BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD AGENDA
August 25, 2015

P.I.L.O.T. Executive Session (real estate, labor contract negotiations) 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 August 11 and 16, 2015 meetings.
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
7. Consider request to use municipal building and town roads for Thanksgiving Day 5K.
8. Presentation by Aldrich Public Library Trustees.
9. Presentation and consideration of Project Alternatives for the Bridge Street sidewalk project.
10. Consider requesting state add the Websterville Road/Pitman Road intersection to the state economic development plan.
11. Consider approving two year extension of two street plowing contracts.
12. Consider authorizing road salt purchase from two vendors.
13. Consider appointing Selectboard member to Aldrich Library Board of Trustees.
14. Consider designating authorized official to represent Town at tax sale.
15. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
16. Miscellaneous- a) VT Dept of Liquor Control Permit; b) other permits and licenses.
17. "Round the table"
18. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
August 25, 2015

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of August 25, 2015 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 7:05 p.m.

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

Attendance for the regular meeting included: Town Manager Carl R. Rogers, Assistant Town Clerk Deborah Lefebvre, and Elaine Wang, Assistant to the Town Manager, Donald Singer, Marianne Kotch, Sarah Costa, Kirsten Hansen, Nancy Pope, Ian Gauthier, Jay Carr and Joel Schwartz.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by White the Selectboard voted that premature public knowledge would place the Selectboard at a substantial disadvantage with regards to real estate and labor contract negotiations.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by White the Selectboard voted to go into executive session for real estate, contract negotiations and legal.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by White the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session at 7:04 pm. Tessier was not present for these votes.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by those present.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted to move agenda item #13 to follow item #8. Tessier was not present for the vote.
Selectboard Minutes of August 25, 2015 continued:

MINUTES

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted to approve the Selectboard Meeting minutes of August 11, 2015 with the following correction:

Page 4, third paragraph, remove "unanimously", as Mr. Blow voted no on the motion.

On a motion by White, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to approve the minutes from the August 16, 2015 special Selectboard meeting. Tessier was not present for the vote.

Before announcements were made, Carl Rogers introduced Elaine Wang. Elaine is a Barre Town resident with an interest in local government management. With the departure of the Assistant Town Manager, Carl has asked Elaine to work on some special projects. She is the Assistant to the Town Manager for Special Projects. She is currently working three projects:

1. Bridge Street Sidewalk project
2. Trow Hill Playground project
3. Grant application with the cemetery commission

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Fall Bulk Trash Collection will be on Saturday, September 19. Hours are 8am to 2 pm. Fees are charged. Details will be in the town newsletter in your mailbox soon. The bulk trash collection is a fund raising opportunity for a non-profit group. Volunteers on behalf of the non-profit provide help unloading users' cars and trucks while other volunteers at the check in station are collecting donations. If your group is interested contact Carl Rogers for more information. Call 479-9331.

2. The Barre Kiwanis is holding a Touch-a-Truck event at the Barre Town Recreation Area Saturday, September 12 from 10-2. There is a small fee. The Kiwanis also will be selling food. Barre Town fire, ambulance, police and public works vehicles and staff will be there. Kiwanis will have other vehicles there also.

GUESTS - None

THANKSGIVING DAY 5K-Gobble Wobble Turkey Trot

Background: This year will be the fourth 5K starting and ending at the town offices building if approved by the board. It is run by the Barre Congregational Church. They use the Selectboard meeting room for registration. Participants and spectators use the restrooms and downstairs area to keep warm. The race starts near the municipal building. There are two possible courses. If there is not too much snow they run on the bike path from Rock of Ages to the school. If there is too much snow they go out and back on the Graniteville Road with detour into the industrial park on the way back. The DPW truck garage is also used for parking.

Donald Singer was present to review the plans for the race and to answer any questions/concerns. The only concern mentioned was the impact on traffic if there are snow banks. Mr. Singer suggested that they could have course monitors keep runners single file where needed on the course.

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted to approve the use of the municipal building, DPW yard for parking and roads for the Barre Congregational Church’s 2015 Thanksgiving 5K, conditioned upon submittal of an insurance certificate. Tessier was not present for the vote.

ALDRICH PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEES
Selectboard Minutes of August 25, 2015 continued:

Nancy Pope, President of the Board of Trustees for the Aldrich Library was present to introduce Sarah Costa as the new Library Director. Marianne Kotch, Kirsten Hansen (Young Adult and New Technology Librarian) and Ian Gauthier (Children’s Librarian) were also present.

Sarah presented an overview of the many things happening at the Aldrich Library. They cover a wide range of interests and age groups.

1. Living and learning series the first Sunday of each month brings in experts for workshops on subjects ranging from wild mushroom foraging to felting.
2. Senior Day series on the first Wednesdays provides for entertainment and education for older adults.
3. Game nights are monthly community building events
4. Story time for kids and book groups for all ages.

The York Branch Library in Barre Town is busy with expanded space for events. Thursday August 27th it will be hosting the first ever Porch Concert featuring award winning international bagpipe sensation (and children's librarian) Ian Gauthier at 7pm.

There is also story time at the York branch every Tuesday at 10am.

Through the support of voters of Barre Town and Barre City the library is pursuing some much needed capital improvements. Among them will be the painting of the peeling exterior windows.

Ian Gauthier, the Children’s Librarian spoke about some of the work he is doing, including the story hours, and many special guests throughout the summer.

Kirsten Hansen, the Young Adult and New Technology Librarian is new to the staff but has already made improvements to the teen room and has increased its use.

Sarah reminded us that the library is more than just a building full of books. It is a place where dreams are pursued and lives are changed every day.

The board thanked everyone for the presentation and update. Mitchell would like to see this type of update more often. It was noted that by appointing a board member to the Library Board of Trustees, it would help to keep these lines of communication open.

ALDRICH LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPOINTMENT

Nancy Pope had invited the Selectboard to appoint one of its members to serve on the Aldrich Public Library Board of Trustees for a one year term. Board meetings are the second Wednesday of the month at 8:00 am.

Tom White expressed an interest in this appointment.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by LaClair the Selectboard voted to appoint Tom White to the Aldrich Library Board of Trustees for a term to expire May 15, 2016.

Tessier was not present for the vote.

STATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Background: Joel Schwartz, BADC Executive Director took note of the draft state economic development plan. He knows that if we would want certain state funding assistance the project should be in the state plan. He suggests the board approve adding the Websterville Road/Pitman Road intersection project to the state plan in case the town needs to (or wants to, not necessarily the same) rebuild the intersection. This is not a grant application, nor a commitment to re-build the intersection.

The project based on the Act 250 permit condition to add a turning lane when traffic reaches a certain volume. It could be wise to at least have the plans and engineering in place for when it is needed.
Selectboard Minutes of August 25, 2015 continued:

Improving signage, turn lane improvements and the improvements at the bottom of Quarry Hill could help with the marketing of the industrial park. With the rail running, that might be of some help as well.

On a motion by Mitchell/seconded by LaClair the Selectboard voted to authorize Joel Schwartz to submit the project (named Wilson Industrial Park Infrastructure Improvements) to the state Department of Economic Development. Tessier was not present for the vote.

BRIDGE STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT

Background: The town received a VTrans Enhancement Grant in 2011 in the amount of $131,520 from the State to build this sidewalk project and requires a 20% match. The purpose of the project is to create a sidewalk along Bridge Street from the Route 14 intersection to the Barre City bike path located in Barre Town, Vermont. Currently Bridge Street has limited space outside of the travel lane to accommodate pedestrians or bicycle traffic.

The need for the project is to facilitate the safe movement of bicycles and pedestrians between the existing bike path and the South Barre area of Barre Town. Long term this project is a critical section to eventually connecting Barre City Bike path with the existing Barre Town bike path as was prioritized by the Town with the completion of the CVRCP study in 2011.

The abutters have been invited to the meeting to provide input.

Elaine Wang (project manager) presented a little history about the project and showed conceptual plans. She also presented three alternatives and the pros and cons of each. The three alternatives are:

a) sidewalk on the north side
b) sidewalk on the south side
c) no sidewalk.

The pros of the North side are that the South Barre bike path is on the north side as well as the mobile home park. The crosswalk at the intersection of RT 14 would also be more visible from the north side. Cons- will impact some residents’ lawns as well as a large Silver Maple tree.

The pros of the South side alternative are that it would not impact lawns or the maple tree. Cons- would require crossing Bridge Street at the bridge to get to the sidewalk on the bridge; less visibility at the intersection of RT 14.

After the presentation the public was asked for comments and questions. Jay Carr was present and is working on his property on the north side of Bridge Street. He was there to hear what was proposed. He would be ok with the sidewalk on the north side.

It was asked if the wide shoulder were reduced, could the 5’ sidewalk be built with less intrusion on properties and would also slow traffic. This can be looked into.

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Mitchell the Selectboard voted to select the sidewalk on the north side of Bridge Street as the preferred alternative. Tessier was not present for the vote.

PLOWING CONTRACTS

Background: This matter is about two plowing contracts. The first is called Short Streets. It also includes town parking lots (EMS, fire, municipal building). The second contract is called Village Streets. Short dead-end streets in villages (South and East Barre, Upper and Lower Graniteville) are on the list. Cheney Trucking is the only contractor we’ve had for this work. Their two year contract expired last April. Earlier this month Cheney called and offered to extend their prices (competitively bid 2 years ago) for another two years.
Selectboard Minutes of August 25, 2015 continued:

On a motion by White, seconded by LaClair the Selectboard voted to accept Cheney’s offer for another two years at the same price per call out we paid the last two winters- $634 for Short Streets and $695.99 for Village Streets. Tessier was not present for the vote.

ROAD SALT
Background: Barrett Trucking delivers for Cargill. Tim Barre told there is no need to pay the higher quote for guaranteed delivery. The $78.54 per ton price is 4% more than we paid last year. American Rock provided a quote close to that-- $79.83 per ton.

Our practice has been to get authorization to buy from both vendors. We usually state we will buy 250 tons from the higher bid to ensure a supply is available. We do buy some salt from the higher bidder so they will consider us a customer.

Last budget review season we budgeted to by 2,400 tons at $65/ton. The account total is $156,000. We also talked about the need to determine how we use 2,400-2,500 tons per year. The budget would allow for purchase of 1,986 tons from Cargill.

There was discussion about the need to get a better idea about how and when we spread salt, do we calibrate, etc. It was thought that when Tate comes for his next department head visit to the Selectboard that he be prepared to discuss these topics in detail. It was also noted that even though the town may reach its budgeted amount that does not mean we stop buying salt. We continue to buy salt if needed to maintain the roads.

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Mitchell the Selectboard voted to authorize the purchase of 2,250 tons of salt from Cargill (with 100 tons to be treated to try out) at $78.54 per ton (noting the treated would be more) and 250 tons from American Rock Salt at $79.83 per ton. Tessier was not present for the vote.

DESIGNATE AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL TO REPRESENT TOWN AT TAX SALE
A few tax sales are scheduled for Thursday, September 17 in the afternoon. As delinquent tax collector the Town Manager conducts the sales. The town will want to submit a bid in the amount of taxes due, if there are no bids in that amount. Someone has to be designated to act on behalf of the town.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by LaClair the Selectboard voted to designate Chris Violette to represent the Town at the September 17 tax sales and to enter a bid equal to the amount of taxes due, if there are no other bids equal to taxes due. Tina Thurston was designated as a backup person if Chris Violette is not available. Tessier was not present for the vote.

WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT
On a motion by LaClair, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted to approve the accounts payable warrant for August 18, 2015 and August 25, 2015. Tessier was not present for the vote.

MISCELLANEOUS
On a motion by White, seconded by LaClair the Selectboard voted to approve the Application for Special Event Permit for Fresh Tracks Farm, LLC for a wine tasting at Rock of Ages Visitors Center, 558 Graniteville Rd to be held on September 29, 2015 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Tessier was not present for the vote.

'ROUND THE TABLE
- Elaine: nothing
- Carl: nothing
Selectboard Minutes of August 25, 2015 continued:

- Mitchell- Jack noted the insert in our packet from VTrans (TAP) program and read that one of the possible eligible activities was for Construction of turnouts, overlooks and viewing areas. Not sure if this might be something that could apply to the possible purchase of the Grand Lookout or not. Carl will ask.

He also noted that there had not been any action in quite some time regarding the Town garage complex. With winter coming he would like to see it put on the schedule at 6:30 to discuss.

- White- nothing

Blow noted the following:

- There has been an issue with traffic coming up Sterling Hill (the wrong way) and he would encourage people to take the long way around rather than get caught and ticketed.

- He also noted that the next Selectboard meeting will be September 1, 2015.

**ADJOURN**

*On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. Tessier was not present for the vote.*

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Deborah Lefebvre- Assistant Town Clerk  Selectboard Chair

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Barre Town Selectboard