BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD AGENDA
March 28, 2017

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
5. Announcements.
6. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
7. PUBLIC HEARING for proposed Town Charter amendments.
8. Presentation from four non-profit groups on Town Meeting ballot:
   a. Prevent Child Abuse VT;
   b. Capstone Community Action Council;
   c. People's Health and Wellness Clinic;
   d. Family Center of Washington County.
9. Recess (and resume Budget Committee meeting, if necessary)
10. Consider approving Warnings for Annual Town Meeting and for Annual Election of Officers and Voting by Australian Ballot.
11. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
12. Miscellaneous, including licenses and permits, if any
13. ‘Round the table.
14. Executive Session (not expected)
15. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
March 28, 2017

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of March 28, 2017 was scheduled and held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 8:02 p.m.

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

Others attending were: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, Ed Bridge, Yvonne Lory, Philip Cecchini, Joe Ferrada, Luci Garand, and John Valsangiaco.

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 Paul White, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to amend the agenda as follows:
• Miscellaneous 12 - add the action item for approval of a Second Class 2017 Liquor License for the Brookside Country Store.

Mitchell was not present for the vote.

MINUTES

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes of March 21, 2017 with the noted grammatical changes stated by the Clerk. Mitchell was not present for the vote.
1. Barre Town is hosting Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District's FREE backyard composting workshop on Wednesday, April 5th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. See the website for more information (www.barretown.org).

2. 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.

3. 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.

GUESTS - None

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.

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

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to open the public hearing at 8:05 p.m. Mitchell 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 Paul White, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to close the public hearing at 8:10 p.m. Mitchell was not present for the vote.

PRESENTATIONS FROM NON-PROFIT GROUPS

Background: The Selectboard will be hearing from 4 non-profit agencies who are appearing on the Town Meeting ballot. Two years ago the Selectboard set up a rotation to hear various agencies. A report detailing services, how many residents served, and budget information will be provided.

Prevent Child Abuse: Ed Bride was present and stated this statewide organization, has been in existence since 1976. Their services focus on child sex abuse and creating
Selectboard Minutes of March 28, 2017 continued:

healthy relationships. A resource booklet and detailed Barre Town support data were provided to Board members. The ballot request is the same as last year ($1,200.00).

The annual budget is $1.1 million. Forty percent (40%) of funding comes from the state and Prevent Child Abuse does contract with the State to operate various programs (which are all free). Administration costs are less than 3% of the budget, and 90% of all fundraising proceeds go to program costs. Municipality donations range from $150 to $3,000. During the past year 212 Town residents were served using a variety of offered services.

Capstone Community Action: Representatives Yvonne Lory, Philip Cecchini, and John Valsangiacomo were present. The agency has been in existence since 1965 and was formerly known as Central Vermont Community Action Council which serves low-income residents of Lamoille, Orange, and Washington Counties plus an additional nine towns located in other counties.

Some of their services include: Head Start and Early Head Start, business development, financial education, food shelves & nutrition resources, housing counseling, tax preparation, teen parent education, emergency heating assistance, home weatherization, workforce training, and healthcare navigation.

The fiscal year is October to September with an annual budget of around $13 million. Selectboard members received a packet of material which included budget and a breakdown of services provided to Town residents the past year (444 households representing 628 individuals). A brief Power Point presentation was made. Their ballot request is for $1,000.00.

People’s Health & Wellness Clinic: Board member Lucie Garand was present. The Clinic began in 1994 to serve the insured and underinsured residents of Central Vermont who could not otherwise afford services. Currently the Clinic offers primary medical care, mental health, body work and other complementary health, diet and nutrition, and vision care. Recently they added oral health care.

In FY 15-16 the Clinic saw 32 unduplicated residents, 13 of whom were new. The individuals required 106 separate patient interactions. As for dental service, there were 7 visits (5 cleanings) and 7 referrals to participating dentists. Health insurance navigation services were provided to 19 individuals.

The Clinic relies heavily on volunteer practitioners and donated services/goods (to include pharmaceuticals). This is a free clinic which depends on grants and donations, including from patients. Very little money is received from the State of Vermont. The ballot request is for $1,500.00, the same as the prior year.

Joe Ferrada with Family Center of Washington County was present and distributed information to the Board. The ballot request is for $1,500.00 once again. The current budget is $2.5 million. Of this amount $1.6 million is received from state grants, $500,000 is from fees for service, and the remaining amount is from municipalities, foundations and fundraising.

Their goal is to foster the positive growth and development of young children and their families. Some of the services offered for all family members include: Early Care and Education, Integrated services-early intervention, Family support home visiting, specialized child care supports, transportation, child care provider support, Reach Up and Job Development, child care financial assistance, child care referral, parent education, playgroups for children from birth to five years of age.
During discussion Board members stated it appears as though the agencies requesting funding provide overlapping services. Mr. Ferrada stated that there are subtle differences. This program focuses on "preventative" issues. Family Center is always looking for ways to share expenses which can/may include referral to another agency/service. With child care becoming so regulated many small providers are going out of business. Mr. Ferrada noted the Family Center child care service program does have children whose tuition is subsidized.

RECESS AND RESUME BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

The item was passed over as it was not needed.

WARNINGS - OPEN and ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Background: The draft warnings for the two (2) Town meetings were provided to the Board for review prior to this meeting. One is for the open meeting (floor vote) to be held on Wednesday, May 3, 2017, 7:30 p.m., Selectboard meeting room. The Open Meeting deals with setting the due dates for property and sewer charges, provides direction on how to apply the state tax credits, awards the Wendell Pelkey Citizenship Award, to authorize the Selectboard to purchase real estate, and to give an overview of the proposed budget.

The second warning is for the election of Municipal officers and budget items. Tonight, the Budget Committee wrapped up the final numbers for the various Town funds so amendments are being made to this warning. Some articles included in the warning are for the not-for-profit agencies and the proposed charter changes.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to approve the Town of Barre, Warning for Annual Town Meeting to be held on May 3, 2017 as presented. Mitchell was not present for the vote.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to approve the Town of Barre, Warning for Annual Election of Officers and Voting by Australian Ballot to be held on May 9, 2017 with the dollars amounts amended in Article 2. and Article 5. Mitchell was not present for the vote.

WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

On a motion by Paul White, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to approve the Accounts Payable warrant for the week of March 28, 2017. Mitchell was not present for the vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

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

1. Second Class Liquor License for Brookside Country Store. Mitchell was not present for the vote.

ROUND THE TABLE

Paul White apologized for his recent absences which are due to the new job. He assured the Board the out of state trips will be less in the future so he will not have to miss so many meetings.

Tessier thanked all the not-for-profit agencies who appeared before the Board tonight.
LaClair legislative update: The marijuana bill, after much discussion, was sent to the Human Services Committee to look at youth prevention programs. It appears the Budget shortfalls have been met with no new taxes or fees. The downside is the Governor’s initiative was not funded. At this time, it now appears as though the budget increase is around 1.8% and revenues are up about 2%.

LaClair noted he will not be seeking re-election to the Selectboard and is very appreciative of everyone who has approached and thanked him for his service to the Town.

Tom White informed the public that the Budget Committee wrapped up their work tonight. He noted members this year were engaged and went above and beyond. Rogers reminded residents the budget information is available on the town website (www.barretown.org). From the Homepage, find the General Information tab (top ribbon), and from dropdown select "Town Budget." At the bottom of page are the summaries for all fund budgets which includes a 5-year history.

There was also a brief discussion on the town audit and how long it is. A proposed idea was in lieu of the full audit being printed into the Town Report it be replaced with a link. Consensus is to discuss this when Sullivan & Powers presents the final 15-16 audit to the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

ADJOURN

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 9:38 p.m. Mitchell was not present for the vote.