BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD AGENDA
October 14, 2014

P.I.O.T. Department Head visits 6:30 p.m.

1. Call to order 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Announce changes to agenda.
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
7. Public hearing for a proposed ordinance reducing the number of Recreation Board members from 8 to 7.
9. Discuss plans for October 28, 2014 Regional Public Safety Authority public hearing.
10. Discuss Bridge Street bridge commemorative plaque.
12. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
13. Miscellaneous, including permits and licenses.
14. "Round the table”
15. Executive Session - (if needed).

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
October 14, 2014

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of October 14, 2014 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, Lower Websterville at 7:25 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Jeff Blow, Robert LaClair, Tom White, and W. John “Jack” Mitchell. Rolland Tessier was absent.

Attendance for the regular meeting included: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Manager Andrew Dorsett, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, and Assessor Joseph Levesque.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to amend the agenda as follows:

1. Item #14, add casual discussion regarding delinquent tax collector.

Tessier was not present for the vote.

MINUTES

On a motion by White, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Selectboard Meeting Minutes of October 7, 2014. Tessier was not present for the vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Holden Road lawn waste site is open. Hours are: Wednesdays 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.; Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - Noon; Saturdays 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; and Sunday’s Noon - 4:00 p.m.
Selectboard Minutes of October 14, 2014 continued:

- The General Election and Special Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 4th. Early ballots are now available. To have a ballot mailed to you contact the Town Clerk's office at 479-9391.

- The Wilson Recycling Depot is open Wednesdays and Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

- The third public hearing on the Regional Public Safety Authority is Tuesday, October 28, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard meeting room.

- Reminder: It is illegal to use a cell phone while driving!

GUESTS - None

PUBLIC HEARING - 2nd reading
REDUCE NUMBER OF RECREATION BOARD MEMBERS

Background: This is the second step of a three step process to adopt/amend an ordinance. The proposal reduces the Recreation Board’s official membership from 8 to 7, but states the School Board can appoint an ex-officio member.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to open the public hearing at 7:28 p.m. to take questions or comments. Tessier was not present for the vote.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to read by title only “An Ordinance Of The Town Of Barre, Vermont Reducing The Number Of Park And Recreation Commissioners From Eight To Seven.” Tessier was not present for the vote.

There were no comments.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to close the public hearing at 7:30 p.m. and to advance the proposed ordinance amendment to the third and final reading on October 21, 2014. Tessier was not present for the vote.

ERRORS & OMISSIONS LIST #1

Background: The Grand List for the fiscal year 2014-2015 has been set (lodged). By authority in Vermont law the Assessor can make a change in assessment due to an error or an omission. Any changes must be approved by the Selectboard no later than December 31st of each year.

Assessor Levesque was present and answered a few questions regarding his proposed changes.

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Assessor’s Error & Omissions List #1 dated October 14, 2014 as presented. Tessier was not present for the vote.

DISCUSS OCTOBER 28TH PUBLIC HEARING FOR CVRPSA VOTE

Background: This item is to plan for the third and final public hearing to take comment and provide information for the Central Vermont Regional Public Safety Authority (CVRPSA) ballot question which will be voted on during a Special Town Meeting on November 4, 2014 (Article 1).
Selectboard Minutes of October 14, 2014 continued:

The consensus is try to shorten the power point presentation by 5 to 10 minutes, but to have paper copies (of the long version) available for those attending the hearing; to continue using the sign-up sheet to speak to the Selectboard; and if there is new information (updated) on the Memorandum of Understanding to have it available as well.

**BRIDGE STREET BRIDGE COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE**

**Background:** Former U.S. Senator Jim Jeffords earmarked this bridge replacement in a federal transportation bill. This was extremely helpful to the town because it prompted VTrans to schedule the project sooner than it might have been without the infusion of federal money. It was suggested the Selectboard name the bridge for Senator Jeffords which it did not. However, in October 2013 the Selectboard agreed to keep the bridge name as the "Bridge Street bridge" and to erect a plaque recognizing Senator Jeffords' efforts, the engineering by VTrans, and the contractor. A bronze plaque was selected. The Town Manager would like to get the final wording so the plaque can be ordered.

The Board read the approved motion from October 2013 regarding including information regarding identifying previous bridges and to include accolades for the State of Vermont, Barre Town, and the residents of Bridge Street.

*On a motion by LaClair, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Town Manager to complete the Bridge Street bridge commemorative plaque which will include accolades to State of Vermont, Town of Barre, residents of Bridge Street, and include information identifying previous bridges (provided dates can be verified and the information is not too wordy) with said plaque being made of granite. Tessier was not present for the vote.*

**2014-2015 SCHOOL BUS SERVICE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**

**Background:** The Selectboard was provided with a rough draft of the bus service agreement. This agreement, between the School and Town, is reviewed annually. Dates and numbers were updated. There are not significant changes to the hourly rate. Once approved by the Selectboard it will be forwarded to the School Board for their approval.

Mitchell noted that on page 3, section I., second sentence, the words "or van" need to be removed as the school no longer has the van. Rogers stated the hourly rate changes annually based on the budget. The primary reasons for this decrease are the refinance of debt and the elimination of one-time purchase(s).

*On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt the 2014-2015 School Bus Service Maintenance Agreement with Barre Town School as amended. Tessier was not present for the vote.*

**WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT**

*On a motion by White seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrants for October 14, 2014. Tessier was not present for the vote.*

**MISCELLANEOUS - None**

**ROUND THE TABLE**

Mitchell asked if any Selectboard members would be attending the Barre Town School Finance Committee meeting next week. He knows it begins at 5:00 p.m. Mitchell stated he might attend.
Selectboard Minutes of October 14, 2014 continued:

Mitchell would like to have a “Budget Round-table” discussion to include procedures, budget process, resurrect the staffing study, and to address what happens to items that are deleted by the Budget Committee (example: vibratory roll).

White and LaClair wished Mr. Mitchell a belated birthday.

Blow stated a few months ago the Board of Civil Authority during one of their meetings spoke about the Town’s delinquent tax collections. He stated the Town Manager is the Delinquent Tax Collector and has a lot of things on his plate. Perhaps now is the time to re-examine the process.

Rogers stated the quarterly tax warrants are not much bigger than 20 years ago. Taxes are a lien on the property. Currently the staff is handling the paperwork. Hiring out would mean a loss of revenue for the General Fund. The Delinquent Tax Collector duties have always been part of his job. The time crunch is due to all the new things which have been added over the years. Part of his process is to send a letter asking the taxpayer to send in writing a repayment plan. However, the majority prefer to call which takes time.

Blow asked members to think about what information they would like to have regarding this process. Some items could include will hiring a Delinquent Tax Collector require a charter change; what is the cost for hiring/appointing a collector; and perhaps a history of delinquency rates?

Blow stated he would like to have an update from the Engineer on the Jockey Hollow and Cobble Hill Road projects.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

ADJOURN

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:28 p.m.

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  Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer  Selectboard Chair

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Barre Town Selectboard