

MINUTES – REGULAR SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, 28 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, Benjamin Gates (presiding co-chair), 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:** Leland Alper and Benjamin St. James.
- **Via GoToMeeting online video conference:** Michael Miller.

Approval of Minutes

1. Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting held 14 September 2026

- Mr. Adams moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held 14 September 2026. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

2. Consideration of approval of minutes of special meeting held 17 September 2026

- Ms. Ford moved to approve as presented the minutes of the special meeting held 17 September 2026. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

Appearances by Members of the Public

3. Other business presented by members of the public

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

Appearances by Town Officers

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

Mr. Chase did not appear at this meeting; in his absence the Board discussed the below-described matters:

a. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation with recommendation of closure of Bridge #10 on Comerford Dam Road

The Board noted that there were no new developments regarding this matter. Town Clerk Mr. Heisholt noted that the Board is required to respond to the closure notification within 60 days of the notification date (3 September 2026).

- The Board agreed to respond to the notification, checking the box for “Other, reason(s) for non-compliance,” indicating that the bridge was closed to heavy truck traffic on 4 September 2026 (bridge posted for maximum allowable weight of

24,000 lbs.) and that a contractor was procured for installation of a steel plate temporary repair in 2026. The Board signed the response letter.

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

The Board noted 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

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

- 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

No other business was discussed.

5. Other business presented by other town officers

There was no other business presented by other town officers.

New Business

6. Consideration of, and take any action on, correspondence from Vermont Waste Management & Prevention Division regarding Transfer Station inspection follow-up and compliance directives

The Board reviewed email correspondence and attachments, as discussed at a previous Board meeting. More recent emails have indicated that the compliance directives are well past the due date, and the next step is for the program to issue a Notice of Alleged Violation (NOAV). Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed that Ms. Ford will follow up with the Waste Management & Prevention Division to discuss required compliance actions.

7. Consideration of, and take any action on, proposed additional Assistant Town Clerk hours

Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt discussed the Board's action on 27 July 2026 to increase the Assistant Town Clerk position to 30 hours per week. At that time Mr. Heisholt had indicated that the position should be increased to a full-time position, but the current Assistant Town Clerk is not available to work full-time. Mr. Heisholt requested that the Selectboard approve increasing the weekly hours of

the Assistant Town Clerk position to 40 total, so Mr. Heisholt can explore hiring a second assistant to work an additional ten (10) hours per week.

- Ms. Ford moved to approve an increase in the weekly hours of the +
- Assistant Town Clerk position from 30 to 40. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

8. Consideration of, and take any action on, proposed amendment of Personnel Policy regarding paid time off

Mr. Heisholt asked about paid time off policies for the Assistant Town Clerk. The Personnel Policy currently is inconsistent regarding various paid time off categories for the Assistant Town Clerk's Office, but generally treats the position as half-time, and so offers half-benefits.

- Ms. Ford moved to offer the primary Assistant Town Clerk (currently Samantha Furbert) paid time off benefits in all categories (holidays, floating holidays, vacation, personnel time, and extended sick leave) at a percentage of the benefit offered to full-time employees matching the percentage of the Assistant Town Clerk's weekly hours compared to full-time employment (40 per week) (e.g. if the Assistant Town Clerk works 30 hours per week, the benefit would be 75 percent of the full-time benefit). Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote.

9. Other business presented by Selectboard

There was no other business presented by the Selectboard.

Old Business

10. 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.

- The Board agreed that the auction should be warned as a special Board meeting.

11. 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 mater.

- No action taken.

Check Warrants

12. Consideration of approval of outstanding check warrants

- The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

Adjournment

13. Adjournment

- Ms. Ford moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

A true copy. Attest: _____ Town Clerk