BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD AGENDA
March 21, 2017

1. Call to order 8:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving March 16, 2017 meeting minutes.
5. Announcements.
6. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
7. PUBLIC HEARING for proposed Town Charter amendments.
8. Consider authorizing signing of boundary agreement with owner of 24 Barclay Quarry Road.
9. Consider accepting Grant of Trail Easement and authorizing Acknowledgment of Arbitration.
10. Consider authorizing Class 2 Road Paving grant application
11. Consider approving Rock of Ages unregistered vehicle road crossing permits
12. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
13. Miscellaneous, including licenses and permits, if any
14. 'Round the table.
15. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
March 21, 2017

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of March 21, 2017 was scheduled and held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 8:21 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: W. John “Jack” Mitchell, Rolland Tessier, Tom White, Rob LaClair. Paul White was not present.

Others attending were: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, and Paul McGinley

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 8:21 p.m.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by those present.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

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

• add item 14A - Executive session for contracts.
• Miscellaneous 13 - add the action items of two 2017 Liquor Licenses for the Canadian Club and East Barre Market.

Paul White was not present for the vote.

MINUTES

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes of March 16, 2017 with the noted grammatical changes stated by the Clerk. Paul White was not present for the vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Selectboard will hold public hearings on proposed changes to the Town Charter on March 21st and March 28th. You can review the proposed changes, relating to the Board of civil Authority, on the Barre Town website. From
barretown.org just click on the public notices link or call the Town manager’s office (479-9391) to receive a hard copy.

2. The deadline to license your dog is April 1st. Any questions contact the Town Clerk’s Office at 479-9391.

3. Barre Town is hosting Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District’s FREE backyard composting workshop on Wednesday, April 5th from 6:00pm to 8:00 pm. See the website for more information (www.barretown.org).

4. The Annual Egg Hunt, jointly hosted by Barre Town and Barre City Recreation Departments, will be held Saturday April 15th at the Barre City Rotary Park near the Barre City Elementary School. The hunt is on at 10:00 a.m. Intended for children 3 to 10 years of age. For everyone’s safety, no pets please. Do bring a basket or bag and, in lieu of a fee, a non-perishable food item to donate to the Vermont Foodbank.

5. If you own the home in Vermont which is your primary residence you must file the Homestead Declaration Form with the Vermont Department of Taxes by April 18th so that you are charged the correct, lower “educational property tax rate in the upcoming fiscal year. See the Barre Town homepage (www.barretown.org) announcements section for help on how to file the Homestead Declaration Form. If you have questions, call Joyce in the Assessor’s Office at 802-479-2595.

6. Chair Tom White read the list of action items, which were all approved at the rescheduled (not televised) March 16, 2017 meeting. The regular meeting of March 14, 2017 was canceled due to a snowstorm.

GUESTS

East Barre Resident Paul McGinley informed the Board he was glad to finally have the FY 14-15 report noting the ambulance fund is finally operating in the black. He knows money is tight and thought the Town should look at some other cost saving measures like using our in-house engineer for more sidewalk related items.

As for the FY 15-16 report, the Town is waiting for two items, one is the final audit which should be available soon. Once items are received the report is ready for the printer.

He stated he attended the Budget Committee meeting tonight and feels the Manager and staff have done an excellent job with tightening the budget.

PUBLIC HEARING - CHARTER CHANGES

Background: On January 1, 2017 state law changes went into effect regarding elections. One change included removing tasks for which the Board of Civil Authority (BCA) was required to perform. Upon BCA review of the Town Charter, changes were recommended for Section 6 as they are contradictory to the new state law. This hearing is to provide an opportunity for comment and review on the proposed charter changes. An overview of those changes are as follows:

Section 6(b) pertains to the time frame required to update the checklist, changing the responsibility of posting the checklist (still law) from the BCA to the Town Clerk, and to post checklist 30 days (not 4) prior to an election.
Selectboard Minutes of March 21, 2017continued:

Section 6 (e) is to add a line pertaining to quorum which would allow for election purposes only to set the quorum of BCA members needed to make changes to the checklist to 3.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to open the public hearing at 8:38 p.m. Paul White was not present for the vote.

The Town Clerk-Treasurer provided an overview of the proposed amendment changes as cited above.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to close the public hearing at 8:43 p.m.

BOUNDARY AGREEMENT WITH OWNER OF 24 BARLCAY QUARRY ROAD

Background: As part of the town forest we now own the land at the end of Barclay Quarry Road. The Graniteville Fire District was the prior owner. The Fire District had entered a boundary line agreement and driveway easement with a neighbor. This agreement took place after the current owner had taken out a mortgage so the lender did not acquire the driveway easement given to the Barclay Quarry Road property. With the property now being sold it is recognized that the buyer has no right to access the property being purchased. Banks will not lend for property with no legal access. The purchaser’s lender is requesting the agreement be executed by the town and the purchaser prior to closing.

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to authorize the Town Manager to sign a boundary line agreement and driveway easement with Paul Reynolds, 24 Barclay Quarry Road. Paul White was not present for the vote.

GRANT TRAIL EASEMENT & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ARBITRATION

Background: The Selectboard is aware and has been somewhat involved in the preparation of the Couture Trail Easement. Pierre Couture is selling development rights for his field on the south side of Littlejohn Road and some property on the north side of Littlejohn Road. As part of the deal with the VT Housing Conservation Board Mr. Couture will give trail easements. The Town will be the easement holder and Millstone Trails Association (MTA) will be the designated trail manager.

Town Attorney Monte has reviewed the document and suggests the Town make the trail manager (MTA) responsible for the condition in Section V.5. regarding the restoration of the owners land outside of the trail easement should it become damaged as a result of activity by public and need to be repaired.

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to authorize the Manager to sign the Acknowledgment of Arbitration section of the Grant of Trail Easement between Pierre Couture, the Vermont Housing Conservation Board and the Town of Barre with the amendment to make the Trail Manager responsible for the condition in Section V.5. Paul White was not present for the vote.

CLASS 2 ROAD PAVING GRANT

Background: Annually the Town seeks a VTrans Class 2 Road Paving Grant. This year the Graniteville Road from Church Hill to Cogswell Street is the subject. Town Engineer Hinrichsen estimated the project (milling and paving) to be $79,357. The State’s 80% grant would be $63,485.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted to authorize submitting the 2017 VTrans Class 2 Road Paving Grant application for Graniteville Road, Church Hill Road to Cogswell Street. Paul White was not present for the vote.
ROCK OF AGES UNREGISTERED VEHICLE PERMITS

Background: Rock of Ages has 10 large, off road trucks and loaders. State law requires owners of the large construction and mining equipment to get town approval, if the equipment must be operated across a public road. The crossing points for all 10 vehicles and the conditions are the same as the Town has seen year-after-year. The permit fee (set by the state) was paid.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to approve the Rock of Ages 10 unregistered vehicle highway crossing permits. Paul White was not present for the vote.

WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to approve the Accounts Payable warrant for the week of March 21, 2017. Paul White was not present for the vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to approve and sign the following 2017 Liquor Licenses:

1. Second Class Liquor License for Lyle Morgan, dba Morgan’s East Barre Market; and
2. First Class Liquor License for the Canadian Club Inc.

Asst. Manager Wang stated there is a small step forward in the East Barre sidewalk project. Another easement has been agreed to.

‘ROUND THE TABLE

Mitchell noted that Dig Safe was placing markings on Gregoire Street and inquired if the Manager knew anything about the action. The Websterville Fire District is doing test borings and monitoring wells in preparation of the big water line project.

Mitchell inquired when/if the Selectboard and Budget Committee would be taping the budget video for CVTV. Rogers stated the program would possible be televised during the period of April 30th through May 5th or 6th. To allow for editing, taping would probably take place on Monday the 24th or Wednesday the 26th. Mitchell noted he is not available on Wednesday. Due to training.

LaClair noted March 17th (last Friday) was cross-over day in Legislature. This is when bills are transferred between branches (House and Senate) for additional review. One of the big items of discuss has been the bill to allow law enforcement to confiscate weapons during a domestic dispute. He also noted the budget gap which began at $70 million is down under $5 million (with no new tax or fees).

Tessier stated he has been receiving great comments from individuals on how good Barre Town roads are compared to other surrounding areas.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mitchell inquired if executive session was truly required and if setting bid pricing (high and low) on equipment would fall under contracts. Board discussion stated there is a contract between the website and Town to sell our equipment.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to find that when discussing contracts premature general knowledge would put the Town at a substantial disadvantage. Paul White was not present for the vote.
Selectboard Minutes of March 21, 2017

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to go into executive session at 9:12 p.m. to discuss contracts. Paul White was not present for the vote.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session at 9:22 p.m. Paul White was not present for the vote.

ADJOURN

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 9:22 p.m. Paul White was not present for the vote.

______________________________  ______________________________
Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer  Selectboard Chair

______________________________  ______________________________
______________________________  ______________________________

Barre Town Selectboard