

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA
February 25, 2020

1. Call to order 8:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving minutes of February 18, 2020.
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
7. Consider approving Developer's Agreement for Fecteau Residential's Beckley Hill Meadows subdivision.
8. Consider approving Ash Tree Removal Plan
9. Consider approving letter of support for Barre Area Development's Regional Marketing and Recruitment grant application.
10. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for February 25, 2020.
11. Miscellaneous: a) VFW's 2020 First Class Liquor License & Outside Consumption Permit, b) and other licenses or permits, if any.
12. 'Round the table.
13. Executive session: Legal, real estate
14. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
February 25, 2020

The duly warned meeting of February 25, 2020 was held at 8:00 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 and Tom White. Paul White was not present.

Attendance for the regular meeting: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, Zoning Administrator Chris Violette, Town Engineer Josh Martineau, Jim Fecteau, and Lindsey Wells.

CALL TO ORDER – The regular meeting was called to order at 8:06 p.m.

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

APPROVE THE AGENDA

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted to approve the meeting agenda amended as follows:

1. Remove Executive Session Item #13,
2. Add to Item #11, Barre Community Forum.

Paul White was not present for the vote.

MINUTE APPROVAL

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted to approve the February 18, 2020 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical changes. Paul White was not present for the vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✓ Barre Town Budget Committee meetings are every Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. through the end of March at the Barre Town Municipal Building. The public is welcome to attend. For details on proposed budgets, to read the minutes, or just get more information check the Town website, www.barretown.org. While the Budget Committee is active the regular (weekly) Selectboard meetings will begin at 8:00 p.m.
- ✓ High level summaries of the Proposed 2020-2021 budgets for the Highway Fund and several other funds are available online now at www.barretown.org.
- ✓ Do you have a dog or cat that is due for a rabies shot? The Barre Town Fire Department's rabies clinic will be held Saturday, March 21, 2020 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the South Barre Fire Station. The fee is \$15 per pet. If you and your dog live in Barre town, you may license your dog at the same time.
- ✓ The Recreation Board requests your input on activities or events they might offer to teens ages 10 to 15. Find a link to the survey at www.barretown.org.
- ✓ Remember to vote in the Presidential Primaries and the Barre Unified Union School District Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. Polling hours are 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the gymnasium.

Selectboard Minutes of February 25, 2020 Continued:

- ✓ Anyone of any political party, or unaffiliated with any political party, is invited to participate in Barre Town's Non-Partisan Town Caucus, which will be held on Monday, March 16, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Barre Town Municipal Building. You can help determine the candidates for Barre town Selectboard and other Town elected offices.
- ✓ Barre Town seeks to fill 6 summer help positions. Four will work with the Department of Public Works, one with the Town Engineer, and one with the Cemetery and Recreation crews. Pay starts at \$11.75/hour with the opportunity to earn attendance bonuses. Application review will begin March 27, 2020. See the job posting at www.barretown.org.
- ✓ If you own and live in your Barre Town home, remember to file your Homestead Declaration Form by April 15, 2020. If you do not you will be assessed a higher education tax rate than you owe. For more information see the February Barre Town Newsletter.

GUESTS - None

DEVELOPERS AGREEMENT – BECKLEY HILL MEADOWS SUBDIVISION

Background: Fecteau Residential has a 48 lot subdivision between Rudd Farm Drive and Beckley Hill Road. Forty-five lots are buildable; two are for stormwater ponds and one is excess road width. Because of multi-family structures on some lots, 90 housing units are planned.

In accordance with Chapter 6 of the Barre Town Code, Fecteau Residential is seeking Selectboard approval of a Developers Agreement, even though work has been done on the roads and drainage. They have also taken out zoning permits to build model/demo units on lots 27 and 36.

The proposed Agreement is for Phase 1 which is a little more than half the project. Two (2) roads would be built totaling 2,045 feet. There will be 2,500 feet of sewer line with 14 manholes constructed. Two large and one small stormwater ponds would be constructed and turned over to the Town. Included with drainage is 2,200 feet of stormwater culvert and 35 catch basins.

In the draft agreement the Selectboard reviewed it provides estimated infrastructure costs through final paving. Fecteau Residential is saying since they chose Sec. 6-54 (b) (3) a financial claim is not required. Instead they must show they have the financing for the project.

Town Engineer Josh Marineau, Zoning Administrator Chris Violette, and Jim Fecteau (Fecteau Residential) were present.

Inconsistencies between Town Code (Section 6-54 and 6-55) and the Developer's Agreement were noted. The major item is that the Code states there is a 3 year deadline, from the time of Planning Commission approval of the subdivision to complete infrastructure. The Code does not address "Phases" for a larger development and the Planning Commission was replaced with the DRB. The Developer's insurance (naming the Town as additional insured) is considered an "other security. Fecteau Residential will obtain something in writing assuring the Town will have adequate funding should the infrastructure not be complete.

Jim Fecteau stated infrastructure for Phase 1 should be complete and ready for Town takeover by mid-summer. Based on the 3-year timeline his deadline to complete would be February 15, 2021. If more time is needed then he will go to the DRB to get the extension he needs. In the meantime Zoning Administrator Violette will review the Town Code Sections in question and look to get them amended.

Daniels Drive resident Lindsey Wells was present and raised some concerns for traffic and speeders on the street. The Zoning Administrator stated several traffic studies were completed, hearings over the past few years, and an Act 250 review which all allowed for the review of traffic. Mr. Fecteau stated he had spoken with the retired Town Engineer about adding additional speed limit signs. Ms. Wells was also advised to contact the Police Department regarding the speeding issues in her neighborhood.

Zoning Administrator Violette and Town Engineer Martineau stated they had no concerns with the Developer Agreement. Consensus of the Selectboard is if the corrections are made to the Developer Agreement and the letter is received from the Insurance Company then they are okay with signing the document. This item is to be on the next meeting agenda.

ASH TREE REMOVAL PLAN

Background: On February 11, 2020 the Selectboard held a public hearing on the proposed Ash Tree Removal Plan. No public comments were received outside the hearing and no residents participated in the hearing. This item is on the agenda for Selectboard approval.

The County Forester trained two (2) DPW crew last Wednesday. Late last week letters were sent to property owners along Curtis Road, Barclay Road, Phelps Road (from Sunset to Cutler Corner), Sunset (from Phelps to Cummings Road), and Neddo Road.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted to approve the Barre Town's Ash Tree Removal Plan dated January 27, 2020. Paul White was not present.

LETTER OF SUPPORT – BAD GRANT

Background: Barre Area Development (BAD) is apply for a Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development Regional Marketing and Recruitment Grant. BAD is requesting a letter of support from the Selectboard. This action would not require the Town to help fund the local match. A draft was provided for the Board to review prior to the meeting.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Letter of Support for Barre Area Development’s application for a Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development Regional Marketing and Recruitment Grant. Paul White was not present.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANTS

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted to approve the accounts payable warrant dated February 25, 2020. Paul White was not present.

MISCELLANEOUS

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted to approve a First Class and Third Class 2020 Liquor License and an Outside Consumption permit for VFW Post #790. Paul White was not present.

BARRE COMMUNITY FORUM

The Vermont Council on Rural Development contacted the City of Barre to facilitate a “community visit forum.” The goal of the forum is to engage residents/business owners/etc. to help make the community a better place. Turnaround time for this endeavor is around 3 months (1 meeting each month). Meeting 1 is to brainstorm the types of topics/issues the community wants to discuss further. Meeting 2 is to take those topics from the first meeting, break out into groups to discuss in detail how to get things going in the community. Meeting 3 is to wrap-up and determine if any of the topics are doable. If so, to hopefully have those attending spearhead “making the topic happen.”

Barre City established a Steering Committee for a “Community Visit Forum.” Bob Nelson (City property/business owner) and Elaine Wang (who has served on the City Energy Committee for some time) are members of the Steering Committee. Their first meeting happened earlier in the month and topics have been chosen. The next step is to hold Meeting 2 in conjunction with a dinner. The date has been set for March 26, 2020. There are 3 breakout topics with a dinner served around 5:00 p.m. It would be held at the BOR/Auditorium and turnout is expected to be 300 to 500 people.

Mr. Nelson has been asked to see if the Town would like to participate. If the Town is interested would we also be willing to split half of the cost of providing the meal? Wang stated the meal will be based on the amount of funds available.

Mitchell stated he had heard of other communities using this process and having good results. He just wants to ensure there is no conflict with the Rock Solid movement. Nelson stated there are BADC members on the Steering Committee so this is a non-issue.

Board members raised a concern about being invited at the “11th hour.” Bob Nelson stated Mayor Herring had initially invited the Town but received no response. Norma Malone also had concerns in that her research indicates the focus is “Barre City.” Mr. Nelson stated the Mayor wanted the Town to be asked again as our participation adds value to the process. There was discussion on the pros/cons in participating.

Consensus is to ask Selectboard member Paul White his opinion upon his return.

‘ROUND THE TABLE

Norma Malone:

- Confirmed ICS 402 training is still on for March 9, 2020, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Inquired on status of WFD Audit – assessments. Rogers stated Mr. Clark has done two of there things needed. The equipment assessment is not done. He will contact Mr. Clark again.
- She encouraged voters to participate in the March 3, 2020 elections. Board members echoed her comment.

Jack Mitchell stated he liked envelopes being recycled. However, the most recent one was a nuisance in that he could not get his paperwork to fit back in.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

Selectboard Minutes of February 25, 2020 Continued:

ADJOURN

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 9:35 p.m. Paul White was not present

Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard