MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VT
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 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 Jeremy Roberts presiding as Chair for this meeting.
Others present: Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs, Cindy Bouchard (Vermont League of Cities & Towns), Tanya Chambers (Vermont League of Cities & Towns), Sally Cook (Caledonian Record), George Coppenrath (Sawyer & Ritchie Agency), Theodore Soares, and Shirley Warden.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion made by Faris to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held November 8, 2010. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER CORPORATION WITH PETITION FOR LOCATION OF POLES, GUYS, AND WIRES ON SYMNS POND ROAD

Read cover letter and briefly reviewed petition and plan for placement of poles, guys, and wires on Symns Pond Road.

After brief discussion Roberts signed the petition with the Board's approval.

DISCUSSION REGARDING TAX OVERPAYMENT OF MILAREPA CENTER

Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt discussed Board decision of October 25, 2010 to deposit the tax overpayment of Milarepa Center into the Esden Fund. Heisholt suggested that commingling these funds with a trust fund containing both unrestricted and restricted balances may present bookkeeping challenges. Heisholt suggested that the funds be placed in a reserve account.

After brief discussion, a motion made by Faris to deposit this tax overpayment into the Municipal Buildings reserve account. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs discussed several matters:

- The Town's radio license is due to expire on April 18, 2011. Tac-2 Communications recently provided Gibbs with a quote for providing relicensing services. Quote totals $850 including relicensing fees.
  - After brief discussion, the Board agreed to refer this matter to the Road Commissioner.
- Presented quotes provided by Pike Industries, Inc. for repair of fire-damaged sections of West Barnet Road ($2,100.00) and Roy Mountain Road ($1,750.00).
- Arrangements for set-up of diesel tanks at the new Town Garage: Gibbs has initiated processes for moving to the new Town Garage both the 1,000 gallon tank at the gravel pit and

the 1,000 gallon tank at the old Town Garage. Gibbs presented a quote from Calco, Inc. for a concrete crypt ($659.00) in which to place the tank from the gravel pit. Once the Highway Department moves the tank from the gravel pit, a roof will be built for the concrete crypt by the Highway Department. The Highway Department will also move the tank from the old Town Garage, and Calco, Inc. will move the concrete crypt currently housing this tank.
  - After brief discussion, the Board instructed Gibbs to proceed with this plan.
- Presented a quote from Shamrock Pipe Tools, Inc. for a nozzle used for cleaning culverts ($313.00). The Highway Department has borrowed a similar nozzle from the Town of Danville in the past, and found that it was effective.
- Work is complete on culverts to be replaced as a part of the current project on Town Highway 4, Class 2 (Groton-Peacham Road).
- All Highway Department trucks are prepared for the winter season.

APPEARANCE BY VERMONT LEAGUE OF CITIES & TOWNS (VLCT) REGARDING PROPERTY AND LIABILITY INSURANCE

Tanya Chambers (Member Relations Representative) and Cindy Bouchard (Underwriting Manager) appeared to present and discuss VLCT's 2011 policy renewal proposal. VLCT, the Town's current property and liability insurance provider, is presenting their proposal at this meeting, rather than by mail, because the Town has agreed to consider a proposal from a competing insurance agency. Ms. Chambers and Ms. Bouchard explained at length the coverages and benefits of their current proposal, and answered questions from the Board.

APPEARANCE BY RESIDENT THEODORE SOARES REGARDING TAX SALE

Mr. Soares appeared to present a grievance concerning the conduct of Collector of Delinquent Tax Lisa Bowden. Mr. Soares's property is currently scheduled for tax sale as result of delinquent property tax owed for tax years 2008, 2009 and 2010. Mr. Soares complained that Bowden has been difficult to work with: previously she has not accepted his offers to arrange payment plans but required that he pay large sums of money within a short period of time to avoid a tax sale. On this occasion, Mr. Soares claims that Bowden advertised a tax sale without notifying him prior to procedures being completed.

Brief discussion followed. Faris explained that Bowden is an elected official with autonomous powers. Roberts explained that the only influence the Board has in this matter is with respect to payment of legal fees accrued by tax sale proceedings. Roberts instructed Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt to request Bowden's appearance at the next Board meeting, on December 13, 2010.

OUTSTANDING CHECK WARRANTS

Reviewed and signed all outstanding check warrants.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING PERSONNEL MATTERS

Motion made by Faris to enter executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:40 p.m.

Motion made by Faris to exit executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session 8:55 p.m.

Board instructed Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs to hire a part-time Highway Department Truck Driver for the winter season.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Motion made by Faris to enter executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:55 p.m.

Motion made by Faris to exit executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 9:00 p.m.

Motion made by Faris to forward correspondence received from Attorney Paul P. Hanlon regarding Gregory and Celia Jackmauh v. Town of Barnet to Board of Civil Authority Chairman William Graves. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Faris to adjourn. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk