

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA
September 22, 2020

- PILOT: None 6:00 p.m.
1. Call to order 6:30 p.m.
 2. Pledge of Allegiance
 3. Consider approving agenda.
 4. Consider approving September 15, 2020 meeting minutes.
 5. Announcements
 6. Receive guests (by phone) for non-agenda items.
 7. Consider awarding contract for purchase of new 6-wheeled truck cab and chassis.
 8. Discuss level of Thunder Road noise in West Cobble Hill Road area.
 9. Consider approving purchase of police car.
 10. Consider adopting Resolution #5-20 approving lease financing for the Fire Department tanker and Police equipment and authorizing signing of necessary documents.
 11. Consider approving weekly Accounts Payable Warrant for September 22, 2020.
 12. Miscellaneous, including licenses or permits if any.
 13. 'Round the table.
 14. Executive session: not anticipated.
 15. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
September 22, 2020

The duly warned meeting of September 22, 2020 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 6:30 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Norma Malone, Bob Nelson, Justin Bolduc (by Zoom), W. John "Jack" Mitchell and Paul White.

Attendance for the regular meeting: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Manager Elaine Wang, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, Recreation Chair Doug Farnham, Jeff Blow, and DPW Superintendent Richard Tetreault (by phone).

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

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 unanimously to approve the meeting agenda as amended:

1. *Item 14, add contracts and personnel.*

MINUTES

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes of September 15, 2020 with minor spelling and grammatical corrections as presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✓ Free cloth face coverings are still available for Town residents, up to three (3) per person. For information on how to get them, call 802-479-9331 or check the August Barre Town Newsletter, page 3.
- ✓ The Vermont Secretary of State has mailed out the Barre Town November 3, 2020 General Election Ballots. If you have not received a ballot by October 8, 2020 contact the Town Clerk's office at 802-479-9391.
- ✓ If you would like to support the Barre Town Community Dog Park, which is maintained by volunteers, consider donating items to or purchasing items from the volunteer-organized fundraiser yard sale on Saturday, September 26, 2020. For more information see your August Newsletter or visit www.barretown.org.
- ✓ In June 2020, the Recreation Board authorized the use of Class 1 electric bicycles, or ebikes, on Town Forest trails on a trial basis during the 2020 mountain biking season. Class 1 ebikes are defined as a pedal-assist only, with a maximum speed of 20 miles per hour. A discussion with the

Selectboard Minutes of September 22, 2020 Continued:

Millstone Trails Association about whether to continue allowing ebikes in the Town Forest is planned for the Recreation Board's October 5th agenda. The meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. If you would like to provide input call Elaine Wang (802-479-9331) anytime or call in to the Recreation Board meeting. The call in information is on every agenda.

- ✓ A reminder there is a dog leash law in Barre Town. Your dog may be friendly, but someone else's dog might not be, or someone may be afraid of dogs.
- ✓ Chair White noted that after last week's Selectboard meeting executive session, the Board voted to approve a management employee's request to donate sick time.

GUESTS

Recreation Board Chair Doug Farnham was present. Approximately three months ago he asked the Selectboard to address the conflicting information in the Town Ordinances regarding the Recreation Board duties. Is this group a Board or a Committee? The "title" could determine responsibilities.

Chair White stated it is on the Selectboard work list. The plan is to do a full study of the Code of Ordinances on the conflicting language and obtain some legal advice. However it is not on the agenda for anytime in the next few weeks.

PURCHASE OF NEW 6-WHEELED TRUCK CAB AND CHASSIS

Background: The Equipment Fund for the current fiscal year has budgeted \$178,000 for a cash purchase of a new 6-wheeled dump truck. Last year the Town paid Charlebois \$92,210 for a 6-wheeled cab and chassis. The dump body, plow system cost \$73,000. Bids for a new truck were sent out and the Selectboard was provided the bid report sheet. The lower prices on the bid report sheet are comparable to last fiscal year pricing. Also included was the additional warranty information.

The bids from Clark's and Charlebois were reviewed by the DPW Superintendent. Both proposals overall are in compliance with specifications and both had an inconsequential detail or two that did not match or exceed Town specifications. It was noted that the International (sold by Clark's) has changed its engine and the model bid is a notch or two above the 7400 series Clark's used to bid. Overall Clark's bid was \$94,447 and RR Charlebois was \$95,862. Staff recommended going with the low bidder.

There was brief discussion on International motors and changes made over the past couple of years.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Jack Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to award the 6-wheeled cab and chassis purchase contract to Clark's Truck Center for a 2021 International HV507-SFA truck plus the 84 month engine and transmission warranties and towing coverage warranty for a grand total of \$94,447.

THUNDER ROAD – NOISE LEVEL IN WEST COBBLE HILL AREA

Background: Board Member Bob Nelson received a complaint from a Tamarack Lane resident who has issues with the noise level coming from Thunder Road. The Town does not have a noise ordinance so State law (13 VSA, Sec. 1022) addresses night time noise.

Thunder Road obtains a Town Special Event Permit because of the number of people paying admission to attend. The permit does not address matters such as noise. Thunder Road pre-dates zoning and is considered grandfathered.

Mr. Nelson stated he brought this to the Board's attention on behalf of the resident lodging a complaint. The following were points of conversation:

- The resident has been in contact with Thunder Road regarding the noise.
- The resident, after the Board's last conversation, felt the concern was dismissed.
- Notable changes at the race track this season include erecting a cement wall (State required) which reflects noise, and the concrete bleachers which were not filled (due to COVID) with soft bodies to help absorb some of the sound.
- As requested, the resident provided the Selectboard a log of dates, which began after August 25, 2020, where noise was an issue. After removing weekends there were 11 days of noise. Board Member Bolduc had contacted Thunder Road and it was noted there was no practice racing on 6 of those days. Where was the noise coming from on the other 5?
- Practice sessions are a new revenue for Thunder Road which is needed due to COVID impacting ticket sales. The previous owner would rarely allow weekday practices.
- It was noted the noise level can change based on atmosphere and direction of the wind.
- Race car muffler requirements were briefly noted – these can impact noise as well.

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- There are no current laws being broken.
- There was concern not having both parties present for the discussion.

PURCHASE OF POLICE CAR

Background: The Equipment Fund budget provides \$37,500 to purchase a new SUV. New pricing was obtained through the State contract (through Formula Ford). With the options needed the total price is \$36,490.25.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to purchase a 2020 Ford SUV police vehicle from Formula Ford, via the State purchasing contract, for the price of \$36,490.25.

RESOLUTION #5-20, LEASE FINANCING OF FIRE AND POLICE EQUIPMENT

Background: The FY 2019-2020 budget included purchasing a new Fire Department tanker which would be paid for using municipal lease financing with a 5-year term. The truck was ordered from VTEC of Williamstown last spring. Financing proposals were sought and the Selectboard awarded the financing to Municipal Lease Consulting (MLC) at the rate of 2.37%. The FY 2020-2021 budget calls for purchasing 5 in-car camera systems and an electronic fingerprint machine (Police Department equipment) and is to be lease financed with a 3-year term. MLC has agreed to add financing of the Police equipment to the tanker financing. Once the Financing Resolution is adopted Town Attorney Monte will be reviewing and providing his Opinion of Counsel. The Board was provided copies of the documents for review prior to the meeting.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt "Resolution #5-20, A Resolution Of The Town Of Barre, Vermont Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of An Addendum To A Master Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement With Respect To The Acquisition, Purchase, Financing And Leasing Of Certain Equipment Or Capital Items For The Public Benefit; Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of Documents Required In Connection Therewith; And Authorizing All Other Actions Necessary To The Consummation Of The Transactions Contemplated By This Resolution."

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted to approve the accounts payable warrants dated September 22, 2020. Bob Nelson abstained due to an employer conflict.

MISCELLANEOUS - None

'ROUND TABLE

Justin Bolduc noted this past Monday he was going by the BTEMS around 8:08 am. Traffic was backed up in both directions causing all kinds of issues. The Manager noted the Police Department has been monitoring and assisting with the problem. However, many of the Police suggestions were not accepted by the School. Manager Rogers also noted that last Friday he was in that area as well and the traffic was backed up even further. The most recent suggestion to the School is to use the Town Recreation Road which would allow cars to queue without being on Websterville Road. The traffic pattern would be: cars enter the main parking lot driveway from Websterville Road, proceed straight making the slight shift to the right onto the Recreation Road (by tennis courts), proceed down this road to the turn-a-round and drive back up the opposite side of the road, once back at the main parking lot turn right into the driving lane and proceed straight to access the student drop-off area located at the side of the school (between Wood Chip Plant and school building). The Town has agreed to plow the Recreation Road and turn-a-round for the winter and to use the Police Department (to be paid with School Resource Funds) to assist with keeping the traffic off Websterville Road.

Norma Malone inquired if there had been any interest in the Barre Revolving Loan Fund. Manager Rogers stated there were no inquiries. It was noted that at a recent Barre Area Development Board meeting it was stated there were too many other more attractive offers for businesses.

Norma Malone had been contacted by a resident who wanted to thank the Town for the recent paving on Cassie Street and Graniteville Road. Mitchell echoed those comments. Paving was done very well this year.

Jack Mitchell stated there is a new wrinkle in the generator installation at the school. The power lines connecting to the transformer are underground. This could impact placement of the generator. The School is awaiting word from Green Mountain Power. Tomorrow, there will be a meeting with Benoit Electric. Hopefully, the contract for power will be ready to award at the October 6th Selectboard meeting.

Paul White has spoken with Chris Violette regarding the radio study. The work group has not been formed and to keep the ball rolling Mr. White would like to get the group together soon. Members will

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include himself, Jack Mitchell (Emergency Management), and the four (4) Department Heads (Police, Fire, Ambulance, and DPW). Once the group reaches the point of talking properties and funding then the Manager will participate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to find the need to go into executive session citing premature general public knowledge would clearly place the Selectboard at a substantial disadvantage.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 7:47 p.m. for contract and personnel.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 8:55 p.m.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard