAL SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, 8 JANUARY 2026

Meeting convened at 10:00 a.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.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** None.

Members of the public participating:

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

New Business

1. Consideration of, and take any action on, temporary transfer and borrowing of funds from reserve fund accounts

Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt explained the Town's cash flow situation stemming from July 2024 flood recovery costs. A short-term shortage is caused by the requirement to pay off the 2025 tax anticipation note, in the amount of \$533,016.02, prior to borrowing the 2026 tax anticipation note. The payoff of the 2025 note is due 9 January 2026, whereas funding from the 2026 note is expected by the end of January 2026. The Board reviewed correspondence from Town Attorney James Barlow, which recommends that the simplest short-term solution is to temporarily borrow funds from the Town's Bridge Fund and Highway Construction Fund. The total balance of these two funds is approximately \$809,600. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Gates moved to authorize the Town Treasurer to temporarily transfer and borrow up to \$533,016.02 in the aggregate from the Town's Highway Construction Account and Bridge Fund for the purpose of paying the remaining balance due on the Town's 2025 tax anticipation note, upon a finding that the borrowing is temporary and that these funds are not immediately required for their designated purposes. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.
- Mr. Gates moved to authorize and direct the Town Treasurer to repay in full all amounts borrowed from the Highway Construction Account and the Bridge Fund from the proceeds of the Town's 2026 tax anticipation note, and to take all actions necessary to effectuate such repayment. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

2. Consideration of, and take any action on, unresolved prior year health reimbursement account balances

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt discussed the process of closing out the Town's health reimbursement account with Health Equity as the Town changes health insurance carriers in 2026. Discussion ensued.

- No action taken.

3. Other business presented by Selectboard

a. Salt procurement

Road Commissioner Mr. Gates discussed the Town's recent difficulty in procuring ice-control road salt for Highway Department use. The Town's supplier, Cargill/Barrett Trucking, has had a shortage in trucking for delivery.

- No action taken.

b. Town Report cover

Ms. Ford discussed proposals for a feature for the cover of the 2025 annual town report. Discussion ensued.

- No action taken.

Adjournment

4. Adjournment

- Mr. Gates moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

A true copy. Attest: _____ Town Clerk