

# BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA

March 6, 2018

1. Call to order 8:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving minutes from meeting of February 27, 2018.
5. Announcements
6. Receive guest (for non-agenda items).
7. Consider approving electrical wiring at both fire stations.
8. Consider accepting a 3-year dispatch contract with Lamoille County Sheriff's Department.
9. Consider selling 2010 International dump truck to high bidder.
10. Consider approving Finance and Maintenance Agreement for the Middle Road High Risk Rural Road sign project.
11. Consider calling for public hearings on proposed Town Charter amendments.
12. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrant for March 6, 2018.
13. Miscellaneous - including licenses and permits, if any.
14. Recess
15. Executive session: labor contract negotiations.
16. Adjourn.

## BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES

March 6, 2018

The duly warned meeting of March 6, 2018 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, Lower Websterville at 8:00 p.m.

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

Attendance for the regular meeting included: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang, and Assistant Town Clerk Wendy Moore.

**CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order at 8:03 p.m.

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

### APPROVE THE AGENDA

*On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to accept the meeting agenda as presented.*

### MINUTES

*On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes of February 28, 2018 with minor spelling and grammatical changes.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Free pizza! Now that I have your attention... Would you like to see firsthand what your tax dollars pay for, get your questions about the whys and wherefores of how the town is run, or yes have some pizza on the town? If yes, then you're invited to the budget committee's town Department Tour and Open House the evening of Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Join the tour at the Town Offices at 5:30 p.m. or drive yourself to just those stops that most interest you. The tour schedule is posted on the town website, [barretown.org](http://barretown.org), and at the grocery stores around town.

**Selectboard Minutes of March 06, 2018 continued:**

- The Fire Department's rabies clinic for cats and dogs is Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 1pm to 3pm at the South Barre Fire Station at 528 South Barre Road. The fee is \$15 per pet. Barre Town dogs can be licensed at the same time.

For those of you that are starting to plan out the summer for you or your kids:

- Barre Town needs four seasonal workers for the Department of Public Works and one for the Recreation and Cemetery departments. The application for these positions can be picked up at the town offices or downloaded from the town's homepage. Submit in person, by email to [offices@barretown.org](mailto:offices@barretown.org), or by mail to PO Box 116, Websterville, VT 05678. Application review for these seasonal positions begin March 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Tennis lessons will be offered for two weeks from June 19<sup>th</sup> through June 29<sup>th</sup>, Tuesdays through Fridays, at the Barre Town Recreation Area tennis courts next to the Barre Town School. See the town website for more information on times, age requirements, and registration forms. For more information, contact this year's instructor, Lee Wilschek, at [leewilschek@yahoo.com](mailto:leewilschek@yahoo.com).

**GUESTS - None**

**ELECTRICAL WIRING FIRE STATIONS**

Background: The SCBA and compressors will be coming late March, early April, about a month sooner than expected. Chris Violette has been advised the electric service used for the current compressors is not adequate for the new machines, thus this electrical work is necessary. The expense is off budget (not included in the 2017-2018 fire department budget) so we are seeking Selectboard approval. Chris' solution for this unforeseen expense is delaying the E.B. station concrete floor work and using the \$5,000 for the electrical work.

*On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to approve the \$4,184 fire station electrical work to serve the new air compressors.*

**DISPATCH**

Background: We've always had one-year contracts with the Lamoille County Sheriff's Department. In December Sheriff Marcoux sent a one-year contract proposal calling for a 2.97% cost increase. This 3-year offer calls for increases of 1%, 2% and 3%. The three chiefs were asked for their opinion about accepting a 3-year contract with those costs. Chris Violette had a one word reply, "Absolutely." Bill Dodge said, "I agree." Chris LaMonda said, "Yes. The only addition I would ask is could (they) include the(ir) vehicle tracking they already do for Lamoille Sheriff's."

Discussion was had regarding the vehicle tracking. Chris LaMonda has not gotten back to the Town Manager regarding this. The Selectboard will follow up on the vehicle tracking at a later date.

*On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to approve the 3-year dispatch service contract with Lamoille County Sheriff's Department.*

**SELLING TRUCK**

Background: Bidding on Govdeals.com closed at 8:00pm Wednesday night. The high bid was \$21,000 which is less than the reserve price you set. The option to selling for \$21,000 now is sending it to the state auction. Mike Martel doesn't think it would sell for more than \$21,000 at the auction, and we have to pay auctioneer and state fees to sell there.

*On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to authorize the sale of the 2010 International Truck for \$21,000.*

## **FINANCE AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**

Background: Last Tuesday night action on this matter was tabled until Nelson and Tessier were present. The F&M agreement includes a section declaring the Town must maintain the signs as shown on the plan. There is no expiration period for this requirement. Moreover, VTrans and FHWA approval would be needed to change a sign. VTrans confirmed this applies to the speed limit signs, but they didn't foresee an objection to changing the speed limits, if an engineering study supported the change. The Town Manager recommends not approving the F&M because of the potential liability if the signing isn't kept as shown on the plan and someone has an accident. Counterpoint was raised about what if we didn't accept this sign package, didn't keep the signs as shown and someone has an accident. Reply: towns are not required to post signs. You are not required to set a speed limit and post signs. You are not required to have curve ahead or hidden drive signs.

Comments: The Chairman stated that he was not in favor of the agreement. The agreement takes away local control, some of the signs are still adequate and there was nothing in the agreement addressing the truck traffic. Tessier agreed and stated that we would be responsible for the reflectors and other added cost and it does not address concerns at the bottom of the hill on Middle Road. Nelson questioned what would happen if we do not sign the agreement? Manager Rogers stated that the signs would be the town's responsibility and we would be able to do with them as we want and go through the same process of replacing any signs, which goes before the traffic safety committee and the Selectboard. Nelson also asked if there would be additional liability on the town if the agreement was not signed. Manager Rogers stated that there could be a possibility that someone could use this as a defense if the plan is not approved. Paul White stated that there would be no more signs than what we currently have and as far as the adequacy of the signs, the state would replace with the latest MUTCD compliance standard signs. His only objection would be if we wanted to make any changes to the speed limit or location of signs. Would the Town be required to get permission from AOT and the Federal Highway Administration? Manager Rogers stated that the town would be required to maintain the signs that are approved under the plan. Manager Rogers does not recall anything regarding the Town getting permission to add additional signs.

A motion was made by Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, to approve the Finance and Maintenance Agreement for the Middle Road High Risk Rural Road Project. Mitchell and Paul White withdrew their motion after discussion.

Manager Rogers suggested requesting that the State tweak the agreement regarding the life of the signs and clarification of additional signage.

## **CHARTER ADMENDMENTS**

Background: Action on this was delayed to give the Selectboard time to think about it. We need to know soon because public hearing notices must be published starting March 20<sup>th</sup> if you are to move ahead with the proposed amendments. The hearings would be on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.

*On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to move ahead with advertising public hearings for a proposed Town Charter amendment giving voters authority to eliminate the elected auditors position.*

## **WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT**

*On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to approve the weekly accounts payable warrant for March 6, 2018.*

Selectboard Minutes of March 06, 2018 continued:

**RECESS**

*On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to recess at 8:23 p.m.*

**RECONVENE**

*The Selectboard reconvened at 9:07 p.m.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*On a motion by Mitchell seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard found that premature general knowledge would put the Town at a substantial disadvantage with regards to the discussion of labor contract negotiations.*

*On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to go into executive session at 9:08 p.m. for labor contract negotiations.*

*On a motion by Mitchell seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session at 10:45 p.m.*

**ADJOURN**

*On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 10:45 p.m.*

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*Wendy Moore-Assistant Town Clerk*

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*Selectboard Chair*

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**Barre Town Selectboard**