

**MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 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 presided as Chair for this meeting.

Others present: Road Foreman Keith Gadapee, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, Elyssa Ellis (Lyndon State College News 7), and Tyler Kittleman (Lyndon State College News 7)

1. Approve minutes of regular meeting held October 22, 2012

Mr. Bunnell moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held October 22, 2012. Seconded by Mr. Faris and approved by voice vote.

2. Appearances by members of the public

There were no appearances by members of the public.

3. Appearance by Road Foreman Keith Gadapee.

- **2013 Highway Department budget.** Mr. Gadapee distributed and discussed a report regarding prices for proposed equipment purchases.
- **Salt shed.** Mr. Gadapee discussed construction progress. The Highway Department will be focusing on construction during the next two weeks due to vacation schedules.
- **West Main Street construction project recapitulation.** Mr. Gadapee discussed final 2012 construction costs, which finished slightly below estimates.
- **Bridge Street railroad crossing.** Mr. Gadapee indicated that last week the State of Vermont replaced pavement to repair this crossing in Passumpsic.
- **Somerhill Road bridge over Peacham Hollow Brook.** Mr. Gadapee and the Board discussed options for repair of guardrails and approaches, as discussed in correspondence from the Vermont Agency of Transportation at the previous meeting. Mr. Gadapee presented a plan for repair, which will have an estimated cost of \$10,000.
 - The Board agreed to repair the bridge per Mr. Gadapee's recommendations, and signed a Vermont Agency of Transportation form indicating their planned course of action.
- **Keyser Hill Road bridges.** Mr. Gadapee and the Board discussed options for repair of guardrails at two bridges.
 - The Board agreed to repair existing guardrails at one bridge, and install new guardrails on the east side of the other bridge.
- **Keys for Transfer Station/Recycling Center and Town Pit.** Mr. Gadapee discussed recent problems with locks at the gate to the Transfer Station/Recycling Center and the two gates for the Town Pit.
 - The Board instructed Mr. Gadapee to replace all locks, making the two Town Pit locks keyed the same as each other, but different from the Transfer Station/Recycling Center lock.

4. Discussion regarding tax appeal of TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc.

The Board reviewed Notices of Hearing from Vermont Superior Court, which indicated that the Status Conference had been rescheduled for Friday, November 2, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. The Board also reviewed correspondence from attorney Richard H. Coutant of the Law Offices of Salmon & Nostrand, which related to a Notice of Appearance on behalf of the Town of Barnet, a Motion to Appear by Telephone,

and a formal proposal for representation of the Town. Mr. Faris then gave a brief overview of his conversation with Mr. Coutant, who represented the Town at the November 2, 2012 Status Conference.

- Mr. Roberts moved to hire Richard H. Coutant to represent the Town of Barnet in the 2012 tax appeal of TransCanada Hydro Northeast, Inc. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

5. Correspondence from Board of Listers regarding Grand List errors and omissions

Mr. Roberts read a letter from the Listers indicating the Listers' request that the Selectboard remove from the 2012 Grand List a certain trailer owned by Arthur and Debra Roy and valued at \$7,600, which was removed from the town of Barnet prior to April 1, 2012. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Faris moved to remove the above-mentioned trailer from the 2012 Grand List. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

6. Request for reimbursement from Vermont Agency of Transportation for Class 2 Roadway Grant project on Groton-Peacham Road

The Board reviewed documents summarizing expenses and requesting reimbursement. Total materials and contractor expenses reported are \$244,569.91. The grant is for eighty percent State reimbursement, with a maximum reimbursement of \$175,000.

- The Board signed the request for reimbursement form.

7. Correspondence from Town of Waterford Planning Commission regarding revision of Zoning Bylaw

The Board briefly reviewed correspondence with copy of revised Zoning Bylaw.

- The Board agreed to refer this correspondence to Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden.

8. Third Quarter 2012 Solid Waste Facility Report from Vermont Solid Waste Management Program

Mr. Roberts reviewed the highlights of report detailing third quarter 2012 waste disposed (total of 87.28 tons) and waste recycled (total of 29.83 tons) at the Barnet Transfer Station and Recycling Center.

9. Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permit application

The Board reviewed and approved the single vehicle permit application of Stan Robinson.

10. Other business

- **Town Hall.** Mr. Faris indicated that the boiler and water system at the Town Hall will be shut down now that 2012 elections are complete.
- **Road signs stolen.** Mr. Gadapee indicated that the Highway Department has noted an increase in stolen road signs.
 - The Board instructed Mr. Gadapee to continue replacing signs as they are stolen, and to continue to monitor this situation.

11. Outstanding check warrants

The Board reviewed and signed all outstanding check warrants.

10. Other business

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

- Mr. Bunnell moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Mr. Faris and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:07 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Mr. Faris, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Bunnell, and Mr. Gadapee.
- Mr. Bunnell moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Mr. Faris and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:43 p.m.
- The Board agreed to increase the hourly wage of Road Foreman Keith Gadapee by \$1.00 to \$19.80.

12. Adjournment

Mr. Faris moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk