



BARRE TOWN MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER

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 www.barretown.org

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Grand Opening of New Skatepark Features

The Travis Mercy Memorial Skatepark received three new features this summer, its second improvement project since its construction in 2001. Thanks to friends of the skatepark, and the efforts of the Mercy family and Barre Town Thunder Chickens Snowmobile Club, the \$28,000 cost of the new features was almost entirely covered by donated funds.

Jordan Maxham, the Graniteville native gone pro skateboarder, flew in from California to join a crowd of a hundred people, including members of the Mercy family, Barre Town Thunder Chickens, Barre Town selectboard, Barre Town recreation board, and contractor Parker Construction of Hardwick, VT, as well as local skaters and more to celebrate the grand opening of the new concrete features on August 5th. Maxham encouraged the kids there that could have been him years ago: "It's great to see all you little guys and gals here." He also reminisced, "I learned here as a kid." All that practice has paid off and he's now able to skateboard for a living. Here's to the expanded skatepark inspiring a new generation of skateboarders to have fun and pursue their dreams.



Left to right, front row: Doug Farnham, recreation board Chair; Michael Parker of Parker Construction, contractor; Dave Rouleau, Barre Town Thunder Chickens President; Linda Mercy, skatepark mastermind; Graniteville native and pro skateboarder Jordan Maxham; and selectboard members Jack Mitchell; Bob Nelson, and Tom White.

By Elaine Wang, Assistant Town Manager

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Tax Rates and Utility Fees

By now, hopefully, property owners have paid their first quarterly tax bill. Taxpayers may have observed a total tax rate increase of just under 2%.

The total tax rate has four (4) parts: state education (homestead or non-residential), municipal General Fund, Highway Fund and municipal Local Agreement. The state Department of Taxes provides the education tax rates, which the town is required to use in setting the total tax rate. The education tax rates for fiscal year (F.Y.) '18-'19 compared to F.Y. '17-'18 are shown below:

<u>Classification</u>	<u>F.Y. '17-'18</u>	<u>F.Y. '18-'19</u>	<u>% Difference</u>
Homestead	\$1.3824	\$1.4396	+4.1%
Non-residential	\$1.7304	\$1.8041	+4.2%

The selectboard sets the three municipal tax rates. The General Fund (G.F.) tax rate includes the G.F. budget, the voter approved donations (totaling \$59,450), and the allowance for anticipated delinquent taxes (based on the average delinquent percentage for the last three (3) years—1.34%). The Highway Fund (H.F.) tax rate is based solely on the voter approved H.F. budget. The Local Agreement rate compensates for state education revenues waived by the voters (currently only the disabled veterans' exemption).

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NEXT NEWSLETTER ISSUE:
November

Dates & Events

August 27 - School starts at BTMES
 September 15 - Fall Bulk Trash
 September 29 - Fall Festival (Rec. Area)
 September 29 - Fallfire (Town Forest)
 October 6 - Susan G. Komen 5K Run
 October 31 - Cemeteries Close
 October 31 - Last day for Town Right-of-Way
 November 1 - Winter parking ban begins
 November 6 - General Election
 November 15 - Property Taxes Due

Employee changes

Jacob Frey resigned from the Barre Town Police Department in late April to take a position with another police department. Frey was with BTPD for 6 years, and prior to that with Barre Town EMS full time for 11.5 years. He will continue as a per diem officer for BTPD for the time being, and per diem paramedic with BTEMS, when needed.

Leonardo dePrato joined BTPD full time on July 1 after being a per diem police officer since March. He has been with the Barre Town's volunteer Fire Department since 2016 and we are pleased to have his dedication to the Town in this new, full time capacity.

Eric Michaud joined DPW in June and has proven to be a hard worker both on his own and as part of a team. His experience with various heavy equipment and the skilled trades is serving the town well. On his off time he enjoys hunting with his rescued beagles.

If you're wondering why we bid **Peter Wheatley au revoir** – see you again – in April instead of the typical well wishes, it was because we thought he might be back. And indeed we are happy to have him back this month to fill a vacancy in Public Works. Look no further than page 2 of the April 2018 newsletter to see why we did not think twice.

Emily Marineau left her Administrative Assistant position with the Planning and Zoning Office to return to nursing. We know she'll serve her patients well and do wish her the best. Applications for that vacancy are being reviewed.

By Elaine Wang, Assistant Town Manager

Deadline To Work In Road R.O.W.

The deadline for work requiring digging in the road right-of-way is November 1, 2018. Only emergency work will be considered after this date. If you have questions regarding the work to be done in the road R.O.W. near your property, contact the Town Engineer 479-2595.

By Harry Hinrichsen, Town Engineer

Vacancies

Would you like to engage more with your community? The town currently has many opportunities to match a wide variety of interests, each of which serve an important function in our community:

- Care about housing? Consider serving on the Housing Advisory Committee. Meets as needed at the town offices.
- Want to ensure our regional roadways make sense? Consider a turn as Barre Town's alternate to the Central Vermont Transportation Advisory Committee. Meets the 4th Tuesday of the month starting at 6:30pm at the Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce.
- Interested in community-owned internet? Consider representing Barre Town on the Central Vermont Internet Board. The Town voted to become a member, but the board has been meeting without a Barre Town rep! Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month starting at 6pm at Berlin Elementary.
- Like to pitch in during emergencies? Consider becoming Barre Town's Emergency Management Volunteer Coordinator.

For more information on any of these roles, contact the Town Manager's Office at 479-9331 or visit barretown.org.

By Elaine Wang, Assistant Town Manager

(Cont'd)—Tax Rates and Utility Fees)

Last year's and current year's municipal tax rates, approved by the selectboard on July 3, are shown below:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>F.Y. '17-'18</u>	<u>F.Y. '18-'19</u>	<u>% Difference</u>
General Fund (G.F.)	\$.5021	\$.4926	-1.8%
Highway Fund (H.F.)	\$.4278	\$.4164	-2.6%
Local Agreement	\$.0033	\$.0033	0%

Before setting the municipal tax rates the selectboard subtracted fund balance from the tax revenues needed. The board applied \$128,405 of fund balance to the H.F. Three large expenses make up half that amount. Two of the expenses won't be repeated in the '19-'20 budget. The third expense (payment on a large piece of equipment) could be offset by fund balance until the payment expires in four years.

The G.F. budget recommended by the budget committee and approved by voters is not balanced. The approved budget called for using \$56,000 (which was saved up over 7 years) of designated fund balance for firefighters' turn-out gear. As it did in 2017, the board used \$150,000 of fund balance to reduce the tax rate, and then subtracted another \$93,825 from the tax revenue needed. That figure was based on 14 capital improvement/equipment purchases and non-recurring expenses. Use of the fund balance resulted in municipal tax rate decreases.

The total tax rate comparisons year-to-year are shown below:

<u>Classification</u>	<u>F.Y. '17-'18</u>	<u>F.Y. '18-'19</u>	<u>% Difference</u>
Residential	\$2.3156	\$2.3519	+1.56%
Non-residential	\$2.6636	\$2.7164	+1.98%

The residential tax rate increase of 3.63 cents means the owner of a home valued at \$200,000 will pay \$72.60 more property taxes in F.Y. '18-'19.

The budget committee decides the amount of the Sewer Fund (S.F.) and

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Town Offices closed on:

Monday, September 3rd



Barre Town Joins VT-Alert

VT-Alert is a public safety notification system that the State of Vermont, Division of Emergency Management (VEM) uses to generate alerts to the public. VEM allows Towns to adopt the use of VT-Alert to issue alerts and notifications specific to that Town. It can also be used by public agencies, such as emergency services, for internal communication.

Barre Town has adopted the VT-Alert system and soon will begin issuing alerts and notification for things such as public safety emergencies (police, fire, and EMS), weather (local severe weather, flooding, etc), road closures, press releases related to public safety and health, and any important information that needs immediate distribution. VT-Alert has strict guidelines regarding what information can be sent out; it will not be used for everyday business such as regular town notices. If an alert is sent, it's because it's a public safety concern.

What should you do? We would like all residents of Barre Town and others with interests in Barre Town to sign up to receive VT-Alert by going to VTALERT.gov. You will need to choose your delivery method—which can be a phone call, text message, email, or all three—and which alerts you'd like to receive. You can also download the mobile app allowing you to receive and manage alerts on your phone; search for Everbridge in your app store. This allows you to also receive alerts for places outside of Vermont.

We view this new alert system as a great way to get critical information out to the public, and hope that all residents and others will see the value and use it. If you have any questions, you can contact the Town Office at 479-9331.

By Chris Violette, Fire Chief

School is Starting

With school starting in late August, we would like to remind residents of the related dangers, and ask that you all drive safely. Many children either walk or ride bikes to school. In addition to the increase in numbers of children on roadways, there will be children and parents gathered at the many bus stops throughout town. Be mindful of them, as well as of the busses and their red lights/stop signs.



According to Vermont law, all vehicles including emergency vehicles must stop when the bus lights are activated and it is loading or unloading children. Violations of this statute carry a stiff penalty: a \$249 fine and 5 points on your operator's license.

We also ask that parents talk with their children before the school year starts, and remind them to be safe around bus and bus stops. Children should never walk behind the bus or attempt to retrieve an item from under the bus without first talking with the bus driver.

By William Dodge, Police Chief

School Safety

As we've seen in the news lately, various situations can occur at any school at any time. No school is immune, including ours, and we need to be prepared should something arise. Over the last year, the police department has taken many steps to improve our relationship with school students and staff. You will routinely see us walking around the school during school hours. This serves two purposes: help the staff and students become acquainted with and accustomed to seeing us there, and the officers become familiar with the layout of the school. All of our officers have access to the building 24 hours a day. We attend safety meetings with school staff and now have an officer trained as an ALICE instructor (ALICE stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate, a training curriculum adopted by many schools) who will be assisting in the training of the school staff and students.



If you see us at the school don't be alarmed—say hi!

By William Dodge, Police Chief

Drug Box available

Last year the police department applied for, and was awarded, a grant for a medication disposal box. The secure box is located in the lobby of the police department and is available during normal business hours, Monday to Friday from 8:00 am through 4:00 pm. There is no cost for this service. If you wish to dispose of unwanted medications at other times, please call our dispatch center (888-3502) and ask to speak with the on duty officer. Please do not dispose of needles or any sharps in the box. The box is routinely emptied and the contents are disposed of through the Drug Enforcement Agency. *By William Dodge, Police Chief*



(Cont'd)—Tax Rates and Utility Fees

Water Fund (W.F.) budgets and recommends utility rates to the selectboard. The F.Y. '18-'19 S.F. budget increased \$9,905 or 1.07% over the previous year. The Committee recommended keeping the sewer billing rate the same--\$316 per year. The W.F. budget increased \$63,185 or 17.33% because of adding in the Websterville Fire District (W.F.D.). Due to adding the revenue from the former W.F.D. customers, the recommended budget called for a reduction of \$8 in the quarterly base charge.

On June 12 the selectboard voted to keep the sewer use fee at \$316. The board also voted to keep the water charges, including the quarterly base charge, the same. For F.Y. '18-'19 Barre Town water system customers again will pay a \$56 quarterly base charge.

Budget and tax rate information is available on the town website. Call the town manager at 479-9331 with any questions about the budgets or the tax and utility rates.

By Carl Rogers, Town Manager

Project Updates

School Property Transfer: Transfer of the town recreation area and about 40 other acres of school property is complete. In April the school board published and posted its Notice of Property Conveyance. There was no contrary response to the Notice. In May the town attorney prepared a deed for the school to convey 68 acres to the town. After a review and revision to the deed, on June 18 the school board chairwoman signed the deed, concluding this matter. The school retained 20 acres, including the parking lot, playgrounds and approximately 5 acres of wooded land. The extra 5 acres will help the school meet current zoning regulations for lot coverage, should the school ever need to build an addition.

Websterville Fire District: On June 26, Websterville Fire District (WFD) Prudential Committee members Steve Rubalcaba and David Dickinson attended the selectboard meeting to talk about the voter-approved merger. Along with their appreciation for the town's cooperation, they reported on the improvements the WFD recently made to its water treatment plant, pump station and distribution system. Per the town attorney's advice, the WFD Prudential Committee signed a deed conveying its property, equipment and system to the town. On June 26 the selectboard voted to accept the deed, completing the merger of the town and WFD. The merger was effective July 1.

During May and June, the WFD completed its improvements. A new emergency power generator was installed at the treatment plant. Town staff were instructed on operation and maintenance of the generator. The WFD also turned over its system with a new emergency generator at its pump station. In late June the town's two licensed operators received some training from the District's plant operator. On July 2 the contractor who installed the automated controls at the plant gave town operators more training. The town sent a letter to WFD customers informing them how to report a distribution system problem, who to call about a billing question, when to expect bills and how to pay the town. The town billed the customers for water used during April-June.

East Barre Intersection: In May the town accepted revised stormwater plans for the fire station lawn. During June and July the town and Agency of Transportation Right-of-Way Division worked on r.o.w documents. (The town owns the fire station, Mill St., Old Rt. 302, and Bianchi St., within the project limits.) On July 31 the selectboard voted to authorize signing the r.o.w. documents. Construction of this federally funded safety project is expected to start in October 2019 and end in 2020.

East Barre sidewalk: This sidewalk along Mill St and a bit of Websterville Rd to the post office will be constructed by October 31 of this year. The construction contract was awarded to Griffin & Griffin Excavating. Subcontractors include Hutch Concrete and Green Mountain Paving. The total project costs are estimated at \$252,718. Eighty percent of this is being paid for via federal grants administered by VTrans. The Town's share is twenty percent, or \$50,080.

Bridge St sidewalk: This project is one ADA landing pad away from being completed, which it will be this construction season.

By Town Manager's Office

Update on Barre Town Charter Amendments

Change #1: On January 1, 2017 state law changes went into effect regarding elections and the duties of the Board of Civil Authority (BCA). This prompted a review of our Town Charter which resulted in a few amendments that were approved by the voters at the May 9, 2017 Annual Town Meeting.

Those amendments included:

- Section 6(b): eliminated the need for the BCA to update the checklist on the Wednesday before an election (now there is same day voter registration).
- Section 6(b): changed the responsibility of posting the checklist (still law) from the BCA to the Town Clerk and to post said checklist 30 days (not 4 days) before an election.
- Section 6 (e) added a sentence pertaining to the BCA meeting quorum, which will remain a majority of members for all meetings except those pertaining to checklist changes (only 3 are required).

These amendments were adopted by the Vermont Legislature and are now Barre Town law effective March 1, 2018.

Change #2: In May 2018 Barre Town voters approved a set of Charter amendments which included:

- Section 10, Elected Officers (f): adding language that the office of *elected auditor* may be abolished with certain provisions in place (outside audit annually); the Town voters must vote to approve the abolishment of the office; and upon elimination of said office the expiration date for anyone currently holding this office.
- Section 12, Auditors: Amending to read that if the position of Auditor is not abolished per Section 10, then the duties will be as outlined in the remainder of the section.

At this time these amendments to Section 10 and 12 have been forwarded to the Legislature. No bill number has been assigned and action will take place during the next session. Upon approval by the full State Legislative body and signing by the Governor, the charter amendments will become effective immediately.

By Donna Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Road Paving Schedule

Hot Mix Contract - August 27 - Sept. 7

Airport Rd. - Miller Rd. to Berlin Town line

Farwell St. - City line to Mekkelsen Rd.

E. Cobble Hill Rd. - Rte. 302 to transition at Bedard's Pit near house #246

Sunset Road - Camp St. to Windywood Rd.



Bonded Wearing Contract - Sep 6 - Sep 14

Al Monty Dr - entire

Balsam Dr - entire

Clover Ln - entire

E. Balsam Dr - entire

Farwell St.—Mekkelsen Rd.

to E. Montpelier town line

Goldsbury Dr - entire

Granview Dr - entire

Oak Dr - entire

Spruce Ln - entire

Velie Ave - entire

Wark St - entire

Willow Dr - entire

By Harry Hinrichsen, Town Engineer

Pickleball

Outdoor Pickleball is now available at the Barre Town Rec Area tennis courts. Blue lines painted on the courts show the pickleball boundaries. When not already in use by tennis players, the two nets on the courts on the Websterville Rd side can be lowered to pickleball height; instructions on how are posted at either side of those courts. Please do unclip the straps when you're finished playing.

A group of regulars plays Monday evenings 5:30pm-7:30pm and include people happy to teach you the game and loan you a paddle. If you already play and are looking for others to play with, other pick-up days and times are being coordinated; come on a Monday evening to get connected.

Indoor Pickleball will resume this winter at the Barre Town School. The tentative dates are Sundays November 4-March 31, 9am-12pm in the gymnasium. To confirm, check the town website or contact the Town Manager's Office at offices@barretown.org or 479-9331.

By Elaine Wang, Assistant. Town Manager



Susan G. Komen 5K

Date, Times: Saturday, October 6; registration on race day is 7:45-9:15am, race starts at 9:30am.

Place: Picnic shelter in the town rec area.

Course: 3.1 mile course starts at the picnic shelter, uses the rec area road and bike path to Graniteville.

All ages.

For more information: Visit www.cvmc.org.



This event is sponsored by the Central Vermont Medical Center to benefit the Susan G. Komen New England, VT-NH. The Komen Foundation is a breast cancer support organization. Registration fees are \$20 if received by October 3, or \$25 on race day. Runners and walkers are welcome. Last year there were 65 participants. Chris Bean finished the run first with a time of 20:09. It appears many participants (maybe half) walked the course. The bike path from the recreation area to Lower Graniteville is not closed to other users during the race.

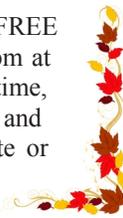
By Carl Rogers, Town Manager

Fall Festival—SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday September 29, 10am-2pm

The Recreation Board will host its third annual FREE Fall Festival on Saturday September 29, 10am-2pm at the Rec Area Picnic Shelter. Hay bale maze, storytime, pumpkin bowling, DIY marshmallow catapults, and more! For details, stay tuned to the town website or follow the Barre Town Recreation Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ArreteVT.

By Elaine Wang, Assistant Town Manager



Town Forest in the Fall



So many options! Have you visited the Barre Town Forest in every season yet? Spring through fall you can **walk, run, mountain bike, or horseback ride** the 20 miles of diverse, seasonally beautiful trails, which are maintained by the Millstone Trails Association. Stop by the Town Offices at 149 Websterville Rd for a free, hard copy, rain-resistant trail map, or get the smart phone version by downloading the TrailHUB app and then following MTA trails. Mountain bikers, please support MTA's work by purchasing a mountain biking trail pass or becoming a member. More information is at www.millstonetrails.org/passes.

If you like learning about nature, join a free **nature walk** led by Barre Town Forest Friends volunteers, every Tuesday through September and every other Sunday (September 2, 16, 30). Discover plants, fungi, and animals you may have never noticed before. Walks meet at 9am at the 44 Brook St parking area (unless raining hard enough for an umbrella), and last about an hour and a half. They are easy to moderate and adjust to the group. Dogs on leashes are welcome. For details or to confirm walks in case of rain, contact Marianne Kotch at 476-4185.

The Quarries **Disc Golf** course, developed and maintained by volunteers, is an 18-hole, par 61 course available free for public use. Park at the 44 Brook St lot in Websterville. A map of the course is displayed in the kiosk there.

Town forest users should be aware that **hunting** is allowed in the town forest, so it's advisable for non-hunters to stay clear from November 10-25, the 2018 rifle hunting season for deer. If you're in the forest during that time, **wear orange** that's visible from your front, back, and sides.

Some town forest use rules, to help ensure the health of the forest and the enjoyment of it by those who come after us:

- No camping and no fires.
- Carry out whatever you carry in.
- No mountain biking 24 hours after rain. Pedestrians and equestrians should also abide by MTA's trail closure signs.

Be tick safe!

- Use a 20% to 50% DEET repellent on exposed skin and clothing, or wear permethrin-sprayed long-sleeved shirts and long pants tucked in to your socks.
- Check your clothes and body for ticks when you've left the woods or grassy areas.
- If you find any ticks, remove them using fine-tipped tweezers. If it's bitten you, grasp it as close to your skin as possible and remove, then wash the area with soap and water. Trap the tick between two pieces of clear tape. This will kill it through suffocation, and preserves it in a way that it can be tested for Lyme disease.
- Wash and dry clothes you wear into the woods or surrounding areas on hot settings; this kills ticks, including their nymphs (young ticks) that might be too small to see.
- If you develop any symptoms, such as a 'bulls-eye' rash or fever, call a doctor as soon as possible.

By Elaine Wang, Assistant Town Manager

Fall Bulk Trash Collection

After a summer home improvement project, or to open storage space before winter, the bulk trash collection is a convenient and less expensive disposal option for the cleanup of your home and property. Town residents may bring large items to the collection. For more information, call the Town Manager’s Office at 479-9331.

The 2018 Fall Bulk Trash Collection will be held Saturday, September 15, 8am to 2pm. The collection is held at the public works yard located at 129 Websterville Road.

Please plan your load for efficient off-loading to avoid slowing down the service:

- **Lumber and siding** must be **cut** to easily handled lengths and **tied up**.
- **Roofing shingles** and **small pieces** of lumber, siding, dry-wall, plaster, tile, and similar materials **must be in containers** (boxes, buckets, or bags).

Loads of these small loose items require more time to unload. Any loads of loose shingles will be parked to the side for unloading when no one else is waiting.

Be safe! Tie down or cover your load to prevent anything from blowing or falling off.

The service is for town residents to clean up around their home. To show residency, bring a tax or utility bill, or this newsletter with mailing label.

Salvaging is part of the operation. As the saying goes, one person’s trash... Items that collection volunteers think may be of use to someone are placed outside the DPW fence. Come by anytime during the collection to browse for your treasure.

Volunteers are needed. If interested in helping for a couple of hours or all day, call the Town Manager’s Office at 479-9331.



Leaf Disposal

The Town of Barre offers residents a free lawn waste disposal site. It is near the top of Holden Road, which intersects with Graniteville Road near Rock of Ages’ driveway. For 2018, the usual hours of service are Monday and Wednesday, 3-6pm; Thursday, 9am-noon; and Saturday, 8am-noon.

In the fall, many residents bring their leaves to the Lawn Waste Site. To accommodate the need, on three weekends in October there are additional hours of service: the weekends of October 13-14, 20-21, and 27-28 hours will be Saturdays from 8am-4pm and Sundays noon-4pm. The site also is open the usual hours during these three weeks. All other proper uses (dropping off brush and garden plants, for example) are allowed during leaf season.

Please do not leave bags, boxes, plastic sheeting or totes at the site. To haul more leaves in a load, chop up leaves with a mower. To cut down on unloading time, place a plastic sheet or tarp on the pick up truck bed. Loose leaves in the back of a truck should be covered.

The site will be open at least until Saturday, November 3. Service beyond that depends on the weather. For more information call the Town Manager’s Office at 479-9331.

By Carl Rogers, Town Manager

Bulk Trash At-A-Glance

Examples of accepted materials

- Building demolition materials
- Large plastic outdoor toys
- Home siding
- Roofing shingles*
- Old fencing
- Pool liners & covers
- Concrete, stones, asphalt, blocks, bricks
- Mattresses & box springs
- House windows
- Porcelain fixtures
- Doors
- Carpets
- Furniture
- Decks

Item Not Accepted

- Lawn wastes
- Hazardous materials
- Tires
- Large metal items e.g. gas grills, appliances, lawn mowers, bikes
- Electronics e.g. TVs, computers
- Household trash & recycling

Take To

- Town’s Holden Rd site
- CVSMD HHW collections (see below)
- Wilson Depot, CVSMD ARCC
- Wilson Depot
- CVSMD ARCC
- Licensed collectors, Wilson Depot

Fees

Car.....	\$5.00
Pickup truck.....	\$8.00
Unloaded car or pickup with trailer.....	\$8.00
Loaded car/pickup truck w/loaded trailer....	\$13.00
Large truck (up to one-ton maximum)	\$13.00
Loaded large truck with loaded trailer.....	\$20.00

*Loads containing roofing shingles charged double.

By Carl Rogers, Town Manager



Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Do you have pesticides, mercury thermometers/thermostats, or household cleaners labeled “hazardous”? The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District is holding their last household hazardous waste collection of 2018 on Saturday, September 29th at the Vermont Department of Labor in Montpelier. \$20 per car for in-district (including Barre Town) residents. Businesses must call 229-9383 x105 to pre-register and for business pricing. For more information, visit the CVSMD website at www.cvsmd.org. *By Elaine Wang, Asst. Town Mgr.*



2018 Election Update



The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2018. Offices to be voted on include Federal Offices (US Senator and Representative to Congress) as well as State, County, and municipal offices (Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Senator, State Representative, Justices of the Peace and more). The tables on page 8 give additional November election information.

As of the printing of this newsletter, a **Special School Election**, for voting on the Act 46 school merger and election of officers, has also been scheduled on November 6th. This could change and the alternate date would be WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2018. Why? On August 15, 2018 the Barre Act 46 Merger Study Committee will present its Final Report to the Vermont State Board of Education requesting approval to hold the merger votes in Barre Town and Barre City on November 6, 2018. In the event the State Board of Education does not approve a November 6, 2018 vote a fallback date has been tentatively set for September 26, 2018.

Questions on the Special School Election ballot will be the merger of the school districts and to elect Barre Town School Directors:

Barre Town representative - represents the Town of Barre. Petition requires 30 signatures from Barre Town residents.

At-Large representative - represents Barre Town and Barre City area. Petition requires 60 signatures from any mix of City and Town residents.

Candidates must submit a completed and signed "Consent of Candidate" form with their petition. All forms are available on the Barre Town website (www.barretown.org).

Because of the possible earlier election date, candidates will be gathering signatures for both elections. Please note that the **due dates on the September 26 petitions are August 17 to August 27**, and the **due dates on the November 6 petitions are September 27 to October 7**.

By Donna Kely, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Cemeteries Close



Barre Town maintains the Wilson, Maplewood and West Hill cemeteries. Lots are for sale and interments (burials) performed in the Maplewood and Wilson cemeteries. Officially, the three cemeteries close on October 31. The policy isn't as hard and fast; interments may be done after October 31 depending on weather and ground conditions. In 2018, interments after November 9 are less likely.

The roads into the Wilson Cemetery will be open, if not snowed in, until the first of the year. After the holidays the Wilson Cemetery roads will be closed to prevent damage during the spring thaw.

Officially, the cemeteries re-open May 1, but, depending on ground conditions, interments may take place in late April.

By Carl Rogers, Town Manager

Board, Commission, and Committee Reports

Development Review Board – *By Chris Violette, Planning & Zoning Admin. (M. Nicholson, M. Reaves, C. Sanborn, C. Thygesen, C. Neddo, J. Valsangiacomo, A. Valentinetti, J. Fecteau, B. Wolfe)*

AUD=Allowed Use Determination; CUP=Conditional Use Permit; SD=Subdivision; BLA=Boundary Line Adjustment

April 2018: Approved CUP for Crossway Auto Center to sell cars at 107 Mill Street in East Barre.

May 2018: Denied (without prejudice) a CUP to Victoria McCarthy to use a camper as a dwelling.

June 2018: Approved BLA for the Canadian Club 414 E. Mont Rd; Appr. 6' Variance for Jerry Dunbar, 68 Richardson Road; Appr. 8' variance for Linda Bullis, 19 Church St;

July 2018: Approved 2-lot SD for Bond Family First Partnership, 260 Morrison Rd;

Planning Commission – *By Chris Violette, Planning & Zoning Admin. (C. Sanborn, C. Thygesen, C. Violette, D. Pierce, C. Duke, B. Atwood, G. Clain)*

AUD=Allowed Use Determination; CUP=Conditional Use Permit

April 2018: Heard analysis of the Town Plan from Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission;

May 2018: Heard presentation about two 500kW solar projects, Granview Drive and Beckley Hill road both on land owned by Washington County Mental Health Services; Held a special meeting on the 30th to do site visits at both proposed solar projects.

June 2018: Approved second driveway request for Mallie Ellen McCarron at 8 Millstone Blvd; Reviewed application by Northern Power submitted to the Public Utility Commission for the proposed construction of a 5-megawatt battery storage facility, 29 Pitman Road.

July 2018: Reviewed applications submitted to the Public Utility Commission by Granview Solar, LLC and Beckley Hill Solar, LLC for the proposed construction of two 500kW solar facilities.

Traffic Safety Advisory Committee - *By Harry Hinrichsen, Town Engineer (C. Liese, S. Corbett, J. Blow, W. Kirby, V. Valierand)* There were **no meetings** in **May, June, or July 2018**.



*** VOTE! ***
NEXT ELECTION AT-A-GLANCE



VOTING	
When:	Tuesday - November 6, 2018
Where:	Barre Town Elementary School Gymnasium
Time:	7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
	Handicap assessible voting/parking is available.
DEADLINES	
Register to vote	None
BALLOT INFORMATION	
Early voting ballots available	September 21, 2018 (45 days prior to voting day)
Early voting ends	Monday, November 5, 2018, 4:30 p.m.
Last day to request JP ballot delivery	Monday, November 5, 2018, 4:30 p.m.
Sample ballots	Posted at Hannaford's Market, Trow Hill Grocery, Lawson's Store, Graniteville General Store, the Municipal Building and on the Barre Town website (www.barretown.org).
VOTER RIGHTS	
	Secretary of State's website: www.sec.state.vt.us