

# DRAFT

## MINUTES – SPECIAL SELECTBOARD MEETING TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT MONDAY, JULY 21, 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, Steven Adler, Ewa Seiler, and Farrell Seiler.

### 1. Approve minutes of regular meeting held July 14, 2014

Mr. Bunnell move to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held July 14, 2014.

Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote.

### 2. Appearances by members of the public

#### a. Appearance by Farrell and Ewa Seiler regarding noise and dust on Town Forest Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Seiler, who reside at 787 Town Forest Road, appeared to complain about noise and dust generated by the Town's gravel crushing operation and by operations in general at the Town pit. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to request that the Fire & Rescue Department hose the road to reduce dust generated near the Seilers' residence, and also to patch the road to reduce the noise generated by passing dump trucks. The Board agreed that the road is in need of a construction project that may include drainage work and paving, paving, or regrinding the pavement and returning the road to a gravel surface.

### 3. Appearance by Road Foreman Keith Gadapee regarding Highway Department matters

#### a. Roadside mowing. The Board discussed with Mr. Gadapee the progress of roadside mowing with the Town's rented tractor and mower.

### 4. Discussion regarding fabrication of Harvey's Lake Dam gate components

Mr. Bunnell indicated that, per the Board's previous meeting, he had spoken with former Board member Theodore Faris regarding the parts to be ordered from Whipps, Inc. Mr. Faris indicated that he recalled the parts to be of a price of approximately \$5,000 to \$6,000. Mr. Bunnell indicated that he then emailed Robert Desrochers of Fairbanks Mill, Inc. to instruct him to order the required parts directly from Whipps, Inc., and not through the Town. Steven Adler appeared as a representative of the Lake Harvey Association to discuss the dam design and permitting for the improvements the Board is planning to implement. Mr. Bunnell indicated that the Town only recently learned that a permit is required; the Town is in possession of an application, but has not yet submitted it to the State of Vermont. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to request that Mr. Adler return for the Board's next meeting (August 11, 2014) to present details about proposed alternative designs, and to further discuss possible changes to the Board's design.

### 5. Certification of 2014 property tax rates

The Board reviewed the certification of tax rates for 2014, as prepared by Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt. Total tax rate (including all municipal and education taxes) for homestead is to be 1.9828; and for non-residential 1.9465.

- The Board signed the certification.

**6. Correspondence from Caledonia County State’s Attorney regarding accident on Comerford Dam Road**

The Board read a letter informing the Town that a hearing for this matter, which was discussed at the previous Board meeting, has been scheduled.

**7. Application for Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permit**

The Board reviewed and approved the application of Darcy Nelson.

**8. Other business**

- a. **Harvey’s Lake Beach septic incident.** Ms. Ford reported regarding a problem with the septic system at the Beach. In response to a full-tank alarm B & B Septic was contracted last week to pump the tanks; on the day following the pumping a “blow-out” occurred in the system. State of Vermont authorities indicated that the Town must repair the system. Shane Stevenson was therefore hired, and the problem was resolved.

**9. Outstanding check warrants**

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

**10. Discussion regarding pending litigation in connection with the “Thomas Gould v. Town of Barnet for Richard Woodward” lawsuit (executive session)**

- Mr. Bunnell moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Ms. Ford and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:55 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Mr. Roberts, Mr. Bunnell, Ms. Ford, 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.

**11. 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*