BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD AGENDA
February 9, 2016

P.I.L.O.T. - Budget Committee - Review Water & Sewer Fund budgets 6:30 p.m.

1. Call to order 8:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving minutes from February 2, 2016 meeting.
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
8. Consider accepting from Fecteau Residential a deed for a new town road connection Rudd Farm Road to Daniels Drive.
9. Consider authorizing purchase of police car through state contract.
11. Consider approving 2016 Sewage Allocation Policy.
12. Discuss town's investment policies.
13. Consider requesting legislature's support of bills to increase Medicaid payments to ambulance services.
14. Consider Designating group to volunteer at Spring Bulk Trash collection.
15. Consider approving 2016 highway mileage certificate for VT Agency of Transportation.
16. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
17. Miscellaneous- including any licenses and permits.
18. "Round the table"
19. Executive session: if needed.
20. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
February 9, 2016

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of February 9, 2016 was scheduled to be held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 8:00 p.m.

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

Others attending were: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, Planning Commission members George Clain and Cedric Sanborn, and Paul White.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 8:02 p.m.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by those present.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted to approve the agenda.

MINUTES

On a motion by White, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes of February 2, 2016.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Selectboard Minutes of February 9, 2016 continued:

1. The third quarter property tax and second semi-annual sewer use charge installments are due on Tuesday, February 16, 2016. The Town Clerk-Treasurer's office is open from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. that day. Payments can be dropped off after hours using the night deposit box at the front of the Municipal Building. Payments can be mailed or made on-line (www.barretown.org, look for the link just above the Announcements section).

2. The annual School District Elections and Presidential Primary Elections will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2016, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the Barre Town School gym. The deadline to register to vote is Wednesday, February 24th. To request an early voting ballot or for more information contact the Town Clerk's office at 802-479-9391. Sample ballots are available for viewing on the Town website.

3. The Citizen Budget Tour will be on Saturday, February 20th. Citizens are invited to join the Budget Committee on a tour of town facilities where they will talk with department heads. Meet at the town office building between 7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Bus transportation is provided. The tour will end between 12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. For more information call the Town Manager's office at 479-9331.

4. Logging of the Barre Town Forest is underway, consistent with the Town Forest Management Plan. Learn about logging from our Town Forester during a free workshop and tour on Saturday, February 27th. Meet at the Waterman Street water storage tank at 10:00 a.m. Dress to walk in the woods along the trails and skid roads. The tour should end about 12:30 p.m. For more information call the Town Manager's office at 479-9331.

5. The Annual Freezing Fun for Families softball tournament will take place Friday, March 4, 2016 through Sunday March 6, 2016 at the Barre Town recreation fields. Games start Friday evening and run until about midnight. Play restarts Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. and goes until 9:00 p.m. The final championship day starts on Sunday at 8:00 a.m. There is a cap of 8-teams this year so sign up early if you want to play. Each year the Freezing Fun for Families softball tournament raises thousands of dollars from team registrations, concessions, and sponsorships to benefit Vermont families with a critically ill child. This year’s beneficiaries are 22 month old Ryland House of East Middlebury, Vermont, who is battling Neuroblastoma and 11 year old Garrett Peace of East Montpelier, Vermont who is fighting Leukemia. To support these children, register a team or come watch the softball games and purchase concessions March 4th - 6th.

6. The Barre Town Fire Department is sponsoring a rabies clinic for dogs and cats. The clinic will be held Saturday, March 12, 2016, from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the South Barre Fire Station.

GUESTS - None

PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR SOLAR FARM SITING

Background: There are four (4) House bills relating to Solar Farm siting being proposed. Board members received information on each (H.596, H.597, H.598, and H.599). The Town Manager was asked to see if the Planning Commission would hold a special meeting during a regular Selectboard meeting to prepare a unified town position. The response as of last Friday was for only one member to attend. The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for February 17th. The Selectboard options are to: 1) give the Planning Commission Selectboard opinion and hope they adopt the same; or 2) Select decides it position and sends a delegate to the Planning Commission meeting.
Planning Commission members Clain and Sanborn were present. Discussion focused on the benefit of having 2 letters (one from each board) sent to our representatives and to ensure they reiterated the same support and concerns. The Manager's Special Project Assistant will work with the Zoning Administrator in drafting the letters. The next Planning Commission meeting is February 17th. It was noted that cross-over date in Legislature is not until the end of March.

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted to authorize a letter of support for House Bills 596 and 597 be sent to the Washington County Senators and Barre Town representatives and to work with the Planning Commission on a separate letter from their Board.

NEW ROAD CONNECTING RUDD FARM ROAD TO DANIELS DRIVE

Background: Fecteau Residential has built a short section of road connecting Rudd Farm Drive to Daniels Drive. The Board inspected the road last October. This action is for accepting the deed from Fecteau Residential. Upon review, Town Attorney Michael Monte stated the deed is acceptable.

On a motion by White, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to accept the Fecteau Residential deed for the Rudd Farm - Daniels Drive road connector.

On a motion by White, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to approve the Certificate of Completion for an extension of Rudd Farm Drive (TH #129).

PURCHASE OF POLICE CAR

Background: The 2015-2016 Equipment Fund budget allocated funding ($31,000) for the purchase of a new police car. As the Town has done for many years, we propose to buy the car through the state contract (#28240). The vehicle would be a black Ford Interceptor Utility (Explorer) all-wheel-drive police pursuit vehicle. The vendor for these vehicles is Formula Ford. The Board received copies of the breakdown for the vehicle purchase. It was noted the additional equipment list on the bottom of the page might change, but those items are purchased separately after the car is delivered.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted to authorize the purchase of a 2016 Ford all-wheel-drive police interceptor utility car with ready for the road package and driver only spot lamp options from Formula Ford, through the State of Vermont contract (#28240) for the price of $28,713.00.

CLOSE FY 15-16 GRAND LIST

Background: Annually, the Assessor and Selectboard certify that there are no appeals or suits pending on the Grand List thus making it finalized. Once the Grand List is closed no mistakes or errors can be changed for that fiscal year. Tonight the Selectboard is being asked to vote to approve the "Certificate - No Appeals or Suits Pending."

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted to approve the Certificate - No Appeals or Suit Pending for the 2015-2016 Grand List.

2016 SEWAGE ALLOCATION POLICY

Background: The Sewage Allocation Policy used to be a very important document when the Town had very little spare wastewater allocation at the Barre City sewage treatment plant. After the plant upgrade and acquisition of additional allocation (around the year 2000) the importance of this policy went from utmost to low. The requirement for an annual renewal causes us to check the numbers and think about other policy provisions. A draft document was presented for the Board to review prior to the meeting.
Selectboard Minutes of February 9, 2016 continued:
Some of the changes included: changing numbers, clarifying language, eliminating some language, adding a paragraph for extra connections, and updating the table of contents.

During discussion the Manager noted that based on today’s standards the town has 40 to 50 years of capacity. Other topics were line replacement and line infiltration.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Sewage Allocation Policy as presented.

DISCUSS TOWN INVESTMENT POLICIES

Background: Barre Town has 2 investment policies (one for the General Fund/Cemetery Fund and one for the Sewer Capital Improvement Fund). Selectboard member LaClair asked for this item to be placed on the agenda. The policies provide guidelines for the Treasurer with regards to type of investments.

LaClair asked for this item to ensure the limited items for investment were adequate to maximize interest earning potential. The Treasurer noted that in the policy it states that an investment can be made in something other than what is listed with Selectboard approval.

SUPPORT BILL TO INCREASE MEDICAID PAYMENT FOR AMBULANCE SERVICE

Background: The Selectboard is very much aware that the State operated Medicaid program makes a very small payment for services. EMS Director Chris Lamonda sent a letter to the Selectboard asking that a letter be drafted and sent to Legislators asking to increase ambulance reimbursements and stop cost shifting that continues to put a strangle hold on Emergency Medical Services around the State.

Discussion focused on living within our means (responsible spending), looking at state programs which may not be functioning/needed, too much robbing Peter to pay Paul with state budget, the new proposed fee bill, state taxes are too high, and how little Medicare reimburses for all medical services.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted to authorize a letter be sent to the Town’s Representatives and Washington County Senators asking them to support any legislation to increase Medicaid reimbursement rates to ambulance services.

SPRING BULK TRASH VOLUNTEER GROUP

Background: The Town holds two bulk trash collections events each year, Spring and Fall. At each collection a group of volunteers helps at the event in exchange for the right to request donations. The Selectboard designates the group. The Spaulding High School Project Graduation has been named the group at the Spring collections for many years. Project Grad wants to volunteer again. The Manager noted the group has been providing good help from both students and parents.

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to designate Spaulding High School Project Graduation as the volunteer group for the 2016 Spring Bulk Trash Collection event.

2016 HIGHWAY MILEAGE CERTIFICATE

Background: This is just one more of those annual events. The Selectboard is being asked to certify to the State (Agency of Transportation) our highway mileage by classification. The Agency of Transportation (AOT) will use the information to determine our FY 2016-2017 State Aid to Town Highways grant. The only change this year is the addition of the Rudd Farm – Daniels Drive road connector.
Selectboard Minutes of February 9, 2016 continued:

On a motion by White, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to approve and sign the 2016 Highway Mileage Certificate.

**WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT**

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to approve the accounts payable warrant for February 9, 2016.

**MISCELLANEOUS - None**

**ROUND THE TABLE**

Mitchell stated it is so nice to receive a note from a resident saying how happy they are with the Town’s public safety departments (Fire and EMS).

Tessier asked for an update on the DPW scale system (weighing of salt). Rogers stated there has not been any more progress at this time.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION - None**

**ADJOURN**

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 9:29 p.m.

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Donna J. Kelty - Town Clerk-Treasurer  Selectboard Chair

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Barre Town Selectboard