

## MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING

### TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT

MONDAY, 11 MAY 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:** Barry Fudim and Norman Patenaude.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** “Michael” and Mona Marceau.

#### Approval of Minutes

##### 1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held 27 April 2026

Ms. Ford noted that whereas the minutes report that Ms. Ford presided over the meeting, Mr. Gates had actually presided.

- Mr. Adams moved to approve, with amendment to statement of presiding chair as noted by Ms. Ford, the minutes of the regular meeting held 27 April 2026. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote.

#### Appearances by Members of the Public

##### 2. Other business presented by members of the public

###### a. Appearance by resident Barry Fudim regarding paving

Mr. Fudim appeared and discussed proposed paving projects. He requested that the Board consider projects on Bimson Drive, and on West Barnet Road west of Somers Farm Stand and west of the Choate farm.

- The Selectboard indicated that Bimson Drive is a State road that the Town does not maintain and that the West Barnet Road projects are planned for 2026.

#### Appearances by Town Officers

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

###### a. Consideration of, and take any action on, bids for 2026 paving projects

The Board reviewed one bid received from Pike Industries. Requests for proposals were also sent to All States Material Group and Blaktop; only Pike Industries submitted a bid. Norman Patenaude of Pike Industries appeared and discussed the bid. Below is a summary of the projects quoted:

- Comerford Dam Road (base only): \$64,785
- West Barnet Road (shim and overlay): \$95,340
- Roy Mountain Road (shim and overlay): \$77,490

The Board noted that the West Barnet Road project quoted is for west of the Somers Farm Stand (intersection with East Peacham Road); the project west of the Choate farm, discussed above with Barry Fudim, is a larger construction project, for which the Town has a grant and will bid separately at a later date.

- The Board agreed to accept the bid of Pike Industries for projects as quoted on West Barnet Road and Roy Mountain Road.

**b. Consideration of, and take any action on, application of Philip Hayward for highway access permit on Comerford Dam Road**

Mr. Chase reported that he had met with the owner and inspected the site. The originally proposed site was not suitable, but a new location north of the originally proposed site, agreed to by the owner and marked on the application map, is suitable with good lines of sight. A driveway culvert in the ditch line, with a diameter not less than 15 inches, is recommended.

- The Board agreed to approve the highway access permit application with the condition that the applicant must install culvert with a diameter of at least fifteen inches in the ditch line. Ms. Ford signed the permit.

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

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

**d. Consideration of, and take any action on, applications for Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits**

There were no applications for Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits.

**e. Other business**

**i. Backhoe hydraulic leak**

Mr. Chase reported that the backhoe had a hydraulic leak, which was repaired by John Deere. A few maintenance items were also performed at the time of the repair.

**ii. Spring maintenance**

Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department has spent much of its time in the past few weeks performing routine spring maintenance, including grading roads, unplugging culverts, and preparing the gravel pit for summer projects.

**iii. Community service volunteer**

Mr. Chase reported that a Barnet resident will be volunteering with the Highway Department to serve court-ordered community service.

**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, proposals for delivery of fuels for period of June 2026 to May 2028**

The Board reviewed bids received for delivery of fuel oil (#2), propane, and diesel fuel. All bids are variable prices based on a fixed difference between a daily market rate and the Town's daily price. Below is a summary of bids received:

	<u>Dead River Co</u>	<u>Fred's Energy</u>	<u>Irving Energy</u>
<u>Fuel Oil</u>			
Fixed amount above market rate	\$ 0.7177	\$ 0.7000	\$ 0.3920
Current price	\$ 4.4068	Not reported	\$ 4.0830
<u>Propane</u>			
Fixed amount above market rate	No bid	\$ 1.7500	\$ 0.7140
Current price	No bid	Not reported	\$ 1.5830
<u>Diesel Fuel</u>			
Fixed amount above market rate	\$ 0.7957	\$ 0.7000	\$ 0.3400
Current price	\$ 4.7843	Not reported	\$ 4.3180

- Mr. Adams moved to accept the bid of Irving Energy. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote.

**6. Consideration of, and take any action on, scheduling of second regular meeting in May**

The Board noted that the second regular meeting in May will fall on Memorial Day. Discussion ensued regarding an alternate date.

- Mr. Gates moved to re-schedule the second regular Board meeting in May to Tuesday, May 26 at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

**7. Other business presented by Selectboard**

There was no other business presented by the Selectboard.

Old Business

**8. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Passumpsic Fire District #1 regarding resignation of Fire District officers**

Ms. Ford reported on her attempts to contact the State Drinking Water Program to discuss this matter. The individual to whom she had been directed was out of the office for a period; at the time of this meeting, she had not received a call back.

**9. Consideration of, and take any action on, policy for placement of political signs on town property**

The Board reviewed a draft policy based on the Board's discussion at the previous meeting. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to continue to amend the policy. They requested that Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt draft a revision of the policy to make the following changes: 1) to remove references to prohibition of political signs in Town Highway rights-of-way, 2) to add a section indicating the Town's right to remove signage in violation of the policy, 3) and to add a definitions section defining the term "political sign".

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

The Board continued discussing plans for Memorial Day observances to be held on Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. at Passumpsic and at 9:30 a.m. at Barnet Village.

Check Warrants

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

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

Adjournment

**12. Adjournment**

- Mr. Gates moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

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