

# BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA

October 16, 2018

1. Call to order 6:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving minutes from meeting of October 9, 2018.
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
7. Department head quarterly visits: a) EMS Director; and b) Police Chief.
8. Consider adopting Resolution No. 9-18 acknowledging the Town's responsibilities for former Websterville Fire District's indebtedness.
9. Consider approving interim Assessor contract.
10. Consider authorizing sale of 2010 dump truck.
11. Review first quarter budget reports.
12. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for October 16, 2018.
13. Miscellaneous: including licenses and permits, if any.
14. Round Table.
15. Executive session: if needed
16. Adjourn.

## BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES

October 16, 2018

The duly warned meeting of October 16, 2018 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 6:00 p.m.

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

Attendance for the regular meeting included: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, EMS Director Chris Lamonda, Police Chief William Dodge, June Babel, Sheila Cleary, Gail Mulcahy, and Times Argus Reporter Eric Blaisdell.

**CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

### APPROVE THE AGENDA

*On a motion by Paul White, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the meeting agenda as amended: add Item 15 Executive Session for personnel and contracts.*

### MINUTES

*On a motion by Paul White, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes of October 16, 2018 with minor grammatical and spelling corrections.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Remember that **TWO** elections will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at the Barre Town Middle & Elementary School Gymnasium. The first is the General Election where voters will elect representatives to the state and federal governments and statewide offices. The second is a **SPECIAL** school vote on the proposed merger of the Barre City and Barre Town school districts as well as electing school directors for such new district. Early/absentee ballots are available

**Selectboard Minutes of October 16, 2018 continued:**

now for both elections - please be sure to specify if you want to vote in both elections. To request an early ballot(s) call the Town Clerk's office at 802-479-9391 or email [wmoore@barretown.org](mailto:wmoore@barretown.org). For more information visit the town website ([www.barretown.org](http://www.barretown.org)).

- The lawn waste site on Holden Road is open 5 days a week, every week, the month of October only: Mondays 3:00 - 6:00 p.m., Wednesdays 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - Noon, Saturdays 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and Sundays Noon - 4:00 p.m. The regular 4-day a week schedule will resume in November until weather dictates closure of the site for the year.
- Spaulding High School Project Grad is holding its first Haunted Forest event in the woods behind the Barre Town Recreation Area picnic shelter on Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.! Have a fun spooky time and raise money for scholarships and their class trip. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 with student identification. Concessions will be available for sale.

**GUESTS**

June Babel, 5 Al Monty Drive provided the Selectboard with a letter (see attachment to the minutes) and photographs of her street. She has safety concerns regarding a row of very large, tall, dead pine trees along the street and would like the Town to remove some of them. Ms. Babel has spoken with the Town Engineer and DPW Superintendent. It is unclear if the trees are in the Town's right-of-way.

Board consensus is to direct the Town staff to determine if the trees in question are in our right-of-way. If they are not the Town will send a letter to the property owner putting them on notice that should something happen (damage to property, people) they would be held responsible.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD QUARTERLY VISIT**

William Dodge (Police Chief): Discussion points included quarterly training, staffing updates, new grant funding, Middle Road Truck traffic/patrolling, and speaking to the pros and cons for the Town of Orange contracting with Barre Town for limited police services. Board consensus on the Town of Orange contract is to pass as our force is not at 100% and Barre Town resident needs are priority.

Chris Lamonda (EMS Director): Discussion points included staffing changes, equipment needs (present and future) to include ambulance vehicle update, mutual aid, creating efficiencies with online systems (vehicle checks, etc.), the upcoming VEMS Conference, desire to start a new ride-a-long program (third-rider) for EMT students, need for an Assistant Director (included lack of time to invest in grant funding/research), year-to-date budget, and changes to the Department Head Report.

**RESOLUTION #9-18**

**TOWN'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR WFD #3 INDEBTEDNESS**

Background: With the Town takeover of the Websterville Fire District #3 (WFD), the Town has assumed its debt as well. The WFD residents voted to borrow money for the project it completed prior to the Town takeover. The ballot question referred to a general obligation bond to pay for the project. With voter authorization the WFD secured a loan through the state Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). The Vermont Municipal Bond Bank handled the underwriting or technical part of loaning the money. Last month Barre Town submitted to the DWSRF a payment request for the final project expenses which the Town paid. The Vermont Municipal Bond Bank says it needs something to show Barre Town will repay the loan and it has created a "new" merged district document (a

Selectboard Minutes of October 16, 2018 continued:

result of all the Act 46 school mergers) in which Barre Town, as a result of this water district merger, is now responsible for and will repay the Bond Bank.

*On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt Resolution #9-018, A Resolution of the Town of Barre, Vermont, Acknowledging the Town's Responsibility for the Former Websterville Fire District's Indebtedness."*

### **INTERIM ASSESSOR AGREEMENT**

Manager Rogers provided the Board with a copy of the agreement. Russ Beaudoin reviewed the document today and is okay with the terms. The contract would be retroactive to September 25, 2018.

*On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Jack Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Interim Assessor contract with Russ Beaudoin as amended.*

### **SALE OF DUMP TRUCK**

Background: Last Sunday the owner and manager of a business in Quebec came to look at and inspect the 10-wheel dump truck which is for sale. They are willing to pay \$35,000 if the Town changes the air dryer (for air brakes), replaces the 2 rear shocks, replace the flex pipe in the exhaust system and R.R. Charlebois tests the truck engine and finds no problems with the cylinders. Our DPW Superintendent says the air dryer must be replaced for safety reasons and the shock replacement is a \$200 expense. The Town is unwilling to replace the flex pipe as it was replaced in July 2017 and it is solid (no tender spots ready to leak). The Quebec company is paying Charlebois' for the testing.

The Quebec company would like the Town to sign an agreement securing the truck for them pending Charlebois testing, and the replacement of the air dryer and shocks. The testing may not be available until the week of October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

*On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the signing of an agreement with Aurel Harvey and Fils, Inc. to sell the 2010 dump truck for \$35,000 provided certain conditions are met.*

### **DOG PARK DONATION**

Barre Town resident Sheila Cleary and Barre City resident Gail Mulcahy are frequent users and very appreciative of the new Dog Park located at the Recreational Facilities next to the Elementary School. This past weekend they held a fundraiser to facilitate making improvements to the Dog Park. The Selectboard was presented with a check for \$720.00 which is very much appreciated.

The two individuals are planning other fundraising activities (spaghetti dinner, yard sale, etc.). Donations to the park are tax deductible under Section 170 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code. Checks should be made payable to the Town of Barre (reference "Dog Park" in the memo line). Payments can be mailed to PO Box 124, Websterville, VT or placed in the drop box located at the front of the Municipal Building. To learn more & check our progress: [www.facebook.com/groups/214773445631358/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/214773445631358/)

### **BUDGET REPORTS - FIRST QUARTER**

Background: Selectboard members received their first quarter budget reports for the various funds prior to the meeting for review.

The Town Clerk-Treasurer provided a copy of an email exchange between BMSI and our bookkeeping firm (Batchelder & Associates). The email answered some of the questions Batchelder had during the presentation made by BMSI several weeks ago and

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addresses another avenue of posting which will not impact our Year-To-Date budget reports. The Selectboard spoke to report changes they would like to see and the fix to the Building Fund budget allotment.

**WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT**

*On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to approve the weekly accounts payable warrants for October 16, 2018. Bob Nelson recused himself from the vote due to a conflict.*

**MISCELLANEOUS - None**

**'ROUND THE TABLE**

Nelson stated that on October 24, 2018 the Central VT Solid Waste District will be holding a public hearing on their annual budget which includes the per capita rate. Just for your information the proposed per capita rate has no proposed change. For more information visit their website ([www.cvsmd.org](http://www.cvsmd.org)).

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to find the need to go into executive session citing premature general knowledge would put the Selectboard at a substantial disadvantage.*

*On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 8:38 p.m. to discuss personnel and contracts.*

*On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 9:37 p.m.*

**ADJOURN**

*On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:37 p.m.*

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Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

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Selectboard Chair

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**Barre Town Selectboard**

***(See next page for Attachment)***

*Attachment - letter to Selectboard*

June Babel  
5 Al Monty Drive  
Barre Town, VT 05641

To: Selectboard Members- Mtg. of October 16, 2018

I am writing to inform you of a safety concern regarding Al Monty Drive, which is located off of Richardson Road in Barre Town.

Al Monty Drive is a dead end street with 5 homes on it. The Street was accepted by the Town prior to my moving to Barre Town in 2006. This street has only one access and ends at a creek with no possible egress or entrance except for the intersection of Al Monty and Richardson Road.

There are about nine to twelve 40 to 50 foot pine trees lining the south side of the street. I have enclosed 5" x 7" pictures of these trees and several of the houses on the street. These trees currently pose a serious hazard to the residents of this street. At least 8 of these trees are completely dead, with the remaining ones in poor condition. These trees could cause injury to children or adults who walk by during any kind of windy conditions. They currently lose branches and pieces of branches frequently and these end up in road or broken and hung up in the upper parts of the trees. If you have ever heard the term "widow maker" I believe the trees fall into that category.

Also, if any of these trees fell in a storm they would completely block egress to the inhabitants of the street. They are very close to the street as evidenced by the pictures. They would also block access for police, fire, ambulance and first responders vehicles.

I am requesting/recommending that the Town view these as a safety hazard and take necessary steps before winter to take them down, at least to the height of five feet or so to alleviate this hazard,

I have spoken to both the Town Engineer and the Town Highway Commissioner who seem to have conflicting opinions about the matter. I believe the trees died over the past several years due to the winter salting of the roads. Therefore the Town should take care of the problem. I will address this with the Highway Safety Advisory Board if this is the necessary procedure. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely  
June Babel

