

**MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, MAY 14, 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 Theodore Faris presiding as Chair for this meeting.

Others present:, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, Benjamin Adams, Joel Bartlett, Margaret Clayton, Christina Fearon, Keith Gadapee, Thomas Gould, Susan Jensen, Armand King, Debora King, Mary Mallon, Richard Mallon, and Andrew Mosedale.

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 April 23, 2012 and special meeting held May 11, 2012

Motion made by Roberts to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held April 23, 2012 and of the special meeting held May 11, 2012. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

2. Appearance by Andrew Mosedale regarding e-Vermont Community Broadband Project

Mr. Mosedale discussed his attendance as Barnet's representative at the e-Vermont conference *Vermont's Digital Future* (see minutes of meeting held March 26, 2012). Mr. Mosedale provided Board and attendees with copies of his notes from this conference and reviewed the main points pertinent to the Town. In approximately two weeks from the date of this Selectboard meeting, representatives from the e-Vermont conference will produce a summary of the outcomes from this conference and a plan for establishing broadband access for all Vermonters by December 31, 2013. A brief period of questions and answers between Mr. Mosedale and attendees followed.

3. Appearances by members of the public

- **Appearance by Barnet Elementary School teacher Christina Fearon regarding Vermont Rural Partnership grant project.** Ms. Fearon appeared discuss a program in which her first grade class is participating wherein students visit and learn about local workplaces. Ms. Fearon had hoped to include in this program a presentation from the Barnet Highway Department and was disappointed when she was recently informed that this would not be possible.
 - o Faris responded: The Board understands Ms. Fearon's disappointment, but there would be too great a liability created by a class of students visiting the town garage.
- **Appearance by Benjamin Adams regarding excavation of Little Scotland Road.** Mr. Adams asked permission from the Board to excavate across Little Scotland Road to bury a conduit.
 - o Board agreed to grant this permission with the condition that Mr. Adams submit a sketch indicating the exact location of the site with landmarks.

13. Highway Access Permit application of Joel Bartlett

Board reviewed application for access on Davidson Lane. Application includes comments provided by Road Foreman Timothy Gibbs, who inspected the site. Brief discussion followed.

- Board agreed to approve this permit.

4. Discussion regarding West Main Street paving project

Highway Department employees Keith Gadapee and Thomas Gould appeared to discuss the planned road construction project on West Main Street. Road Commissioner Gary Bunnell has been collaborating with Gadapee and Gould and has requested that they present the Board with an update regarding the plans for this work. A document summarizing the planned work was distributed to the Board and attendees; a packet containing financial data was also distributed to the Board.

- Gadapee spoke, giving an overview of the project, addressing different options for completion of the work over the course of two years, and detailing impact of the project on abutting landowners.
- The Board then opened the floor to residents in attendance for public comment:
 - o Debora King spoke regarding the impact of this project on her business at the West Barnet Quick Stop. Ms. King, citing the current economic recession's effect on her business, stated her preference that the Board either postpone this construction for one year, postpone it until September, or choose options that would have the least possible impact on traffic patterns.
 - Faris responded: The Board is sympathetic to Ms. King's concerns but, given that this project has already been postponed one year, is not inclined to postpone for another year.
 - o Margaret Clayton spoke regarding her concern for the project's impact on her property. Gadapee and Gould have informed her that a stone wall along the border of her property with the road must be moved. Ms. Clayton also asked whether a large ditch that is on the easterly end of her property can be filled as a part of this project.
 - It was decided that a portion of the wall must be moved back several feet to accommodate the shoulder of the road; the wall will be returned to a condition satisfactory to Ms. Clayton at the conclusion of the project. It was also decided that it will be possible to fill in the ditch at the easterly end of the property.
 - o Susan Jensen and Richard Mallon also spoke briefly to clarify impact of the project on their properties.
- Board discussed at length with Gadapee and Gould decisions to be made with regard to this project and other related highway department matters. Decisions made in this discussion included:
 - o In 2012, the town will attempt to complete the following work on West Main Street: a) Complete culvert and drainage work for the length of the entire job, and b) Complete entire project (including base material, pavement, etc.) for section #2 of the job (from high point of grade near old store to high point of grade near Clayton residence).
 - o Contractors providing estimates for the West Main Street project should base these estimates upon the inclusion of any additional equipment that the contractor may need to hire to perform the required work.
 - o Base and gravel materials required for the West Main Street project will be provided from the town pit. To accommodate this, annual crushing activities will be increased to 16,000 yards of material (6,000 of 3 ½" and 10,000 of ¾"). Four local contractors will be asked to bid for crushing services.
 - o The Town will hire Beattie Crushing & Screening to screen 6,000 yards of winter sand this year.
 - o The Barnet highway department will perform only preparatory site work and general oversight for the planned new salt shed construction; building will be performed by a hired contractor.
 - o The Town will enter an agreement with the Town of Monroe, NH to receive services of street sweeping where necessary in exchange for a quantity of winter sand of like value.

5. Discussion regarding overtime policy

Faris read email from Town Agent Jay Abramson regarding Town's overtime policy as discussed at Board meeting held February 27, 2012. Abramson advises that there are no instances in which the Town is required to pay overtime except when an employee works more than forty hours in a work week. Brief discussion followed.

- Board agreed to add to section VIII.A. of the Personnel Policy to indicate that, in addition to instances already stated in this section, pay will be made the rate of time and one-half for any time worked outside of the normal workday hours of the highway department.

6. Correspondence from Barnet Public Library regarding Third Annual Art at the Library event

Faris read email requesting permission for the Library to close Church Street to traffic on July 4, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to accommodate the Third Annual Art at the Library event. Discussion followed.

- Board agreed to deny permission for closure of Church Street.

7. Discussion regarding library building boiler and fuel and maintenance contracts

Board agreed to table discussion of this matter.

8. Change of appraisal notice from Board of Listers regarding Harvey's Lake Public Beach

Board reviewed notice indicating change of appraisal based on the removal of the Clara Brock cottage from the property in 2011. In 2011 the total real value of the Beach property was \$615,500; in 2012 the total real value is \$532,400. Brief discussion followed.

9. Correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding Annual Financial Plan

Faris read cover letter and Board briefly reviewed 2012 Annual Financial Plan for Town Highways as prepared by Selectboard, Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt, and VTrans District Project Manager Shauna Clifford. Plan expense and income budgets each total \$993,200. Major projects planned include paving Town Highway 4, Class 2 (Groton-Peacham Road) and grinding, replacing culverts and drainage, ditching, and paving Town Highway 1 (West Main Street).

- After brief discussion the Board signed the plan.

10. Correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding State of Vermont payments for storm events of May 26 to May 27, 2011

Board reviewed documents detailing reimbursements received. Package received April 27, 2012 indicates that payment in the amount of \$132,839.04 has been processed; this payment represents the State portion of costs for all May 2011 event projects except Barnet Center Road.

11. Application 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.

12. First quarter Solid Waste Transfer Station Report from Vermont Solid Waste Management Program

Board reviewed highlights of report detailing first quarter 2012 waste disposed (total of 51.08 tons) and waste recycled (total of 17.56 tons) at the Barnet Transfer Station and Recycling Center.

14. Highway Access Permit application of Gary Bissell

Board reviewed application for access on Garland Hill. Application includes sketch of site. Road Commissioner Gary Bunnell inspected the site and provided comment. Brief discussion followed.

- Board agreed to approve this permit.

15. Other business

No other business was discussed.

16. Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits

Reviewed and approved Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permits for C & C Bunnell Excavating, LLC and Ron Fenoff Excavating, LLC.

17. Outstanding check warrants

Reviewed and signed all outstanding check warrants.

18. Adjournment

Motion made by Roberts to adjourn. Seconded by Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk