

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA

April 3, 2018

1. Call to order 6:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving minutes from meeting of March 27, 2018.
5. Announcements
6. Receive guest (for non-agenda items).
7. Presentations by Retired Senior Volunteer Program.
8. Department Head quarterly visit: EMS Director Chris Lamonda.
9. Public Hearing for proposed Town Charter amendment allowing for possibility of eliminating the elected auditor position.
10. Consider approving partial closing of Hill Street and Windy Wood Road for Granite City Group Fitness 5K.
11. Consider approving Warnings for Town Meeting and for Annual Election and Voting by Australian Ballot.
12. Consider approving application for Class 2 Road Paving Grant.
13. Consider designating Spaulding High School Project Graduation as group to receive donations at spring bulk trash collection.
14. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrant for April 3, 2018.
15. Miscellaneous - including licenses and permits, if any.
16. Round the table.
17. Executive session: contract (if needed).
18. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES

April 3, 2018

The duly warned meeting of April 3, 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, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Bob Nelson and Rolland Tessier. Paul White was not present.

Attendance for the regular meeting included: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, EMS Director Chris Lamonda, and Executive Director of RSVP Dan Noyes.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called 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 accept the meeting agenda. Paul White was not present for the vote.

MINUTES

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes of March 27, 2018 with minor spelling and grammatical changes. Paul White was not present for the vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- It is not too late to apply for summer seasonal work with Barre Town. Whether clearing brush blocking the view of drivers or flagging traffic to keep their crewmates

Selectboard Minutes of April 3, 2018 continued:

safe, the four DPW seasonals will do work important to the Town. Required training will be provided. The schedule is Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. The one seasonal working Recreation and Cemetery will do landscaping and light work on buildings to keep those facilities inviting and safe for patrons. Starting pay is \$11.25 per hour. See www.barretown.org for the application

- Last minute reminders:
 1. The Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday March 31st at 10:00 a.m. at Barre's Rotary Park for children from ages 3 to 10. The event is free.
 2. Also this Saturday, the rabies clinic for dogs and cats will be from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the South Barre Fire Station. The fee is \$15.00 per pet.
 3. Monday, April 2nd is the last day to license your dog to avoid paying a penalty. Any questions contact the Town Clerk's Office at 802-479-9391.
- The Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Barre Town Report is now available at many locations around Town. Pick up your hard copy at Lawson's Store, Graniteville General Store, Quarry Hill Quick Stop, Trow Hill Grocery, Brookside Country store, Hannaford Grocery, or the Municipal Building. It will also be viewable on the town website shortly.
- You can register to vote any time, including right now! Find the link to register online at www.barretown.org or you can register in person in the Town Clerk's Office, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at 149 Websterville Road.
- All Vermont homeowners who live in your Vermont home need to file your Homestead Declaration Form (HS-122) by April 17, 2018 to avoid a penalty and to receive the lower residential education tax rate for the year. If you qualify for a land use exemption on your taxes it would be helpful to the work that Town needs to do if you file your Homestead Declaration Form with the State as soon as possible. Remember that you can file the HS-122 even if you have not prepared your income taxes yet. If you have any questions, Joyce in the Assessor's Office will be happy to help you, call 802-479-2595 or come in person to the Town Offices.

GUESTS - None

NOT-FOR-PROFIT PRESENTATION

Social Service agencies can be on the ballot for voter-approved donations, if the Selectboard determines the agency offers services to eligible residents. Until three years ago the Selectboard used one night in March to meet with every agency on the ballot. The Selectboard decided to invite a handful of groups to attend a televised meeting each year and present their reports. Last week two groups made their presentations. The final one for this year will be the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

RSVP (on the ballot for \$1,000): Dan Noyes was present and provided the following information:

- Engage volunteers to assist with community members in need. (All ages of volunteer welcome.)
- They coordinate with various agencies and work closely with Council on Aging.
- Cover the area from Thetford to Jay and the Northeast Kingdom. At any time there are 300 to 400 volunteers in our service area.
- Volunteers do a variety of tasks (transportation, in home projects, yardwork, etc.).
- They are involved with Meals on Wheels and sponsor various health classes (Ti chee/Bone Builders).
- Funding comes from Towns, grants, and involves a great deal of time.

EMS DIRECTOR QUARTERLY REPORT

Background: Quarterly the Department Heads will provide reports to the Selectboard. This report is from the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) department.

Director Chris Lamonda was present and provided the following information:

- Staffing - recent issues with deployment and medical absences; hiring update on per-diems.
- Equipment - new ambulance in service, will be reviewing data on gas engine versus diesel, and the ongoing issue with vehicle mileage.
- Trending - the past 7 to 8 years all types of calls are up at the same pace, and Brookfield (newest contracted town) has had a couple of calls a month for the last three months.
- Future goals - funding (review need or not to bill for mutual aid, paramedic intercept rate), would love to look at grant opportunities as time permits, and finally explore and define an EMS mission statement.

PUBLIC HEARING - CHARTER AMENDMENT

Background: Given the difficulty in filling the vacancies for elected Auditor the Selectboard investigated the possibility of eliminating the position. Since our financials are done by the Bookkeeper and an outside auditing firm the primary function of this office is the preparing of the Town Report (with the help of the Manager's secretary). Our existing Charter does not provide an avenue for eliminating this elected office. As with any Charter amendment there is a process which includes two public hearings. This is the first public hearing to introduce the proposed amendment.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted to open the public hearing at 7:20 p.m. for the purpose of explaining the amendment which provides an avenue for the abolishment of the elected auditor position. Paul White was not present for the vote.

A brief overview of the changes and ensuring the public is aware that these changes do not constitute abolishment of the auditor position but provides an avenue, should the Board choose, to put into motion a process for the abolishment of the office. The next public hearing will be on April 10, 2018.

On a motion by Mitchell, second by Tessier, the Selectboard closed the public hearing at 7:27 p.m. Paul White was not present for the vote.

PARTIAL CLOSING OF HILL STREET AND WINDY WOOD ROAD

Background: Granite City Group Fitness for about 4 years has been having a 5K run on Hill Street and Windy Wood Road. For the start of the race Hill Street (from the church down to Windy Wood Road) and the 4-way intersection will be partially closed. The owners have submitted a certificate of insurance.

The Police Chief has spoken with the event organizers and agreed that two officers are needed for no more than 2 hours each.

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to authorize the partial closing of Hill Street and Windy Wood Road - Hill Street intersection on Saturday, April 28, 2018 from approximately 9:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. per Vermont Statutes Title 23, Chapter 13, Section 1010. Paul White was not present for the vote.

WARNINGS FOR TOWN MEETING AND ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Background: Board members were provided drafts of the warnings for the Open Town Meeting (May 2, 2018) and the Annual Election of Officers (May 8, 2018). All not-for-profits have met the policy requirements to be on the ballot.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to approve and sign the warnings for the Open Town Meeting on May 2, 2018 and the Annual Election of Officers and Voting by Australian Ballot on May 8, 2018. Paul White was not present for the vote.

APPLICATION FOR CLASS 2 ROAD PAVING GRANT

Background: The Selectboard was given an application to review for the proposed VTrans Class 2 Road Paving grant for Farwell Street. It is noted that all the paving projects this year are for long road lengths.

Discussion focused on the project total cost, application maximum, and the funds for this project have already been budgeted if the application were to be denied.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Nelson, the Selectboard voted to authorize submitting a VTrans Class 2 Road Paving grant application for Farwell Street up to \$162,708. Paul White was not present for the vote.

DONATION GROUP FOR THE SPRING BULK TRASH EVENT

Background: Manager Rogers in his notes to the Board stated that Project Graduation is willing to work to the Spring Bulk Trash event in exchange for the donations.

Mitchell stated he may have another group who is interested. One Credit Union is raising funds for the "Make a Wish Foundation." The consensus is to table action on this item until next week to afford Mitchell time to see if the entity might be interested in doing the fall event in lieu of the spring.

WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted to approve the weekly accounts payable warrant for April 3, 2018. Paul White was not present for the vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

Rogers inquired if the Selectboard was interested in doing a taped budget presentation (which airs on CVTV and is available through the website). The Board stated yes, and taping is tentatively set for Monday, April 23, 2018. Some changes discussed could include photo overlays for some departments and perhaps some live interviews on the bigger items. Budget Committee members will be asked if they want to participate.

'ROUND THE TABLE

Rogers inquired if the Selectboard might be willing to hold a special meeting prior to the May 2, 2018 Open Meeting for Volunteer Appreciation. It was noted the Board of Civil Authority is meeting that night as well. This year things will remain as usual.

Mitchell raised concerns over the loss of another Police Officer to a neighboring town. During discussion there were many unanswered questions which resulted in the Board inviting the Police Chief to come to an executive session for more discussion.

Selectboard Minutes of April 3, 2018 continued:

Mitchell complimented resident Patty MacAskill for decorating the snowman on her front lawn for the various holidays (St. Patrick's Day, Easter, spring, etc.). Great community spirit.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

ADJOURN

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. Paul White was not present for the vote.

Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard