

**MINUTES –SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, MAY 12, 2014**

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Barnet Town Clerk's Office.

Board members present: Chair Jeremy Roberts, Gary Bunnell, and Dylan Ford.

Others present: Road Foreman Keith Gadapee, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, Suzann Duquette, Jan Enthoven, Dennis McLam, and David Warden.

1. Approve minutes of special meeting held May 5, 2014

Mr. Bunnell moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held May 5, 2014. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

2. Appearances by members of the public

There were no appearances by members of the public at the time this agenda item was reached.

3. Discussion regarding Town Hall renovations

- Ms. Ford indicated that her research thus far has concluded that the Town Hall is not on any state or federal historic registry. She indicated that she will continue to investigate this matter.
- Shirley Warden indicated that she spoke with a representative from the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, who suggested that the Town Hall and other structures in Barnet Village may be on a historic registry. Discussion ensued. Ms. Warden stated that this representative also indicated that there is grant money available for restoration of historic buildings.
- Jan Enthoven and Suzann Duquette, whose property abuts the Town Hall, appeared to discuss concerns regarding the effect of the renovations on their property. Discussion ensued.

4. Appearance by Road Foreman Keith Gadapee regarding Highway Department matters

- a. **Culvert order.** Mr. Gadapee indicated that he is preparing to order culverts valuing approximately \$22,000 (\$15,200 for the Roy Mountain Road project, and \$6,800 for annual usage). Mr. Gadapee discussed suggested vendors, and asked for the Board's approval to place the order. Discussion ensued.
 - The Board agreed to approve this purchase.
- b. **Mill Hill retaining wall project.** Mr. Gadapee discussed his correspondence with engineer Timothy Ruggles of Ruggles Engineering regarding proposed contractors for the project. Mr. Ruggles suggested several contractors from which the Town could request bids. Discussion ensued.
 - The Board agreed that all of the contractors on Mr. Ruggles's list would be acceptable for the project.
- c. **Flagging class.** Mr. Gadapee indicated that all Highway Department employees will be attending Vermont Local Roads training for flagger certification.
- d. **McLam Lane project.** Mr. Gadapee discussed a problem area at the end of McLam Lane, as discussed by the Board at their meeting held June 10, 2013. Frequent wash-outs are experienced at this location due to poor drainage. Mr. Gadapee suggested that some cost savings may be realized by installing a catch basin system. Discussion ensued.
 - The Board agreed to approve the installation of a catch basin system.

5. Discussion regarding Personnel Policy amendment

The Board reviewed a proposed addition to the Personnel Policy, as prepared by Mr. Heisholt at the Board's request at their previous meeting. Mr. Heisholt proposed to add to the Personnel Policy a Section VI, Part I, which would read as follows:

All time off or leaves of absence of any duration must be compensated through benefits described in Section VI (paid holidays, personal time, vacation time, days off due to death in family, or extended sick leave) unless for a reason covered by federal or state law or approved by the employee's supervisor. All requests for time off or leaves of absence without pay for any reason other than those covered by federal or state law must be submitted in writing to the employee's supervisor and must set forth the purpose for which the leave is requested. All leave requests must be for a definite period of time and include a specified date of return.

If a leave of absence without pay is granted, the employee may, at the Town's sole discretion, continue the employee's group health plan coverage by paying the required premium in accordance the payment schedule established by the Town. Other employee benefits (e.g. sick leave, vacation, seniority, etc.) will not accrue during the unpaid leave period.

Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to adopt the above-referenced Section VI, Part I as proposed by Mr. Heisholt as a part of the Personnel Policy.

6. Appearances by members of the public

a. Dennis McLam regarding mowing of Harvey's Lake Beach field. Mr. McLam, who was not present when item number two was reached earlier in the meeting, appeared to ask the Board how often they would like to mow the field along Harvey Mountain Road during the current mowing season. Discussion ensued.

- The Board instructed Mr. McLam to mow the field once per month, as Mr. McLam did in 2013.

7. Discussion regarding diesel fuel, heating fuel, and propane bids

Mr. Heisholt presented the results of a request for bids sent to fuel suppliers. Service required is the delivery of fuel oil, propane, and diesel fuel to all Town locations for the period of June 1, 2014 to May 31, 2015. The Board reviewed bids submitted, which were from Dead River Company, Fred's Propane & Heating Oil, and Irving Oil. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to accept the bid of Fred's Propane & Heating Oil, and to continue to purchase all products at the fluctuating price based on the rack price.

8. Application for Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permit

The Board reviewed and approved the application of Carroll E. Ainsworth.

9. Other business

a. Correspondence from Town Agent Jay Abramson regarding correspondence from resident Kevin Bruno. Mr. Roberts read an email and attachment from Mr. Bruno, which Mr. Abramson forwarded to the Board. Mr. Bruno states his concern regarding the installation of a telecommunications facility at 140 Kinerson Lane, which project was discussed at previous Board meetings. Mr. Bruno states that because the support structure is in direct line of sight of the view from his home, it may negatively affect the value of his property; he suggests that measures be taken to minimize the project's negative aesthetic effect. Mr. Bruno requests a meeting with the Board to discuss his input in the Town's response to the project. Discussion ensued.

- The Board requested that Mr. Heisholt contact Jay Abramson to ask what power the Board has to influence the project.

- b. Pit planning.** Mr. Bunnell and Mr. Gadapee discussed logistics for stripping overburden at the pit. Mr. Bunnell reported that the Town is approximately four years behind schedule in stripping; it would require the expenditure of approximately \$16,000 above the budgeted amount for 2014 to bring stripping up to date. Discussion ensued.
- c. Annual Goss mud bog event.** Ms. Ford reported that she received several calls regarding this year's mud bog event, held May 10, 2014. She asked if the Town might have any liability in the event of an accident. Discussion ensued.
 - The Board requested that Mr. Heisholt contact Town Agent Jay Abramson to ask regarding potential liability.

10. Outstanding check warrants

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

11. Discussion regarding Anderson Street water leak (executive session)

- Mr. Bunnell moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:45 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Mr. Roberts, Mr. Bunnell, Ms. Ford, Mr. Gadapee and Mr. Heisholt.
- Mr. Bunnell moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 9:05 p.m.
- No action taken.

12. Adjournment

Mr. Bunnell moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk