

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA

November 21, 2017

1. Call to order 6:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving minutes from meeting of November 7, 2017.
5. Announcements
6. Receive guest (for non-agenda items).
7. Interview consulting water engineer candidate.
8. Consider approving Development and Maintenance Agreement for dog park.
9. Consider awarding contracts for purchase of: a) tire chains; b) plow blades and shoes.
10. Consider authorizing Better Roads grant application.
11. Consider authorizing closing steep, gravel portion of Sterling Hill Road for winter.
12. Consider approving winter road maintenance agreement with Town of Orange.
13. Consider authorizing a letter supporting VELCO's Upper Prospect Street substation project.
14. Consider interest in discussing Central Vermont Internet Authority.
15. Consider approving Pelouin Road culvert grant agreement amendment #1.
16. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrant for November 14 and 21, 2017.
17. Miscellaneous: including licenses and permits, if any.
18. Round the table.
19. Executive session (personnel).
20. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES

November 21, 2017

The duly warned meeting of November 21, 2017 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, Lower Websterville at 6:30 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Paul White, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Rolland Tessier, and Bob Nelson. Tom White was absent

Attendance for the regular meeting included: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna Kelty, Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang, John Kiernan, Robert Clark, Mark Youngstrum, and Times Argus Reporter Eric Blaisdell.

CALL TO ORDER - Vice Chair Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE THE AGENDA

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

- *Delete agenda item 17A;*
- *Add agenda item 17B - Filling the Health Officer position;*
- *Delete agenda item 9A - award contract for tire chains.*

Tom White was not present for the vote.

MINUTES

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Nelson, the Selectboard voted to approve the Selectboard Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2017 with the minor grammatical and spelling changes. Tom White was not present for the vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- You should have received your November Barre Town Newsletter in the mail. Read about how new stormwater regulations will affect town operations, find helpful winter tips, and winter recreation news.
- A reminder that the steep gravel section of Sterling Hill Road is closed for the winter.
- Winter sand is available for Barre Town residents outside of the Public Works fence. This service is only offered to residents. Please follow instructions posted at the sand pile.

GUESTS - None

INTERVIEW WATER ENGINEER CANDIDATE

Background: The Board will meet with representatives from Otter Creek Engineering. Scoring sheets from their proposal were given to the Board for review prior to this meeting.

DOG PARK DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

Background: On September 12th the Selectboard authorized drafting of an agreement between Barre Town and the Town of Barre Dog Park Organization for a proposed Dog Park to be located at the Recreational Facility (next to the elementary school). This agreement was modeled after Quarries Disc Golf Agreement and has been reviewed by the Town Attorney.

The Dog Park Organization has raised \$2,355 towards the \$10,500 needed for posts, fencing, and entry gates. The posts were dropped off at the Recreational Facility on the 16th and volunteers have set the posts using equipment loaned by Lafayette Highway Specialties this past weekend.

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to authorize and have the Vice Chair (in the absence of the Chair) sign the Development, Operation and Maintenance Agreement between the Town of Barre Community Dog Park Organizers and the Town of Barre. Tom White was not present for the vote.

AWARD CONTRACTS

Background: Bids for tire chains, plow blades and shoes were opened on Monday, November 20th. The budget for this year is \$16,000 for all. The products requested in the bid are similar to prior years. (Note: the tire chains were deleted from this meeting agenda as there was not adequate time to make the necessary bid review.)

Three bids were received for plow blades and shoes: Clarks Truck (low) \$11,857; Tenco at \$11,937; and HP Fairfield at \$12,290. It was noted there is only \$80 difference between the Clarks and Tenco. Tenco is near the Town Maintenance Facility. The Shop Foreman has no preference.

On a motion by Paul White, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to award the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 plow blades and shoes contract to Tenco (due to be a local

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vendor and close by) for their bid price of \$11,937.00. Tom White was not present for the vote.

BETTER ROADS GRANT APPLICATION

Background: The State of Vermont has moved the Better Roads application period from spring to November. The application was due on November 17th and has been submitted. Should the Selectboard not approve the project selected it can be withdrawn. The project is do bank stabilization and head wall work on two (2) sections of Holden Road, just below Darshir Lane. The grant program requires a 20% local match. The project cost is estimated at \$46,629 (towns contribution would be \$9,326). This cost includes Town labor and equipment, so our match is not all cash outlay. The Town applies almost every year for a Better Road grant and receives them frequently over the years.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to authorize the submission of the Better Roads grant application for work on Holden Road. Tom White was not present for the vote.

STERLING HILL ROAD - WINTER ROAD CLOSURE

Background: Annually the gravel (steep) section of Sterling Hill Road is closed for the winter. Due to weather it has been closed. The Board is being asked to "authorize" this action.

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to close the gravel section of Sterling Hill Road, retroactive to November 10, 2017 and it is to remain closed until the spring when the DPW Superintendent believes it is safe to re-open the road. Tom White was not present for the vote.

TOWN OF ORANGE WINTER ROAD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

Background: For several years Barre Town and Orange have had an agreement involving winter road maintenance on three roads (Partridge, Ladd, and Cutler Corner) that cross the Town line. The agreement was made because Cutler Corner Road is now paved and salted (not sanded). Orange plows and sands our gravel section of Ladd Road. Partridge was added to the agreement to balance the exchange of work. Both Superintendents (Town and Orange) want to continue this agreement.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to approve the November 21, 2017 letter to the Town of Orange regarding the 2017-2018 winter plowing/sanding agreement. Tom White was not present for the vote.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR VELCO PROJECT

Background: VELCO is proposing to update/retrofit the power substation on Upper Prospect Street (just across from Barre Gardens). On October 11th an informational project meeting was held. VELCO is now preparing to submit an application to the Public Utility Commission at the end of November and requested a letter of support. VELCO made a presentation to the Barre Town Planning Commission at their last meeting and the members present did not express opposition or concerns.

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to authorize the Town Manager to submit the letter of support dated November 21, 2017 for the VELCO Upper Prospect Street project to the Vermont Public Utility Commission. Tom White was not present for the vote.

CENTRAL VT INTERNET AUTHORITY

Background: Jeremy Hansen (Berlin Selectboard member and Professor at Norwich) is interested in forming a communication union district to provide internet access in Central Vermont. In his email he mentioned the East Central Vermont Telecommunications District as an example of these Districts. He is inquiring if the Selectboard would agree to include a ballot the question about forming such a district.

Consensus of the Board is to have Mr. Hansen come to a meeting for more detailed information.

PELOQUIN ROAD GRANT AGREEMENT - AMENDMENT #1

Background: Two weeks ago the Selectboard approved an amendment to the Pelouquin Road culvert grant application. The amended grant agreement is now ready for signature. This documentation is needed before the Town can request the \$175,000 grant reimbursement.

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to authorize the Town Manager to sign amendment #1 to the VT AOT Structures Grant for the Pelouquin Road culvert, Agreement #BC1700. Tom White was not present for the vote.

WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to approve the weekly accounts payable warrant for November 14, 2017. Tom White was not present for the vote.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to approve the weekly accounts payable warrant for November 21, 2017. Tom White was not present for the vote and Nelson abstained due to an employer conflict.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Manager informed the Board that Health Officer Justin Pickel has submitted his resignation effective January 1, 2018. Currently, there is no Deputy Health Officer. The process is for the Town to nominate an individual, send the name to the Department of Health who will make the official appointment. Consensus of the Board is to begin advertising in the newspaper, website and CVTV.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to accept the resignation of Health Officer Justin Pickel effective January 1, 2018. Tom White was not present for the vote.

'ROUND THE TABLE

Tessier: He inquired on the status of selling the old Manager's car. Rogers stated there has been an inquiry, but the bid price was too low. The vehicle has been moved from the front of the property and more will be done in the near future to sell it.

Nelson:

- He noted Anderson Road has some issue with axle ruts. Rogers will have the road looked at.
- Happy Thanksgiving to all and hope your travels are safe.

Paul White:

- Has there been an update on the Town's ability to change the hours of display for the speed radar sign by the school? Rogers stated the Regional Planning Commission, which sponsored the grant, is being contacted.

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- What is the status of FY 16-17 audit? Rogers stated a draft was received yesterday.

Mitchell:

- He inquired if guardrail replacement/repair was included when road paving is planned. Rogers stated the standard practice is to look at those items as well as signs, drainage, culverts, catch basins, stone, etc.
- He noted the Websterville Fire District new hydrants need to be marked ASAP to avoid snow plow damage.
- He would like to have a brief Selectboard round table regarding the upcoming budget season.

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. Tom White was not present for the vote.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Nelson, the Selectboard voted to go into executive session at 8:04 p.m. to discuss personnel and real estate. Tom White was not present for the vote.

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Mitchell, Selectboard voted to come out of executive session at 9:16 p.m. Tom White was not present for the vote.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

Donna Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard