

**MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 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:** None.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** Robert Blechl, Mona Marceau, Michael Miller, and “Tom.”

Approval of Minutes

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of special meeting held 31 August 2026

- Mr. Gates moved to approve as presented the minutes of the special meeting held 31 August 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. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) with recommendation of closure of Bridge #10 on Comerford Dam Road

The Board reviewed an email and attached letter dated 3 September 2026 indicating that a recent inspection of Bridge #10 revealed that the “asphalt corrugated deck near the centerline of the roadway has a full depth hole in the asphalt and continued deterioration in the corrugations in this area.” The letter recommends that the bridge be closed until repairs can be made. Mr. Chase discussed his communications with VTrans regarding this matter and the actions he has taken thus far. The hole has been patched with asphalt. Austin Construction will install a steel plate in the hole as a temporary repair; this work is planned to be completed within a few weeks. VTrans has indicated that this temporary repair will comply with the recommendation in this letter until a permanent repair can be made. In the meantime, until the temporary repairs can be made, the bridge has been posted as closed to heavy truck traffic. Discussion ensued.

- No action taken.

b. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation with recommendation of closure of Bridge #42 on Garland Hill

i. Consideration of, and take any action on, installation of temporary bridge

Mr. Chase reported that there was no new information to discuss or upon which to take action regarding this mater.

- No action taken.

ii. Consideration of, and take any action on, planning for repairs or replacement of existing bridge structure

Mr. Chase reported that Ruggles Engineering is working on engineering for permanent replacement of this bridge. Discussion ensued regarding grant funding possibilities.

- No action taken.

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

The Board reviewed a project tracking spreadsheet presented by Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt. This reflects that the Town has received \$1.956 million of anticipated \$1.978 million federal Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) project reimbursements. None of the anticipated \$330,000 state FEMA projects reimbursements or \$1.16 million Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) projects reimbursements have been received to date. This data is unchanged from the most recent Board meeting. Mr. Heisholt discussed ongoing communications with FEMA and FHWA representatives.

- No action taken.

d. Other business

i. Gravel crushing

Mr. Chase reported that the annual gravel crushing project has been completed.

- No action taken.

ii. Seasonal maintenance

Mr. Chase reported that the Highway Department has been performing routine seasonal road maintenance such as grading and roadside mowing.

- No action taken.

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 Zoning Administrative Officer regarding abutter notice for permit issued to Lisa Suyemoto for camp construction on Sunny Beach Lane

The Board reviewed an abutter notice for permit 2026-30 issued 1 September 2026 to remove and rebuild an existing camp and add a 6' x 14' addition.

- No action taken.

6. Consideration of, and take any action on, annual review of Snow Plowing and Maintenance Services Agreement with Caledonia Cooperative School District

The Board reviewed the 2019 agreement, which automatically renews annually.

- The Board agreed to continue with the same agreement unchanged.

7. Other business presented by Selectboard

a. Speed surveys on West Main Street and Church Street

The Board reviewed data presented by Constable David Stevenson regarding speed studies conducted on West Main Street and Church Street, as requested by the Board (see discussion in previous meetings).

- The Board agreed to review speed data collected on these roads by digital read-out radar speed signs.
- The Board agreed to instruct the Highway Department to relocate the radar speed signs to different locations on these roads.

Old Business

8. Consideration of, and take any action on, proposed sale of former Town Clerk's Office located at 1743 US Route 5 South

The Board continued their discussion about an auction to be held on 3 October 2026. Mr. Gates reported that Toby Lussier has agreed perform auctioneer services. Ms. Ford reported that she had signed a contract with Tim Scott Real Estate for marketing and contract work, as discussed at previous meetings.

- No action taken.

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

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

- No action taken.

Check Warrants

10. Consideration of approval of outstanding check warrants

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

Adjournment

11. Adjournment

- Mr. Gates moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

A true copy. Attest: _____ Town Clerk