

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA

November 2, 2021

- P.I.L.O.T. Review of specifications and bidding procedures.....6:00 p.m.
1. Call to order.....6:30 p.m.
 2. Pledge of Allegiance.
 3. Consider approving agenda.
 4. Consider approving October 26 meeting minutes.
 5. Announcements.
 6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
 7. Discussion about Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARPA).
 8. Consider authorizing purchase of digital meeting room audio-visual equipment.
 9. Consider approving 5-Year Equipment Purchase Plan.
 10. Schedule site visit to Alex Drive.
 11. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for November 2, 2021.
 12. Miscellaneous, including licenses and permits, if any.
 13. ‘Round table.
 14. Executive session: personnel
 15. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES

November 2, 2021

The duly warned meeting of November 2, 2021 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, Justin Bolduc, Paul White, and Bob Nelson.

Attendance for the regular meeting: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang, Town Clerk Tina Lunt, and Times Argus Reporter Eric Blaisdell.

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

- 1. Add to #14: contract and legal*

MINUTES

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the October 26, 2021 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical corrections.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✓ The Barre Town Lawn Waste Site on Holden Road is open Wednesday, 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 6 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Service after that depends on ground conditions and the weather. If you need the service after November 6, visit the Town website at barretown.org or call 479-9331 to find out if it is still open.
- ✓ Now through April 1, overnight parking on Town streets between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. is not allowed, regardless of weather.
- ✓ The second installment of property taxes are due on November 15.
- ✓ The Cemetery Commission has a vacancy. This commission has charge of policies, rules, and layouts of the Town's three cemeteries. They meet the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. The current members are a group of community-minded, dedicated individuals who care about the burial grounds of our community and those who inhabit them. If you are interested in serving on the Cemetery Commission, send an email stating your that to offices@barretown.org.
- ✓ Barre Town Rec Area users take note: This Thursday, November 4, the water to the Rec Area will be shut off for the winter, so restrooms and water faucets will not be available. The Rec Area is available for use through the winter. You'll need to bring your own water. Vault privies, or outhouses, are available at the end of the rec road, near the picnic shelter.

GUESTS – NONE

CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS (CLFRF)

Background: The Town of Barre will be receiving \$2,307,709.02 in ARPA funds. Selectboards will have the discretion over how to spend these allocations. The Barre Town Selectboard has requested a discussion to start the framework of the expenditures. Conversation will focus on general and specific priorities for the use of CLFRF funds, public input, timeline, and the use of the interest earned.

Board discussion focused on the timeline and details for public input. Board members shared their options, ideas, and the multiple ways the Town could receive feedback from the public. Board members agreed that it would be best to have a window of time which would allow residents to share their ideas in multiple ways over a limited period of time. Public input could consist of an informational meeting, Front Porch Forum posts, or submitting feedback in writing to the Town Office.

Board members brainstormed ideas and projects that would fall into the defined expenditure categories for the funding.

Norma Malone inquired about the framework that Town Manager Carl Rogers has created for the Town's proposed projects. She recommended adding dollar amounts to these projects. This way the Board can see where they are at with the funds.

After much discussion, Board consensus is to make a list of the projects they have discussed. This will help structure the priorities for the funds. Board members expressed it would be best to secure projects that are serving the majority of the residents.

Selectboard Minutes of November 2, 2021 Continued:
A public brainstorming session will take place on Tuesday, November 16.

DIGITAL AV SYSTEM/ USE OF ARPA FUNDS

Background: The Town has plans to upgrade its audio-visual system in the Selectboard meeting room. Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang has presented multiple options. Board members have shared their preferences and necessary components on moving forward with an upgraded system. Based on capabilities, features and ability to expand the system Board members favor the Fuzzbuzz equipment. This would be an eligible expense for the use of ARPA funds.

Board members reviewed the new proposal from Fuzzbuzz Technologies, Inc.

Conversation focused on the electrical work involved for the installation of the AV system. Board members requested obtaining an electrician's opinion regarding the new circuits for the generator. It was also requested that Tony Campos from CVTV and representatives from Fuzzbuzz Technologies, Inc. communicate regarding the systems compatibility.

Board consensus is that no action will be taken on the proposal until communication between CVTV and Fuzzbuzz has taken place, and the Town receives an opinion from an electrician on the electrical work involved.

5-YEAR EQUIPMENT PURCHASE PLAN

Background: This plan is one of the annually reviewed documents which assist management with budgeting and keep us proactive with our repairs/maintenance/operation. Manager Carl Rogers noted the changes in the 5-Year Equipment Plan.

Mrs. Malone shared her concerns with the computers that were removed from the small equipment 5-year equipment purchase plan. She questioned why the Chief of Police and the Zoning and Planning Administrator's computers were removed from the plan. Ms. Wang shared the reasons for removing the PC's, noting she is researching other options for the Chief of Police. Ms. Wang added that Chris Violette asked for his current arrangement of the laptop and docking station. Board members recommended adding a new PC to year 1 for the Police Chief.

Mr. White inquired about the photo copiers throughout the Town building. Mr. White questioned why some machines are leased versus being purchased, noting some are hand-me-downs. A brief conversation took place regarding if it would be more cost efficient to use one vendor for all the photocopy machines throughout the building.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Fiscal Year 2023-2027 5-Year Equipment Purchase Plan as amended.

ALEX DRIVE SITE VISIT

Background: Jim Fecteau from Fecteau Homes requests formal provisional acceptance of Alex Drive. This is a short dead-end street that runs from Mathieu Drive down the hill. A Selectboard inspection is needed before voting on provisional acceptance.

Board members discussed their availability for the inspection. The date of Monday, November 8 at 1:00 is scheduled for the inspection to take place.

Selectboard Minutes of November 2, 2021 Continued:

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrants for the week of November 2, 2021.

MISCELLANEOUS – NONE

‘ROUND TABLE

Mr. White asked Mr. Rogers if the State has completed the two-line striping. Carl Rogers noted he believes they have done all they were planning on doing this year.

Mr. Nelson inquired about the First Light and Green Mountain Power bills. He asked if the Board could get a breakdown on the amenities. He shared his concerns over the meter service versus flat rate fees the Town is being charged. Board members echoed Mr. Nelson’s comments, noting this could be an opportunity for them to save the municipality money.

Mrs. Malone proposed the Selectboard does not hold a meeting on Tuesday, November 30, noting the holiday and number of meetings the Board has been involved in, this would be beneficial for everyone. All Board members were in agreement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to find the need to go into executive session citing premature general 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 8:01 p.m. for personnel, contract, and legal.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session at 9:50 p.m.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9: 50p.m.

Tina Lunt, Town Clerk

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard