

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA

November 16, 2021

- P.I.L.O.T. Early budget presentation for DPW and cemetery/recreation positions.....6:00 p.m.
1. Call to order.....6:30 p.m.
 2. Pledge of Allegiance.
 3. Consider approving agenda.
 4. Consider approving November 8 and 9 meeting minutes.
 5. Announcements.
 6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
 7. Consider continuation of the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 logging contract.
 8. Receive and discuss input regarding use of Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.
 9. Consider awarding contract for purchase of two new ambulances.
 10. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for November 16, 2021.
 11. Miscellaneous, including licenses and permits, if any.
 12. 'Round table.
 13. Executive session: contracts, legal.
 14. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES

November 16, 2021

The duly warned meeting of November 16, 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 and Paul White.

The following members were absent: Bob Nelson.

Attendance for the regular meeting: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang, Town Clerk Tina Lunt, Melissa Danilowicz, Diane Solomon, Bob Pope, and Jim West. Attendance by phone: Scott Kindestin, Lori Bernier, Jeff Blow, and Ginger Cloud.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

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

APPROVE THE AGENDA

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted to approve the amended agenda as follows:

- 1. Add to #11 miscellaneous: Request to Cater Malt, Vinous and/or Spirituous Liquors Permit.*

MINUTES

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted to approve the November 8, 2021 and November 9, 2021 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical corrections.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✓ The November Barre Town newsletter should be in property owner mailboxes soon. Anyone may also view the newsletter on the Town website now, by visiting barretown.org and clicking on the Publications and Budget link. Read about American Rescue Plan Act, or ARPA, funds available to property owners for eligible drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater projects; how the Town is thinking about using ARPA funds allocated to Barre Town; the final reappraisal report; and the FY 21-22 tax rates.
- ✓ COVID vaccinations are available, whether first shot, second shot, or booster shot, and for all eligible ages, including children aged 5 to 11. People ages 12 and older can walk-in to any clinic. Note there's a daily vaccine clinic organized by the Barre Town and Waterbury EMS Department at the Berlin Mall, where you can receive Pfizer, Moderna, or Johnson and Johnson vaccinations. Vaccinations for children aged 5 to 11 are by appointment only. You can make an appointment, and find a location most convenient for you, by going to healthvermont.gov and clicking on the link "COVID-19 vaccine."
- ✓ If you are out and about on Websterville and Graniteville Roads on Thanksgiving morning, please be aware of runners on those roads between 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. The event is the annual Barre Congregational Church's Gobble Wobble Turkey Trot fundraiser 5k.
- ✓ If the Barre Town bulk trash collection is a service you value, please consider volunteering or ask others if they would volunteer. Call the Town Manager's Office at 479-9331 for more information or to have your name added to the bulk trash volunteer list. Safety hats and gloves are provided, as is lunch. Volunteers may bring in one vehicle load of bulk trash for free.

GUESTS

Barre Town resident Scott Kindestin addressed the Board regarding the Board of Civil Authority's decision requirements for property assessment appeals. Mr. Kindestin voiced his personal concerns around the appeals process.

2020-2021 and 2021-2022 TOWN FOREST LOGGING CONTRACT

Background: The Selectboard has had multiple discussions and have heard public comments about the Town Forest logging. Decisions are needed regarding the status of the logging contract with Limlaw's Pulpwood Inc. and their plans to continue using mechanized equipment to finish the logging contract.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted 3-1 to instruct the Town Manager to inform Limlaw's Pulpwood Inc. the Town does not want the remaining 20 to 30 acre tract noted in the December 21, 2020 contract logged. Jack Mitchell voted no.

Selectboard Minutes of November 16, 2021 Continued:

Melissa Danilowicz was present. Mrs. Danilowicz stated her concerns with the past logging, noting forests do not need to be harvested. She encouraged the Board not to sign a logging contract in the future.

Diane Solomon was present. Mrs. Solomon expressed her appreciation for the motion.

CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND (CLFRF)

Background: The Town of Barre will be receiving \$2,307,709.02 in federal funds to help our community recover from the impact the pandemic has had and invest in the future. Selectboards will have discretion over how to spend these allocations. The Barre Town Selectboard and Town Office staff have started a framework of the expenditures. There are specific categories and limits the Town is allowed to spend the money on. The Selectboard welcomes public input on how to best spend these funds.

Chair Paul White began by opening the discussion for public input.

Mr. White read an idea that was shared by email. He also noted he had spoken to a resident who shared the idea of improving the culverts that pass under Town roads that interfere with trout migration.

Carl Rogers confirmed the Town had not received any additional feedback from residents at this time. Mr. Rogers noted no information has been shared regarding guidance or regulations on what is allowable under the sub-categories. He suggested proceeding with the plans and, if the Board has questions, to seek guidance from VLCT or US Treasury.

Ginger Cloud was present on the phone. Ms. Cloud suggested adding a sidewalk from where Barre City ends their sidewalk to Hannaford Market. She stated this would be a great use of the funds, allowing a safe passageway. Mr. White noted the number of road construction projects the State has planned, one being a rebuild of Bridge Street which could affect this area. The Town would need to coordinate with these projects. Mr. White noted that Ms. Cloud's suggestion will be added to the Town's discussion list.

The Selectboard continues to seek public input through a variety of sources and encourages the public to continue to share their ideas.

CONTRACT FOR AMBULANCES

Background: The FY 21-22 5-year equipment plan, and the Equipment Fund call for purchasing a new ambulance this year. The budgeted amount is \$130,000. Earlier this fall the Selectboard approved soliciting bids for two ambulances; the FY 22 ambulance and the FY 23 ambulance. Bidding specifications were mailed to six companies. Three bids were received with two being compliant to the Town's specifications.

Northeastern Rescue Vehicles is the low bidder but proposed using Ford E-350's. Shop Foreman Mike Martel recommends staying with the E-450's. Bert's Emergency Vehicles is the next low bidder at \$144,825 per ambulance.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted to award the contract for purchase of the fiscal year 2022 and 2023 ambulances to Bert's Emergency Vehicles at a cost of \$144,825 each.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted to approve the accounts payable warrants for the week of November 16, 2021.

MISCELLANEOUS

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted to approve a Request to Cater Malt, Vinous and Spirituous Liquor Permit for Tassie Contois LLC for Saturday, November 20, 2021 at Wilkins Harley Davison.

‘ROUND TABLE

Mr. Mitchell inquired about Superintendent Richard Tetreault’s report and the tires at East Barre Playground. Mr. Rogers stated someone set out two old tires with a post in the middle and poured concrete around the post. It was brought to the Town’s attention by the soccer program. Mr. Rogers had the Public Work Department remove it from the playground. The Town is not aware who put them there and no one has come forward.

Mr. Mitchell asked how the stormwater project is coming along at St. Sylvester’s Cemetery. Mr. Rogers noted it was supposed to be completed last week, except for the fencing.

Mr. Mitchell commented on the flowers out front of the Town building. He stated they look nice and thanked TLC Gardening for helping with that.

Mr. Mitchell thanked the sub-contractor who is removing the abandoned telephone poles.

Mr. Bolduc shared a thought he had after reading about VTrans Name a Plow program. He suggested bringing a local touch to Barre Town and working with Barre Town School to see if grades 1-8 would be interested in naming the Town’s dump trucks. Mrs. Lunt will touch base with the school administrators to see if the school has interested in this project.

Mrs. Malone would like to understand what the issues are with the heating system in the Town office. She noted we need to address a better way to regulate the heating system and find answers on why it is not consistent.

Mr. White shared the amount of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission dues.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted 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 Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted to go into executive session at 7:26 p.m. for contracts and legal.

Selectboard Minutes of November 16, 2021 Continued:

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session at 8:58 p.m.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 8:58p.m.

Tina Lunt, Town Clerk

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard