

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA

August 13, 2019

1. Call to order 6:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving July 30, 2019 meeting minutes.
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
7. Public Information Meeting for the VT Route 110 – Mill Street intersection project.
8. Presentation of Jay Carr’s request for a driveway easement over Town owned land and to turnover to Town sewer line extension.
9. Discuss reappraisal.
10. Consider authorizing purchase of a police car through State purchasing contract.
11. Consider designating group to volunteer at Bulk Trash event and collect donations.
12. Consider approving Town’s voting delegate to VLCT’s annual business meeting.
13. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for August 6 and 13, 2019.
14. Miscellaneous: **a)** fireworks permit for R. Hotaling on August 17, 2019 at 172 Nichols Road; **b)** any other licenses and permits.
15. ‘Round the table.
16. Executive session: real estate, contract, personnel (action expected).
17. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES

August 13, 2019

The duly warned meeting of August 13, 2019 was held at 6:00 p.m. in the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville.

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

Attendance for the regular meeting: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Manager Elaine Wang, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, Eric Blaisdell (Times Argus Reporter), Jay Carr, Natalie Boyle, Erin Parizo, Thomas Foster, Ryan Pierson, William Crowther, AJ Galfetti, George Carpenter, and Anne Leeds.

CALL TO ORDER – The regular 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 Jack Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

MINUTES

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes of July 30, 2019 with minor corrections to spelling and grammar as provided by the Town Clerk-Treasurer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✓ The Selectboard still seeks to fill two Traffic Safety Advisory Committee vacancies. Please consider serving on this important Committee that helps improve the safety of Town highways. For more information or to express your interest, contact the Town Manager’s Office at 479-9331.
- ✓ Town road paving work is scheduled to begin Wednesday, August 28th.
- ✓ The Recreation Department needs 20 – 25 volunteers to help with the Lower Graniteville Playground community build scheduled for the weekend of September 7th

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and 8th. If you can use a shovel, wield a pitchfork, or turn a wrench you can help!
Please RSVP to the Town Manager's Office at 802-479-9331.

- ✓ Your input is requested on the Barre Town Report. There is a working group that is evaluating the content of the Annual Barre Town Report. They are reviewing all aspects of the information that is printed in the report, from department reports, to tax information, to audits. They are reviewing the content and length. They request your input. Please take the two minutes needed to visit www.barretown.org, follow the survey link, and fill out the survey. Please help us improve the Annual Barre Town Report. Thank you for your participation.

GUESTS – None

VT RT 110 – MILL STREET INTERSECTION PROJECT

Background: The State of Vermont's AOT outreach liaison is providing information on the (East Barre) VT Route 110/Bianchi Street/Old Route 302 intersection re-alignment project.

Those present representing the State were Natalie Boyle (Outreach Liaison), Erin Parizo (Project Manager), Bill Crowther, and George Carpenter (JP Sicard Inc.– contractor). Ms. Parizo provided a Power Point presentation. Points of interest are:

- To improve motorist and pedestrian safety with the road re-alignment, adding pedestrian crossings, improving drainage, signs and additional pavement markings.
- The project is expected to commence on August 26, 2019 and run thru mid-November 2019. Work will be done by JP Sicard Inc., Monday – Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. One-way traffic will be only on the west bound lane of Mill Street.
- The project will be done in two phases. Phase one will be on the Mill Street/Route 110 corner by the Fire Station. Work includes, drainage, utility and cutting the bank back. Phase two will be on the other side of Mill Street/Old Route 302. Work includes mostly roadwork and utility. Each of these phases is expected to take a month. Once they are complete the final weeks will be for road paving.
- The State will be meeting with the Town's Emergency Services to coordinate maneuvering through the construction areas.
- Schools/daycare have been contacted regarding the construction.
- If residents would like to receive status reports/updates on this project, contact the Town Manager's office at 802-479-9391 or email NBoyle@eivtech.com (subject line should be Mill Street project).

The Selectboard raised concern over paving so late in the season. It was stated that if the weather does not cooperate then a base coat would be applied and the final paving would be completed next Spring. An inquiry was made on the State's progress with the bridge project on Route 110 next to this project. Ms. Parizo will check on the status of the bridge project and get back to the Town Manager.

DRIVEWAY EASEMENT AND SEWER LINE EXTENSION

Background: Jay Carr purchased an open lot on Tanglewood Drive. He would like to build a house, construct a driveway (requiring an easement from the Town), and bring Town sewer (and City water) up to it from where the municipal main currently stops (in the Tanglewood cul-de-sac). His intention is to construct the sewer line to Town standards and turn it over to the Town. This discussion is to gauge if the Selectboard would be willing to accept the sewer line and grant a driveway easement in principle. The Town has taken similar actions before.

Mr. Carr was present and noted there is enough pitch (downhill) to allow gravity feed for the sewer line, a wetlands consultant is evaluating the lot, and he is just getting into the permit process.

The Selectboard stated they could support the proposal provided the Town Attorney does not have any issue. The plan is to have the driveway easement prepared for the August 27th meeting.

REAPPRAISAL DISCUSSION – The item was passed over.

POLICE CAR PURCHASE

Background: The current fiscal year budget contains an item for the purchase of a police car. The Town can purchase a car now under the State contract for the same cost, as the one we purchased in last Fiscal Year’s budget (February 19, 2019), using the same purchasing specifications.

On a motion Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to purchase a 2020 Ford Police Interceptor vehicle (with accessories) through the State of Vermont Contract for the purchase price of \$36,277.85.

VOLUNTEER GROUP FOR FALL BULK TRASH COLLECTION

Background: Historically the Selectboard has picked different groups to volunteer and solicit donations at the Fall Bulk Trash Collection. The Cemetery Commission has been designated and volunteered the last two years and provided good help. They would like to be considered again this Fall. No other groups have requested to be considered.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to designate the Barre Town Cemetery Commission to work and receive donations at the 2019 Fall Bulk Trash Collection.

CEMETERY LOT PRICE INCREASE

Background: The Cemetery Commission has proposed to increase lot prices by \$50.00. The last increase was in 2017, also by \$50.00 across the board.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the new cemetery lot prices effective October 1, 2019, per the Cemetery Commission recommendation.

TOWN’S VOTING DELEGATE FOR VLCT ANNUAL MEETING

Background: As a member of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) the Town can vote on VLCT business, such as its Legislative Advocacy Policy. Delegates in the past have included the Manager, Assistant Town Manager, and Zoning Administrator.

On a motion by Paul White, seconded by Jack Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to appoint Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang as the Town’s voting delegate for the 2019 VLCT Annual Meeting.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrant dated August 6, 2019. Bob Nelson abstained due to a conflict.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrant dated August 13, 2019.

MISCELLANEOUS

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted to approve the fireworks permit for Renee Hotaling to be held at 172 Nichols Road on August 17, 2019.

It was noted the fireworks application arrived 10 days prior to display date (should be 15 days) and the Board did not receive a full copy of the application. There was also concern the applicant would not have enough time to notify neighbors. The Town Clerk will contact

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the applicant in the morning and email the list. Mitchell suggested there should be more public announcements and awareness made regarding the permit process.

Elaine Wang stated the unused Lower Graniteville Playground balance (\$3,466) in Fiscal Year 2018-2019 did not get carried over to the new fiscal year and asked the Board to consider this authorization. Consensus is to place the item on the next meeting agenda as it is an actionable item.

Elaine Wang did research on our “outhouses.” She stated they are pre 2007 and grandfathered and since they are vaulted there is no danger to the surrounding waters.

It was noted that Jack Mitchell and Paul White are enrolled for the Vermont Emergency Preparedness Conference.

Manager Rogers stated the joint meeting with Barre City and Barre Area Development scheduled for August 27th has been canceled. The meeting will be rescheduled for September 17 or 24, 2019.

Manager Rogers informed the Board he met with a USRDA representative yesterday. He had been told the former Websterville Fire District #3 did not do the necessary paperwork to transfer the two USRDA loans (totaling around \$170,000, 4.50% interest rate and remaining term of around 18 years). These loans comes with conditions which the Fire District has not met. This transfer of ownership must take place with the USRDA by September 30, 2019. It was noted the conditions are very cumbersome and paper intensive. The USRDA representative suggested the Town try to refinance with a local bank. The Manager is checking with Attorney Giuliani to see if there would be a problem with refinancing. In the meantime the Clerk-Treasurer will be speaking to the local banks to see if the loan can be refinanced at a lower interest rate and perhaps shorter term. More information is to follow.

‘ROUND TABLE

There was a brief discussion on the reappraisal process. Selectboard would like all parties to have Town IDs. Neighborhoods will be notified when the Town is their area and an update will be posted regularly on the website. Manager Rogers noted the Town has 2 magnet signs for the side of the cars which can be used when conducting site visits.

Norma Malone inquired how the new water/sewer rates announced by Barre City will impact our finances. Rogers stated the Town residents who are direct bill of water will see the rate increases immediately. As for the Town’s budget that will be determined by the amount of water we purchase. The Manager already proposed an increase in this Fiscal Year budget for the readiness to serve charge. As for the sewer we will have to wait and see.

Norma Malone inquired on the road paving schedule. Rogers stated the date is still fluid, but it appears as though August 28, 2019 is the start date. However, there is another concern in that Pike Industries did not list any subcontractors on their bid form. They are now proposing to use to subcontractor.

Bob Nelson stated this is the first time he has seen a detail listing of the sign work. It was appreciated.

Jack Mitchell stated a resident had contacted him regarding the sinking of the downhill side of Church Hill Road (near the John Carpenter property but before the crosswalk for Websterville Baptist School). It will be worked on.

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 7:35 p.m. to discuss real estate, contracts, and personnel.

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On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Tom White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 9:05 p.m.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:05 p.m.

Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard