

**MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2012**

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, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, Joel Bartlett, Ernest Bourtelle, Keith Gadapee, Thomas Gould, Jackson Stewart (Lyndon State College News 7), and Jessica Walsh (Lyndon State College News 7).

1. Approve minutes of regular meeting held April 9, 2012

Motion made by Faris to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held April 9, 2012. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

2. Appearances by members of the public

Joel Bartlett appeared to inquire regarding the status of his application for a highway access permit. Town Clerk Heisholt related that Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs is in possession of this application and has not yet forwarded it to the Selectboard; Mr. Gibbs has attempted to contact Mr. Bartlett with questions pertaining to the application, but has been unable to reach him.

3. Correspondence from Harvey's Lake Beach Committee

Roberts read letter containing a list of nine beach maintenance items that the Committee requests that the Board address prior to the opening of the beach for the 2012 season. Brief discussion followed.

- Board agreed to forward the list of requests to the Highway Department with instruction to commence work on these items. A copy of the correspondence was given to Highway Department employee Thomas Gould, who was present at this meeting.

4. Discussion regarding correspondence from Annie Boone Crane concerning highway access permit application

Roberts read email from Town Agent Jay Abramson and attached copies from the Vermont Statutes Annotated. Town Clerk Heisholt discussed his conversation with Mr. Abramson, in which Mr. Abramson advised that (1) The Selectboard has authority to issue highway access permits pursuant to 19 VSA Sec. 1111 and Sec. 304; (2) Barnet does not have a town governance charter; (3) There does not appear to be any specific statutory provision for an appeal from the decision of the Selectboard with regard to highway access permits; (4) If the Selectboard is satisfied that its decision with regard to the application in question fulfills its obligations toward public safety and maintenance and protection of town infrastructure, no further action is required by the Board. Brief discussion followed.

- Board agreed to take no further action with regard to this matter.

5. Correspondence to attorneys regarding 2011 financial audit

Board reviewed form letters printed on town letterhead to be mailed to attorneys providing legal services to the Town of Barnet in fiscal year 2011. These letters request that the attorneys furnish the town's auditors, Mudgett, Jennett, and Krogh-Wisner with information concerning contingencies involving matters with which these attorneys have been engaged on behalf of the town.

- Faris signed the letters.

6. Applications to Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation for fire cost reimbursement

Reviewed applications for wildland fire cost reimbursement as submitted by Fire Warden Joseph Barrett.

- Board signed applications.

7. Highway Access Permit application of Quinn Hurlbert

Board reviewed application for access on Old Silo Road. Attached documents include a sketch of the proposed access and a list of recommendations and conditions provided by Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs. Brief discussion followed.

- Board agreed to postpone approval of this application pending the addition of the recommendations of Mr. Gibbs as conditions to the permit.

8. Discussion regarding Tenco proposal for dump body on dump truck #009

Board reviewed quotation for installation of new side-dump body. Total price for equipment and installation is \$29,970. Discussion ensued regarding the age and condition of the current dump body on truck #009.

- Board agreed to not purchase a new dump body for truck #009 at this time.

9. Other business

- **Salt shed.** Barnet Highway Department employees Keith Gadapee, Thomas Gould, and Ernest Bourtelle appeared to discuss the construction of a new salt shed. Road Commissioner Gary Bunnell had previously requested that Mr. Gadapee prepare draft plans and estimates for this structure, which the Board plans to build during 2012. Mr. Gadapee presented draft drawings and estimated costs. Details regarding the plans, and options concerning the Highway Department constructing or assisting in the construction of the salt shed, were then discussed at length.

10. Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits

Reviewed and approved Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits for G.M. Bowen Excavating Contractor, Inc., Gould Well Drilling, Inc., Donald Moore, Jr., Darcy Nelson, Nutbrown's Construction, Inc./Anthony Nutbrown, Tim Stone Trucking, and Thomson Timber Harvesting & Trucking, LLC.

11. Outstanding check warrants

Reviewed and signed all outstanding check warrants.

12. Discussion regarding personnel matters (executive session)

- Motion made by Faris to enter executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:05 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Bunnell, Faris, Roberts, and Town Clerk Heisholt.
- Motion made by Faris to exit executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:15 p.m.
- No action taken.

13. Discussion regarding legal proceedings (executive session)

- Motion made by Faris to enter executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:15 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Bunnell, Faris, Roberts, and Town Clerk Heisholt.
- Motion made by Faris to exit executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:30 p.m.

- No action taken.

14. Discussion regarding real estate transaction (executive session)

- Motion made by Faris to enter executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:30 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Bunnell, Faris, Roberts, and Town Clerk Heisholt.
- Motion made by Faris to exit executive session. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:35 p.m.
- With regard to property owned by the Town of Barnet and located at 4465 US Route 5 North, Board agreed that Faris will discuss the offered price and the valuation provided by the Board of Listers with the interested party.

15. Adjournment

Motion made by Faris to adjourn. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk