BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD AGENDA
January 3, 2017

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda
4. Executive session (personnel)
5. Consider approving December 20, 2016 meeting minutes
6. Announcements
7. Receive guests (for non-agenda items)
8. Department Head visits - DPW and Engineering.
10. Consider approving Assessor's Errors and Omissions List #3.
11. Public Hearing on Town Plan Amendments.
12. Consider appointing two Budget committee members.
14. Consider awarding purchase contracts for a) tire chains; b) snow plow blades.
15. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
16. Miscellaneous, including licenses and permits, if any.
17. Executive session: personnel (action possible).
18. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
January 3, 2017

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard was scheduled and held on January 3, 2017 at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 6:30 p.m.

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

Others attending were: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Asst. Town Manager Elaine Wang, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, Zoning & Planning Administrator Christopher Violette (arrived at 7:00 p.m.), DPW Superintendent Richard Tetreault, Town Engineer Harry Hinrichsen, Planning Commission members Cedric Sanborn and George Clain, Assessor Joseph Levesque, Val Vallerand and Times Argus Reporter Eric Blaisdell (arrived at 7:00 p.m.).

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by those present.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to approve the agenda with the following changes: Delete Item #4, Executive Session.

MINUTES

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes from December 13, 2016 with the minor grammatical and spelling corrections. Mitchell abstained as he was not present for the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. On January 31, 2017, there will be an Act 46 School Merger reconsideration vote regarding whether Barre Town and Barre City school boards should merge. More information on the conclusions of the joint study committee that recommended
Selectboard Minutes of January 3, 2017 continued:

the merger can be found on the homepage of the town website (www.barretown.org). Note that if you received an early ballot for the November 2016 original vote, the Town Clerk's office has automatically mailed you an early ballot for this reconsideration vote. If you have any questions call the Town Clerk's Office at 479-9391.

2. On January 17, 2017 during their regular meeting starting at 6:30 p.m., the Selectboard will hold the second of two public hearings on proposed amendments to the Town Plan. The hearing will be held at the Municipal Building Selectboard meeting room on Websterville Road. If you are interest in renewable energy and/or Barre Town's scenic areas, you will want to attend. A copy of the amendments is available on the town website (www.barretown.org).

3. On January 25, 2017, during their regular meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. the Barre Town Traffic Safety Advisory Committee will hold a public hearing on speed limits on Morrison Road, Cutler Corner Road, and Osborne Road. The hearing will be held at the Municipal Building.

4. Barre Town's Department of Public Works is collecting Christmas trees placed by the side of the road the first two weeks of January. Weather permitting the schedule will be to begin on roads north of Route 302 this week and roads south of Route 302 next week. Trees will be brought to the Town's lawn waste site to be made into mulch, so please be sure to remove the stand and all decorations.

5. On behalf of the State of Vermont, this announcement is for those of you who need health insurance. Vermont Health Connect's Open Enrollment period runs now through the end of the month, January 31st. If you do not have health insurance, or would like to make a change to your existing health plan, Open Enrollment is the time to do it. Depending on your income, you may also qualify for significant reductions to your insurance premiums, meaning you can sign up for good AND have affordable health care. There are many ways to enroll. Use their website vermonthealthconnect.gov, call 855-899-9600, or visit one of their in-person assisters (Barre City at Capstone Community Action, Paige and Campbell Insurance, and the People's Health and Wellness Clinic). Enroll before January 15, 2017 for coverage starting February 1, 2017 or before January 31, 2017 for coverage starting March 1, 2017.

6. The Barre Town Recreation Board will host sledding parties behind the Town of Barre Offices on Saturday, January 14 and Sunday, February 12, 2017. Park at the Municipal Building (149 Websterville Road). A fire pit for warming up and hot cocoa will be available. You will also be able to try out fat bikes and Stiga Sleds courtesy of the Vermont Bicycle Shop. The events are free. Bring your own sleds and come join the fun!

GUESTS - None

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Department of Public Works: Superintendent Richard Tetreault was present. He informed the Board that the Buick Street property well-water had tested good but the pump is not functioning. Work is progressing with clearing the lot and weather permitting job will be completed this week. The sewer pump has not been located as the weather conditions have taken priority on the work schedule.

Road salt and sand use was noted; a brief discussion on why crews may salt/sand and then plow; and a new full-timer and a part-time person (to fill in for Gary) have started...
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work and are doing great. Mitchell thanked the DPW for being a little pre-emptive during the recent icy weather. He recognizes it takes a little more salt but feels safety is number one priority.

Town Engineer Harry Hinrichsen stated the past summer has been the driest in the last 20 years. This has helped with inflow and infiltration (I & I) within the sewer system. Manhole inventory work has continued. There have been some software/hardware bugs in learning to use the equipment. Currently there are over 1200 manholes and more (in the countryside) are being located. With the help of his town interns work has begun on the FY 17-18 proposed budget and he is finalizing Year 5 of the 5-Year Paved Road Plan which will come to the Board soon.

Other items touched on were an update on the Route 302 water line project, the Websterville Fire District Water System merger vote, Traffic Safety Advisory Committee work on a line striping policy, the school solar speed limit signs, and the issue with grit being reported in the water for Silver Circle,

SEWAGE ALLOCATION POLICY

Background: The Town of Barre sewage is treated by Barre City. Sewage discharges to the Barre City collection line and interceptors from most of the town are at metered points; most areas north-east of the Trow Hill neighborhood are discharged at un-metered points, except for the Richardson Road area. This policy is intended to be used as a plan to allocate a finite resource (sewage treatment capacity) and a planning tool for investments and improvements. The allocation purpose is not as critical since the year 2000 when the plant was upgraded and the town acquired additional allocations. The requirement for an annual renewal is still an opportunity for the Town to check in on and revise the numbers and to review the policy provisions for continued relevance. Revisions in the plan being presented include: updating numbers, adding data since the last revision, and minor editing to reflect the passage of time. No substantive changes to policy provisions have been recommended.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to adopt the 2017 Barre Town Sewage Treatment Residual Capacity Allocation Policy as presented.

ERRORS & OMISSIONS - LIST #3

Background: The Assessor is presenting five properties on this current Errors & Omissions List. Property valuation changes are for properties which are enrolled or have land removed from the State of Vermont Current Use program. It is noted that most show a positive increase in value for the Town.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to approve the Assessor’s Error & Omissions List #3, dated January 3, 2017 as presented.

PUBLIC HEARING ON TOWN PLAN AMENDMENTS

Background: To validate the various amendments to the Town Plan the Selectboard must hold two (2) warned public hearings. This is the first hearing; the next one is scheduled for January 17th. A copy of the various amendments was provided to Board members during their December 13th meeting.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to open a public hearing at 7:53 p.m. to receive comment on the proposed Town Plan Amendments.

The Zoning Administrator reviewed the various amendments which focused on the energy section (renewables). Other items of interest are ensuring Barre Town does not end up with a disproportionate number of solar/wind/turbine projects, time and difficulty
in writing a document which is to be a planning tool but meet the Public Service Boards need to be definitive. Planning Commission member Cedric Sanborn reminded Board members the Public Service Board in the siting of projects does not consider Town Zoning. The Plan had to use prohibitive language such as will and prohibit.

Resident Val Vallerand (Paquet Farms - Morrison Road) was present. She stated that other family members could not be present and asked the Selectboard to read the Planning Commission minutes of October 19th which stated the family concerns with regards to the siting of a solar project. To begin the recap of that report she noted the farm has been in the family for 107 years with a goal of keeping as much land open as possible, eliminating any land sales which would be used for home building, and to provide additional income for the aging family members to keep the farm operational. The family is concerned the Town Plan is being utilized not as intended - “The plan is a guideline and should not contain/use prohibiting language which closes the door to landowners.” This Plan should be written in a format to assist with preserving lands regardless of how the political winds blow.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to close the public hearing at 8:22 p.m.

BUDGET COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Background: In accordance with the Town Charter a Budget Committee of 10 is to review the proposed fiscal year budgets each year. Members are comprised of the 5 Selectboard members, 2 members appointed by the Selectboard, and 1 member appointed by the Town Clerk-Treasurer. The 3 appointed members will select the remaining 2 members.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to approve appoint Robert Nelson and Norma Malone to the Budget Committee for the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 year. The Town Clerk has appointed Justin Bolduc.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING - PHOENIX HOUSE

Background: In May of 2016 the Selectboard was asked to revise the Memorandum of Understanding with Phoenix House with the intent of removing a reference to a one-year test period allowing Lamoille County residents to participate in the Phoenix House program. The test was acceptable. The Vermont Department of Corrections (DOC) also requested a minor change to one of the sections which was approved on October 11, 2016. The revision was then reviewed by DOCs attorney who requested that last sentence be changed again. Their change once again is to address privacy concerns.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to approve the revised language for Section B.3 of the Memorandum of Understanding with Phoenix House as presented.

CONTRACTS FOR TIRE CHAINS & SNOW PLOW BLADES

Tire Chains: Eight (8) vendors received the chain bid request, which included a note that they would need to provide a sample before an award would be made. Three (3) parties submitted bids: Lowell McLeods, Inc. (present at the bid opening and brought a sample chain), with a bid of $15,958, Reynolds - $17,990, and Clark's Truck Center, $18,361. Shop Forman Mike Martel was present at the bid opening and inspected the sample chain and was satisfied with the quality. The Town has down business with the low bidder (McLeods).
Selectboard Minutes of January 3, 2017 continued:

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted to award the chain contract to Lowell McLeod, Inc. based on the bid price of $15,958.

Plow Blades and Shoes: Eight (8) vendors received the plow blades & shoes bid request. Three (3) parties submitted bids: Tenco - $8,271.95, HP Fairfield - $8,952.14, and Clark’s Truck Center - $8,192.16. A fourth party, Winter Equipment Co., returned a letter indicating their inability to supply a bid at a competitive price. Clark’s is the low bidder by $80. The Town has had a good track record with Tenco (2nd low bid) blades and shoes. The DPW Superintendent is provisionally recommending the Selectboard award the bid to Tenco.

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to award the plow blades and shoes bid to Tenco based on their bid price of $8,271.95.

**WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT**

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to approve the accounts payable warrants for the weeks of December 27, 2016 and January 3, 2017.

**MISCELLANEOUS - None**

**‘ROUND THE TABLE**

Paul White noted the bike path at the recreation field had been groomed. Is this something new? Rogers stated the grooming was to begin last year but there was very limited snow. The Recreation Board has given the MTA a donation and they are grooming the path to accommodate snowshoeing and cross-country ski activities. White stated it was very nice and much appreciated.

LaClair informed the Board and viewing audience the State Legislature will be reconvening tomorrow. You can expect his weekly update.

Mitchell stated he had misplaced his Town Charter book which has a hard cover. Rogers stated the book was in the downstairs conference room.

Mitchell further noted his annual training is beginning and he is unavailable for Wednesday night meetings.

Tessier inquired if the sledding trails located behind the Municipal Building will be open for public use every day. Rogers stated yes. However, the Recreation Board will be hosting events on those trails on January 14 and February 12th in the afternoon. (See the announcement above for more information.)

Mitchell was sorry that he could not attend the Selectboard meeting on December 20th. He had the opportunity of knowing and working with Pat Doyle (retired on December 31, 2016) even when he was involved with the Barre Regional Ambulance Service. Congratulations Pat!

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard found that premature general knowledge would put the Town at a substantial disadvantage with regards to the discussion of personnel matters.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to go into executive session at 8:45 p.m. for personnel matters.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session at 9:05 p.m.
PERSONNEL ACTION

On a motion by Paul White, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to adopt the EMS Per Diem Pay Rate adjustments which includes the part-time per diem pay changes as outlined in the memo dated December 8, 2016.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Paul White, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 9:07 p.m.

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Donna J. Kelty - Town Clerk-Treasurer           Selectboard Chair

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Barre Town Selectboard

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