

**MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT  
MONDAY, JULY 11, 2011**

**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:** Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, and Jan Sherman.

Note: Numbered headings correspond to agenda printed in advance of meeting. Items appear in minutes in order discussed at meeting. Order of discussion is occasionally out of sequence with agenda numbers.

**1. Approve minutes of regular meeting held June 27, 2011 and special meeting held July 8, 2011**

Motion made by Roberts to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held June 27, 2011 and the special meeting held July 8, 2011. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

**2. Appearance by Jan Sherman of the Lake Harvey Association (LHA) regarding Harvey's Lake Dam renovations**

Ms. Sherman requested that Mr. Faris attend the annual meeting of the LHA, to be held July 16, 2011 at the West Barnet Church at 9:00 a.m., to discuss and explain planned renovations to the Harvey's Lake Dam. Faris spoke regarding the Board's recent activities with regard to the dam. The Board plans to effect the cleaning the back of the dam, as recommended in a dam inspection report by the Facilities Engineering Division of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. The Board has obtained a design for a movable replacement gate from a professional engineer. Sources and prices for parts have also been obtained, and the Board plans to install the new system this autumn.

**3. Appearance(s) by other member(s) of the public**

No other members of the public present.

**4. Correspondence from Vermont Department of Taxes regarding fiscal year 2012 Education Tax Rates**

Read letter and reviewed rates. The non-residential tax rate is to be \$1.2829 and the homestead tax rate \$1.2200.

**5. 2012 Municipal tax rates**

Reviewed certification of tax rates for 2011, as prepared by Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt. After brief discussion, Board signed certification. Total tax rates (including all municipal and education taxes) for homestead to be 1.6653; and for non-residential to be 1.7282.

**6. Appointment of Zoning Board member**

One appointment, for a term commencing July 1, 2011, remains to be made. Faris spoke regarding one candidate for this appointment who has of late decided not to serve at this time. Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden discussed another candidate who may be willing to serve.

- No action taken.

## **7. Correspondence from Caledonia County Sheriff's Office regarding service contract**

Faris read contract for term of July 1, 2011 to July 1, 2012 for the Caledonia County Sheriff's Department to provide the Town with police services including the aggregate amount of six hours per week from June 1 to October 31 and four hours per week from November 1 to May 30. Town expense for contract includes officer time at the rate of \$30.00 per hour, and court time at the rate of \$30.00 per hour. Other terms and conditions read.

- After brief discussion Faris signed the contract.

## **8. Correspondence from Vermont Department of Health regarding appointment of Deputy Health Officer**

Faris read letter requesting a recommendation from the Selectboard for a Deputy Health Officer for a three year term commencing August 1, 2011.

- After brief discussion Faris requested that Town Clerk Heisholt contact Maurice Roberts to ask if he would be willing to be re-appointed to this office.

## **9. Alarm System Service Agreement for Town Garage from Alarmco, Inc.**

Faris reviewed terms of agreement. Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs explained that although the alarm system at the Town Garage was tested when it was installed no regular maintenance or service agreement was instituted at that time.

- After brief discussion Board requested that Town Clerk Heisholt sign the agreement and return to Alarmco.

## **10. Other business**

- **Correspondence from resident Amy Ehrlich regarding repair of roads following storm of May 26<sup>th</sup>.** Faris read letter thanking and praising all involved for efficient and skilled repair of road damage caused by flooding.
  - o Faris, with Board's approval, passed this letter to Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs, so that it may be displayed in the Town Garage.
- **Correspondence from Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) regarding application from resident George McBride for replacement/rebuilding of stone wall in public waters of Harvey's Lake.** Faris noted receipt of notice and details regarding this application. Comments or requests for a public information meeting must be received by the DEC prior to July 21, 2011. A copy of this correspondence is available at the Town Clerk's Office.
- **Discussion regarding United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service Emergency Watershed Protection Program.** Roberts discussed developments in the project at the residence of Shannon and Crystal Rice. The contracted work is completed. Roberts requested that Road Foreman Gibbs take some action to prevent road water run-off from entering the lawn of the Rice property and disrupting grass seed planted as part of this project. Gibbs agreed to install a temporary 2" x 4" pressure-treated wood curb.
- **Appearance by Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs regarding Highway Department matters.** Gibbs appeared to discuss several matters relating to the Highway Department:
  - o All contracted flood damage road repairs are complete, with the exception of some ditching work on Whitehill Road.
  - o Regarding paving projects for 2011, Gibbs is confident that a one-year extension for the grant work on the Groton-Peacham Road can be obtained. If so, Gibbs recommends that planned work on that road be delayed until next summer in favor of repairing the north end of Barnet Center Road and Joe's Brook Road. The Board agreed to pursue this course of action.
  - o Gibbs requested that Roberts investigate a problem with the outside lighting at the Town Garage and assist in the installation of a power line from the Town Garage to a pump at the new diesel tank.
  - o The Highway Department is currently hauling salvaged material stockpiled at Gilfillan Road to the Town pit, to be recycled in a mix with ¾" minus gravel.

**11. Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits**

Reviewed and approved single vehicle permit for Nutbrown’s Construction, Inc.

**12. Outstanding check warrants**

Reviewed and signed all outstanding check warrants.

**13. Possible executive session regarding personnel**

- Motion made by Roberts to enter executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 7:40 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Selectboard, Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.
- Motion made by Roberts to exit executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:00 p.m.
- Motion made by Roberts to increase the hourly wage of Highway Department employees Thomas Gould and Keith Gadapee to \$15.55, thereby establishing a minimum rate for Highway Department employees, and to make this wage increase effective beginning with the pay period beginning July 10, 2011. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

**14. Possible executive session regarding legal proceedings**

- Motion made by Roberts to enter executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:02 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Selectboard, and Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.
- Motion made by Roberts to exit executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:05 p.m.
- No action taken.

**15. Adjournment**

Motion made by Roberts to adjourn. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

*A true copy.*

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Town Clerk*