

MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING

TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT

MONDAY, 13 APRIL 2026

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:** Road Foreman Mark Chase and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** None.

Members of the public participating:

- **In-person:** Neil Glassman.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** “Michael” and “SKA Property.”

Approval of Minutes

1. **Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held 23 March 2026**

- Mr. Gates moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held 23 March 2026. 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 Road Foreman Mark Chase regarding Highway Department matters; take any action**

a. **Appearance by Jeffrey Pratt regarding Simpson Brook stream/stream bank remediation; take any action**

Mr. Pratt did not appear at this meeting. The Board noted there will be an onsite meeting on 21 April 2026 at 1:30 p.m.

b. **Consideration of, and take any action on, adoption and certification of Town Road and Bridge Standards**

The Board reviewed the amended Town Road and Bridge Standards as drafted by the Vermont Agency of Transportation. The Board compared these Standards with the current Standards adopted in 2019 and selected options for sections of the amended Standards requiring Board decisions.

- The Board agreed to pass and adopt the amended Town Road and Bridge Standards. The Board signed amended Town Road and Bridge Standards

The Board reviewed a completed certification of compliance form certifying the Town's adoption of and compliance with the new amended Standards; the Town is required to file this form annually with the Vermont Agency of Transportation.

- The Board agreed to sign the certification. The Board signed the certification.

c. Consideration of, and take any action on, certification of town highways annual financial plan

The Board reviewed the Town's 2026 annual financial plan for town highways, as prepared by the Vermont Agency of Transportation. Total budget is \$1,324,174.62.

- The Board agreed to certify the financial plan; the Board signed the certification.

d. Consideration of, and take any action on, application of Henry Reinhold for highway access permit on East Peacham Road

The Board reviewed an application for a permanent driveway. Mr. Chase reported on his site inspection. He indicated that the site is suitable for driveway; a 15-inch diameter or larger culvert in the ditch line is required; visibility for southbound traffic is limited but adequate if brush and trees are cut back along the road.

- The Board agreed to approve the permit with the conditions that a 15-inch diameter or larger culvert is installed in the ditch line and brush and trees are maintained cut back along the road. The Board signed the permit with the above-referenced conditions.

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

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt provided any update on reimbursement funding progress, including development on Federal Highway Administration reimbursement request submissions.

f. Consideration of, and take any action on, applications for uniform municipal excess weight permits

- The Board reviewed and approved the fleet applications of Austion Construction Inc., Chief Crushing & Excavation Inc., Chief Logging & Chipping Services Inc., Consolidated Communication, Harold's Concrete Construction, John B Lantagne DBA JBL Logging & Excavation, Limlaw Chipping & Land Clearing Inc, QXO Inc., Sidney Smith Trucking, and Thompson Fuels LLC, and the single vehicle application of CSE Inc.

g. Other business

i. Mud season

Mr. Chase reported that mud season has been mild; the Highway Department has performed some grading and rock-raking.

4. Other business presented by other town officers

There was no other business presented by other town officers.

New Business

5. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Northeast Kingdom Broadband regarding appointment of town representatives to governing board

The Board reviewed correspondence from NEKCV Communications Union District regarding the annual appointment of a Town Representative to the governing board. Current Town Representative

Neil Glassman appeared and discussed the Communications Union District with the Board. He indicated his willingness to continue to serve as representative.

- Mr. Adams moved to appoint Neil Glassman as Barnet’s Representative to the NEKCV governing board. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote.

6. Consideration of, and take any action on, request for proposals for delivery of fuels

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt asked the Board how it would like to proceed in purchasing diesel fuel, heating fuel, and propane following the conclusion the 2025-2026 heating season (31 May 2026).

- The Board agreed to issue a request for proposals for a two-year contract for delivery of fuel products, and to solicit proposals in the same manner as the previous season: by placing an advertisement in the newspaper, and by mailing and emailing the same vendors from whom the Town requested proposals last year, and to require variable price bids to be tied to a national market price index benchmark (e.g., Mont Belvieu Tet, Long Island Rack).

7. Consideration of, and take any action on, amendment of purchasing policy

Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt discussed a recent financial monitoring review by the Audit Unit of the Vermont Department of Public Safety, which focused on an award from 2024 FEMA Public Assistance DR-4810 (July 2024 flooding). The financial monitoring resulted in one questioned compliance, which states that “written procurement procedures include information on determining if a purchase is allowable.” In corrective action response, Mr. Heisholt provided an amendment to the Purchasing Policy that meets the federal standards. The corrective action was accepted based on this amendment, which the Board reviewed at this meeting. The amendment adds a section entitled "Federal Procurement Requirements" on page 5 of the policy. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Gates moved to amend the Purchasing Policy per the amendment draft presented at this meeting. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

8. Consideration of, and take any action on, plans for 2026 Memorial Day services

The Board discussed plans for Memorial Day observances to be held on Sunday, May 24th at 9 a.m. at Passumpsic and at 9:30 a.m. at Barnet Village.

9. Other business presented by Selectboard

a. Note from Leland Alper regarding McIndoe Falls drainage grates

The Board read a note regarding drainage grates requiring maintenance in McIndoe Falls. The Board noted that these drainage grates are on US Route 5 South and are the responsibility of Vermont Agency of Transportation.

Old/Continuing Business

10. Consideration of, and take any action on, bids for 2026 mowing of town properties

The Board reviewed bids for mowing Town properties, as summarized below:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Bid Total</u>
Bakers Lawn Care LLC	\$7,865.00
Grounds Guys of Northeast Kingdom, The	\$13,700.00
Hill Top Lawn Care	\$8,400.00
JK Builder & Company LLC	\$6,250.00
KLC Lawn & Garden	\$12,028.75
SKA Property Maintenance & Firewood LLC	\$6,150.00
Snow Mow Property Management	\$12,500.00
Tillotson, Keith	\$7,500.00

- Mr. Adams moved to accept the bid of JK Builder & Company LLC. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote

11. Consideration of, and take any action on, appropriation from proceeds of conveyance of Town-owned property located on Anderson Street and identified as Town parcel #0009-02-45

Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt asked the Board how they would like to appropriate \$5,000 in proceeds received in the sale of parcel #0009-02-45. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Gates moved to appropriate the proceeds of the sale to the Municipal Buildings Fund. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

Check Warrants

12. Consideration of approval of outstanding check warrants

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

Adjournment

13. Adjournment

- Mr. Adams moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

A true copy. Attest: _____ *Town Clerk*