

MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VT
MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2010

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Barnet Town Clerk's Office.

Board members present: Selectmen Theodore Faris, Jeremy Roberts, and Gary Bunnell.

Meeting Chair: Co-Chair Theodore Faris presiding as Chair for this meeting.

Others present: Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs, Sally Cook (Caledonian-Record), Mike Hennessey (Lyndon State College News 7), David Warden, Shirley Warden, and Bryan White (Lyndon State College News 7).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion made by Roberts to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held September 27, 2010. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

LISTERS' CARD FOR OLD TOWN GARAGE BUILDING

Reviewed Listers' Card provided by Board of Listers per the request of the Selectboard at their September 27, 2010 meeting.

Brief discussion ensued, including questions regarding interpretation of some portions of the Card. Board agreed to take no action at this time, pending clarification from the Board of Listers.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM GREEN UP VERMONT REGARDING 2011 APPROPRIATION REQUEST

Read letter requesting \$100 appropriation. Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt explained that though the Board ordinarily requires a petition for first-time requests such as this, he presented it to the Board due to the relatively low dollar amount of the request.

After brief discussion, Board agreed to require Green Up Vermont to submit a petition for inclusion of an article for appropriation on the warning of 2011 Town Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM STATE OF VERMONT AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION REGARDING ACT 110 AND TOWN HIGHWAY BRIDGE AND ROAD STANDARDS

Read email and reviewed attached memorandum and draft standards. Due to State legislative action Towns will be required to adopt new codes and standards, aimed at reducing stormwater runoff, in order to continue receiving reduced Town matching-fund requirements on Town Highway Structures Grants and Town Highway Class 2 Roadway grants.

After brief discussion, Board agreed to refer this correspondence to Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs.

CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING ACT 250 PERMIT APPLCIATION OF CALVIN AND CHERRYLL BUNNELL

Briefly reviewed two emails: 1) From Michael Zahner of Hollister Hill Consulting, LLC to Natural Resources Board with motion for a continuance; and 2) From Natural Resources Board, granting continuance.

DISCUSSION REGARDING APPROPRIATION OF 2010 PROPERTY TAX REVENUE

Co-Chair Faris discussed his recent conversation with Attorney Jon Anderson regarding the pending appeal of TransCanada Hydro Northeast from the tax appeal decision of the Barnet Board of Civil Authority. Faris confirmed with Attorney Anderson that the Town will continue to employ him to the extent of maintaining an advisory presence in the TransCanada appeal process, but not for the purpose of pursuing negotiations with TransCanada.

Faris also suggested that the Board vote to hold in escrow 2010 property tax revenue generated by the 2010 increase in the Town's valuation of TransCanada's property.

After brief discussion, a motion made by Roberts to place in a reserve escrow account 2010 property tax revenue generated by the 2010 increase in the Town's valuation of TransCanada's property. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

Co-Chair Roberts discussed the handicap-access ramp at the Town Hall. Several complaints were made at the 2010 Primary Election that the ramp is in poor condition and dangerously slippery when wet. Roberts spoke with Highway Department employee Keith Gadapee regarding repairing the ramp. Gadapee agreed to repair the ramp before the November General Election.

Timothy Gibbs appeared to discuss several matters:

- Gibbs attended Vermont Constable training at the Vermont Police Academy on October 8, 2010. The Town of Barnet is exempt from recent legislative changes in Constable training requirements, because Barnet's Constables do not issue tickets or conduct traffic stops.
- Regarding dog licensing: Enforcement of licensing requirements has become difficult because roughly half of the dog owners who are delinquent in licensing have disconnected telephone numbers. Gibbs suggests that next year the Constable begin going door-to-door to assess fines for delinquent licensers. This policy is already in the Town's dog ordinance, but has not been administered in recent years.
- Gibbs has contacted a contractor regarding repair of a portion of West Barnet Road damaged by a car fire. Because the weather is now too cold to perform planned cold-patching of a shim on West Main Street, Gibbs will request a quote from the same contractor for this job as well.
- Inquired regarding responsibility for damaged warning buoys and trapped branches upstream of the Barnet Village dam.
 - o Faris responded that responsibility for repairing these problems rests with the power company that owns the dam.
- Several major wash-outs of roads occurred as a result of the severe rainstorm of September 30 and October 1, 2010. The Town received the assistance of the Town of Waterford, who used their grader to help repair a wash-out on Tower Road. Major repair was also conducted on DeMaio Lane.

- o Co-Chair Faris read an email from Salvatore DeMaio thanking the Highway Department for their good work on DeMaio Lane.
- The salt spreader on Truck #002 needs to be replaced. Quotes were prepared by Howard P. Fairfield, LLC for two different replacement options. Both have dual four-inch augers. A carbon steel model is quoted for \$2,788.00 and a stainless steel model for \$3,675.00.
 - o After brief discussion, the Board agreed to purchase the stainless steel model.

OUTSTANDING CHECK WARRANTS

Reviewed and signed all outstanding check warrants.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Bunnell to adjourn. Seconded by Roberts and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk