BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD AGENDA
December 15, 2015

P.I.O.T. - Early budget presentations by EMS Director & Police Chief 6:30 p.m.

1. Call to order 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving minutes from December 8, 2015 meeting.
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
7. Presentation of CVSWMD plans for a new facility.
8. Discuss tire chain contract award.
9. Consider Sovernet Communications request for easement(s) in Wilson Industrial Park.
10. Discuss process, plans for selecting new consulting water engineer.
11. Discuss Route 63 paving contract: Miller Road intersection and Route 14 traffic signal.
12. Consider canceling December 29th meeting.
13. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
14. Miscellaneous- including any licenses and permits.
15. "Round the table"
16. Executive session: legal (action expected).
17. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
December 15, 2015

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of December 15, 2015 was scheduled to be held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Jeff Blow, Rolland Tessier, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Tom White, and Rob LaClair.

Attendance for the regular meeting included: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, CVSWMD Chair Fred Thumm, CVSWMD Executive Director Leesa Stewart, Kevin Johnson (Reed Supply), and Times Argus Report Eric Blaisdell.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:43 p.m. The late start was due to the P.I.O.T. session running longer than anticipated.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by those present.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA MINUTES

On a motion by Tessier seconded by White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the agenda with the following changes:
1. Allow agenda item 8 to be heard before item 7.
2. Item #12 - add discussion regarding December 22.
3. Executive session - add contracts.

MINUTES

On a motion by White, seconded by Tessier the Selectboard voted to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes of December 8, 2015 with the following correction:
Selectboard Minutes of December 15, 2015 continued:

1. Page 3, 5th paragraph, next to last line, delete the word every, and then insert the word “ever.”

2. Page 4, 2nd paragraph, last sentence, end of line add the words “and on Miller Road at Route 63.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. There will be an informational meeting for the intersection reconstruction project at VT Route 110 and Mill Street in East Barre during the Selectboard meeting on January 5, 2016. The Vermont Agency of Transportation and VHB will be there to present the project update, design, and construction schedule for improvements. As this will be during a Selectboard meeting, it will be broadcasted on CCTV. The plans for this project are available in the Town Manager’s office for viewing.

2. The Recreation Board is once again offering Pickleball for adults! The activity will be in the Barre Town School gymnasium from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. On January 10th and 24th (2016) there will be an instructor present to conduct a clinic. On January 17th and 31st through March 20th there will be open Pickleball play. This activity is free to all who wish to play.

3. The Selectboard is seeking registered voters to serve on the Barre Town Budget Committee between the last Tuesday of January through the last Tuesday of March. The Budget Committee reviews the entire budget for Barre Town including the General Fund, EMS Fund, and Highway Fund. Serving on the budget committee gives you a say in all fiscal year 2016-2017 budgets and is a great way to learn about town operations and budgets. If interested please send your letter of interest by 4:30 p.m., December 30th to the Town Manager’s office. More information about the responsibilities of the Budget Committee is in the November Newsletter. If you have questions please contact the Town Manager at 479-9331.

4. Happy Holidays to all! The holidays can be a joyous time, but also a dangerous time. Please keep in mind these fire safety tips as you are preparing your home for your celebrations:
   - Place Christmas trees and other holiday decorations at least three feet away from heat sources like fireplaces, candles, portable heaters or radiators. Never use lit candles to decorate a tree.
   - If you are using a real tree, give it plenty of water to keep it from drying out and becoming a hazard.
   - Make sure holiday lights are in good condition. Never use anything with frayed electrical cords. Always unplug the tree and holiday lights and extinguish candles before leaving the room.
   - Before using your fireplace for the first time this winter, do an inspection of the inside and look for any foreign objects, damage, or moisture inside the firebox which could mean a faulty cap.

GUESTS - None

DISCUSS TIRE CHAIN CONTRACT AWARD

Background: Last Tuesday the Selectboard awarded the tire chain contract to McLeods. Kevin Johnson (owner of Reed Supply) wondered why the contract was not awarded to Reed Supply when it was the low bidder.

After McLeod’s gave a price for cross chains without side hooks, it was the low bidder by $1,068.50 or 7% lower than Reed’s bid. The bidding instructions state, “The
Selectboard Minutes of December 15, 2015 continued:

Town reserves the right to waive informalities or reject any or all bids when such action is deemed in the best interest of the Town."

Mr. Johnson was present and explained the circumstances for changing the McLeod quote and was told if the same thing had happened to his bid it would have been amended as well. He thanked the Board for their time and moving him up on the agenda.

CVSWMD PLANS FOR A NEW FACILITY

Background: The Selectboard was provided with the draft Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD) Facility Plan, and public comments and questions regarding the proposed new facility. District Representatives were present to speak to concerns and additional questions.

Fred Thumm (CVSWMD Board Chair) and Leesa Stewart (Executive Director) were present. They reviewed the process leading to the decision of building a new facility and consolidating their services. It was noted the CVSWMD does not want to compete with the local trash haulers but be a complimentary service for users.

The new facility would allow for year-round collection of household hazardous waste and the ability to collect "construction debris." Construction debris collection could reduce town expenses at the semi-annual Town bulk trash collections.

Blow, as an individual, stated he agrees with the consolidation of services noting there will be efficiencies. However, he remembers how close the CVSWMD was to filing bankruptcy. He has a concern with the big loan payment (1.5 million bond) and the slumping recycling economy. He commended the current Board for putting the District in the black and knows what sacrifices were made. In his opinion, the best priority (now) is to lease space. Leases can be broken if the market crumbles - otherwise taxpayers get to pick up the cost of paying the loan.

SOVERNET COMMUNICATIONS REQUEST - WILSON INDUSTRIAL PARK

Background: Adams Granite Co., on Pitman Road in the Wilson Industrial Park, would like faster better internet access. There is no internet cable conduit in the original section of the Industrial Park. The railroad is an impediment to bring in a new line from Websterville Road.

Sovernet has been working on a solution since last August or September. The first idea (to come behind Northern Power and go over/under the railroad at the Parker Road cul-de-sac) was dropped because poles that were part of that plan are privately owned. Better internet access is possible from the expansion area.

The request is to approve Sovernet using the telecommunication conduit the Town installed from the starting point of the expansion area (Bushey lot) to Bolster Road. That conduit is about 3,850'. This is why it was installed. The conduit can carry more than one cable. From the Bushey lot, Sovernet's contractor (DuBois Construction) will dig a trench (about 220') 36" deep and 12" - 18" wide, lay a conduit with pull rope. They will bore under Schwan's driveway. However, Sovernet needs an easement to occupy the Town's road right-of-way. Work would begin right away. The Town Attorney is reviewing the easement document.

During discussion the Board raised an issue with regards to who was paying for the line extension and wondered if it worked like GMP utility lines. The requestor of service customarily pays for the extension. Any future connections pay not only the GMP connection charge but a portion of the extension line fees. The Board does not want this to happen.
On a motion by White, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Town Manager to sign the documents, as amended, to allow Sovernet to use the Town conduit (Bolster Road to Bushey property) and use of the Town right-of-way to extend the underground conduit/cable from the Bushey property to Adams Granite (boring under Schwan’s driveway) with the provision that Sovernet not charge for the cable extension and only for the normal connection fee.

PROCESS, PLAN FOR SELECTING WATER ENGINEERING CONSULTANT

Background: There are four firms on the Town’s short list: Otter Creek Engineering, Dufresne Group, Aldrich & Elliott, and Green Mountain Engineering. The Manager is inquiring how the Selectboard would like to proceed.

In the meantime, the Manager and Engineer are asking the firms to supply the following information in writing prior to an interview:

- Name principals of firm and staff expected to be assigned to Barre Town’s work.
- State education, professional work experience, especially with water systems.
- Provide billing rates, terms and conditions, policies for billing (other charges).
- List water client references.
- Describe firm’s resources and history.
- List sub-contractors, if any, used for survey, wetlands, archeological/historic.

The Selectboard has several options for selecting a firm:

1. Do not hire any - hire on an as needed basis.
2. Allow the staff to select a firm.
3. Have one or two Selectboard members participate with staff for selection.
4. Have the entire Selectboard meet the firms.

After discussion, the consensus is the staff will meet with the four firms and recommend two (2) which the Selectboard will interview.

ROUTE 63 PAVING CONTRACT - MILLER RD/ROUTER 14 TRAFFIC SIGNAL

Background: The State is planning a basic mill, fill (shim) and pave (1 ½”) on Route 63 next summer. Questions arose about the Route 14/Route 63 traffic signal and Miller Road intersection. So far the Town has learned no intersection changes are planned, the road pavement will be re-painted as it is now, a left turn arrow will be added for east bound traffic on Route 63/Middle Road light, the amount of Middle Road left turn traffic does not meet VTran’s guidelines for a left turn arrow and the cable to which the signal head is attached cannot hold another signal.

Board members were provided with an email which explains why Route 14 left turn traffic sometimes does not see a green arrow before the straight through light turns green. The Barre Town Police Department provided Miller Road/Miller Road Ext./Route 63 intersection accident information. The intersection was completed in November 2009. The table details the # of accidents during the time period before and after the intersection changes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Three year Period</th>
<th>Number of accidents</th>
<th>Number with injuries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 2006 - November 2009</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2009 - November 2012</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2012 - November 2015</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

While the number of accidents (table above) are up in the past 3 years the Board stated they do not hold much weight as there is no accompanying traffic count. With a
significant increase in traffic volume since 2009, the 2012-2015 number of accidents does not necessarily mean an increased percentage of accidents at the intersection.

DISCUSS CANCELING DECEMBER 29TH MEETING

Background: The Town Manager is asking the Selectboard to consider canceling the December 29, 2015 regular meeting due to the holidays. Mitchell stated he thought canceling the 22nd might be better. Rogers stated in more recent history it has been the meeting between Christmas and New Year’s which has been canceled.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted unanimously to cancel the regular Selectboard meeting of December 29, 2015.

WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrant for December 15, 2015.

MISCELLANEOUS - None

ROUND THE TABLE

Mitchell noted there was an issue accessing the radio tower. Apparently a gate key had been changed but not all necessary parties were aware. He noted communication needs to be made when things like this happens.

Mitchell stated he was glad to hear during PILOT that the Police Department is finding more ways to “get the word out” when there are safety issues. The Police Department now has a Facebook page which the Chief stated has already assisted with solving crimes.

Mitchell stated the Websterville Fire District will be upgrading their water lines this spring. He wondered if now would be the time to “dust off” the old plans of connecting the Fire District water system to the Town System. Rogers will invite the Websterville Fire District to a Selectboard meeting to talk about the project, possible Town takeover/operation, and the installation of a possible pump station.

Mitchell and Blow will be attending the Planning Commission Meeting tomorrow night regarding Solar Farms.

White noted the Friends of the Winooski River and the CVRPC were awarded Ecosystem Restoration (storm water management study) grants. The grant award includes studying the Sterling Hill Road drainage area as the Selectboard requested.

White also noted the Town Forest bike trails will be used for the Millstone Grind on May 15, 2016. Last year the event brought in 260 racers.

LaClair stated he attended a legislative meeting with School Superintendents and Boards regarding the challenges of Act 46. He noted that the majority of schools are nowhere near where they need to be with their spending. However, the Barre area school districts are doing really well.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted to find that premature general public knowledge would place the Town at a substantial disadvantage with regards to contracts and legal matters.
Selectboard Minutes of December 15, 2015 continued:

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted to go into executive session for contracts and legal matters at 9:22 p.m.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session at 9:59 p.m.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 9:59 p.m.

Donna J. Kelty – Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard