

**MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 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 presided as Chair for this meeting.

Others present: Lister John Cook, Assistant Road Foreman Keith Gadapee, Assistant Road Foreman Thomas Gould, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, Harry Adamek, Lisa Adler, Eric Brinkerhoff, Matthew Burak, Elyssa Ellis (Lyndon State College News 7), David Gile, Pamela Hurst-Brinkerhoff, Taylor Reed (Caledonian-Record), and Sam Spaulding (Lyndon State College News 7).

1. Approve minutes of regular meeting held September 10, 2012

Mr. Roberts made a motion to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held September 10, 2012. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

2. Appearance by Eric Brinkerhoff regarding petition for special town meeting

Mr. Faris read petition, as submitted by Mr. Brinkerhoff, to call a special town meeting to vote on the following article: "Do we, the registered and legal voters of the Town of Barnet, wish to see the continued use of ATVs (all-terrain vehicles) on our public roads?" Mr. Faris indicated that Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt had verified 215 petition signatures as valid signatures of registered voters in the Town of Barnet. This exceeds the requirement for valid petitions of five percent of the total number of voters on the voter checklist (1,240).

- Mr. Faris stated that the Board requests that Mr. Heisholt warn a special town meeting for such a time as will meet the statutory requirements for a legally warned meeting.
- Mr. Brinkerhoff read a prepared statement requesting a special town meeting.
- Discussion ensued.

3. Appearances by other members of the public

There were no appearances by other members of the public.

4. Appearance by Board of Listers regarding Grand List errors and omissions

Mr. Faris read a letter from John Cook, Chairman of the Board of Listers, stating that it was recently brought to the Listers' attention that they had overlooked the timely filed request for a 2012 grievance hearing of Central Vermont Public Service (CVPS). The Listers request that the Board change the 2012 values to the values suggested by CVPS in their grievance letter. These changes are for parcel ID# 0024-01-66 from a value of \$994,100 to \$612,697, for #0024-01-66.1 from \$1,301,100 to \$1,449,631, and for #0025-01-32 from \$4,147,300 to \$3,399,993, for a total decrease in real value of \$980,179. Discussion between Selectmen and Mr. Cook ensued.

- Mr. Roberts made a motion to change the 2012 grand list values as requested by the Board of Listers. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

5. Appearance by Assistant Road Foremen Keith Gadapee and Thomas Gould regarding highway department matters

- **Salt shed.** Mr. Gadapee discussed progress relating to concrete work, and asked a) the Board to approve the purchase of trusses; and b) if the Board prefers that the Highway Department complete all of the construction, except for the concrete work, themselves, or hire a contractor.

- The Board approved the purchases of the trusses, and instructed Mr. Gadapee to hire two or more carpenters to assist the Highway Department in completing construction.
- **Road construction projects.** Mr. Gadapee reported that highway construction projects on West Main Street and Groton-Peacham road are progressing well.
- **Monroe Road.** Mr. Faris instructed Mr. Gadapee to develop a proposal for the next Board meeting for the repair of a section of road under a railroad bridge in McIndoe Falls.

6. Notices of Appeal from TransCanada Hydro Northeast from tax appeal decision of the Board of Civil Authority (BCA)

Mr. Faris read a cover letter and two notices of appeal regarding the 2012 BCA decisions on School Property Account Numbers (SPAN) 033-010-11041(Comerford Dam) and 033-010-11285 (McIndoe Station). Mr. Faris also read an email from State Senator Jane Kitchel indicating her support for state funding of litigation in defense of the state-funded appraisal represented by the TransCanada Hydro Northeast property values as upheld by the Barnet BCA in 2012. Discussion ensued.

7. Decision of the State Appraiser regarding 2010 tax appeal of Ernest and Vivianne Begin

Mr. Faris read cover letter and decision concluding this appeal from the 2010 decision of the Barnet Board of Civil Authority (BCA). The State Appraiser’s decision is to overturn the decision of the BCA and assign a listed value for 2010 and the two following years at \$242,000.

8. Discussion regarding library building boiler

Mr. Robert discussed his conversations with Kevin Morrison of ARC Mechanical Contractors, Jeff Simpson of Johnson Heating & Plumbing, and Chad Dunbar of Trombly Plumbing & Heating. The Board reviewed the proposals of each of these contractors for the installation of a new boiler and burner at the library building. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Bunnell made a motion to hire Johnson Heating & Plumbing to install a new boiler and burner per their proposal. Seconded by Mr. Roberts and approved by voice vote.

9. Other business

● **Discussion regarding personnel matters (executive session)**

- Mr. Roberts made a motion to enter executive session. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:00 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Mr. Faris, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Bunnell, Mr. Gadapee, Mr. Gould, and Mr. Heisholt.
- Mr. Bunnell made a motion to exit executive session. Seconded by Mr. Roberts and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:05 p.m.
- Mr. Bunnell made a motion to appoint Keith Gadapee as Road Foreman. Seconded by Mr. Roberts and approved by voice vote.

10. Outstanding check warrants

The Board reviewed and signed all outstanding check warrants.

11. Adjournment

Mr. Faris made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk