

**MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, JULY 25, 2011**

Meeting convened at 7:05 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, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, Denise Stuart, and Robert Stuart.

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 July 11, 2011 and special meeting held July 18, 2011

Motion made by Roberts to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held July 11, 2011 and the special meeting held July 18, 2011. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

2. Appearance(s) by member(s) of the public

Denise and Robert Stuart appeared to inquire regarding developments in their eligibility for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (see minutes of meeting held 13 June 2011).

- Roberts responded: Recent developments indicate that additional funds, for which the Stuarts may qualify, are now available. Roberts will contact a USDA representative to inquire specifically regarding the Stuarts' situation.

3. Appointment of Zoning Board member

Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden appeared and indicated that there are no developments in the search for a nominee for the currently vacant position. There remains an interested candidate who would like to attend a Zoning Board meeting before committing to serve. The next Zoning Board meeting will be held 2 August 2011.

4. Correspondence from Vermont League of Cities & Towns (VLCT) regarding Health Trust carrier choice

Faris read letter regarding the Health Trust Board of Director's decision to offer medical plans from all health insurance carriers operating in Vermont. One effect of this decision is to require members of the Health Trust to submit a Broker of Record letter.

- After brief discussion the Board signed the attached Broker of Record letter.

5. Correspondence from Vermont Department of Taxes regarding penalties for late filed Homestead Declarations

Board reviewed letter regarding a change in state law that increases the penalty for filing a homestead declaration for a property that is not a homestead or failing to declare for a property that is a homestead, but defers to the municipalities the discretion to assess or not to assess the penalties.

- After brief discussion, the Board agreed to charge the increased fee to all above-referenced filing errors.

6. Discussion regarding mileage reimbursement rate

Faris read press release of the Internal Revenue Service announcing an increase in the optional standard mileage rate to 55.5 cents per mile. The Town currently reimburses mileage at a rate of 50.5 cents per mile.

- A brief discussion, motion made by Roberts to increase the mileage reimbursement rate of the Town to 55.5 cents per mile. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

7. Correspondence from Vermont Department of Forest, Parks & Recreation regarding stewardship activities at Roy Mountain Wildlife Management Area

Read cover letter and reviewed details of planned timber inventory and boundary line maintenance activities to be performed in the upcoming field season at the Roy Mountain Wildlife Management Area.

8. Correspondence from Vermont Waste Management Division regarding second quarter 2011 Solid Waste Transfer Station Report

Faris reviewed highlights of report detailing second quarter 2011 waste disposed (total of 61.2 tons) and waste recycled (total of 21.71 tons) at the Barnet Transfer Station and Recycling Center.

9. Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Stream Alteration Permit Application of Ben's Mill Trust Limited

Board reviewed application and attached map and plan regarding the construction of an access ramp to allow a small excavator and ton truck to cross river.

10. Correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) regarding Go Vermont pilot

Faris reviewed letter regarding grants to municipal energy committees for assistance in building a statewide outreach and advocacy network for the Go Vermont program.

11. Correspondence from Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation regarding Municipal Pollution Control Projects Priority List and Clean Water Intended Use Plan

Faris reviewed email and attached fiscal year 2012 priority list.

12. Other business

- **20 July 2011 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) meetings.** Faris requested that the minutes indicate that the Selectboard attended an Applicants Briefing and Kick-Off Meeting presented by FEMA, regarding reimbursement damage for town highway damage caused by the storm of 26-27 May 2011.
- **Tower Road culvert.** Bunnell spoke regarding his investigation of the culvert on Tower Road, as referenced in minutes of meeting held 23 May 2011. Bunnell does not recommend the enlargement of the culvert at this site.

13. Outstanding check warrants

Reviewed and signed all outstanding check warrants.

14. Discussion regarding legal proceedings (possible executive session)

- Motion made by Roberts to enter executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 7:31 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 7:44 p.m.
- No action taken.

15. Adjournment

Motion made by Roberts to adjourn. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk