

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA
February 2, 2021

1. Call to order 8:05 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving January 26, 2021 meeting minutes.
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests (by phone) for non-agenda items.
7. Consider approving 2021 Sewage Allocation Policy renewal.
8. Consider authorizing signing Berlin's ambulance service contract.
9. Consider approving 2021 Overweight Truck Permit form.
- 10.COVID-19 Report
- 11.Consider approving weekly Accounts Payable Warrants for February 2, 2021.
- 12.Miscellaneous: a) Bevins 5 Family Enterprises Second Class Liquor License; b) including licenses or permits if any.
- 13.'Round the table.
- 14.Executive session: if needed.
- 15.Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
February 2, 2021

The duly warned meeting of February 2, 2021 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 8:05 p.m. and remotely using Teams.

The following member attended in person: W. John "Jack" Mitchell. These members attended remotely: Paul White, Norma Malone, Justin Bolduc, and Bob Nelson.

Attendance in person for the regular meeting: Town Manager Carl Rogers and Assistant Manager Elaine Wang. Attendance remotely for the regular meeting: Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, and Town Engineer Josh Martineau.

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 8:05 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 meeting agenda as presented.

MINUTES

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✓ The next quarterly property tax installment and semi-annual sewer use fee payments are due Tuesday, February 16, 2020.
- ✓ You are invited to attend the Barre Town Budget Committee meetings by phone or video. The Committee is meeting every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. through the end of March. You can find the telephone and video conference information, and the next agenda, at www.barretown.org.
- ✓ If you are looking for an easy cross-country ski or snowshoe trail, Millstone Trails Association has begun grooming the bike path and rec area for winter use. To access these flat trails, park at the Barre Town School at 70 Websterville Road. They have groomed several loops around the Recreation Area, so you can shorten or lengthen your excursion without doubling back.
- ✓ Barre Town residents who are registered voters should have received a postcard in the mail noticing there will be elections on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 (BUUSD and Special Town). While there is in person voting at the polling place individuals are encouraged to vote by mail as COVID is on the rise in our area. For more information on elections, to include viewing the warnings and sample ballot, or how to register to vote visit the Town website (www.barretown.org).

Selectboard Minutes of February 2, 2021 Continued:

- ✓ Due to COVID, Friends of the Aldrich Library are holding an online auction in lieu of their traditional winter fundraiser. The auction begins February 1st and will continue through March 2, 2021. For more information on this auction visit the Aldrich Library website (<https://www.aldrichpubliclibrary.org>).

GUESTS - None

2021 SEWAGE ALLOCATION POLICY RENEWAL

Background: Annually, Barre Town updates the Sewage Allocation Policy. Again this year, the only changes have been updating figures and dates to include the reserve list.

Board discussion focused on the reserve allocation list and the remaining amount of sewage capacity we have at the Treatment Plant. This will allow for a robust continued grow in Barre Town.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt the 2021 Sewage Allocation Policy as presented.

Mitchell noted during the motion discussion the Sewage Treatment Plants nationwide are in the midst of upgrading and it is not cheap. This will impact rates/fees for the users. He also is pleased the Town is keeping an eye on the BOD (Biological Oxygen Demand) levels as this is also a costly piece of treatment. Note: BOD represents the amount of oxygen consumed by bacteria and other microorganisms while they decompose organic matter under certain conditions at a specified temperature.

BERLIN AMBULANCE SERVICE CONTRACT

Background: The Selectboard had agreed to an ambulance service contract for the Town of Berlin. It has been sent to Berlin and their Selectboard Chair has signed. Action during this meeting is to finalize the contract.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Town Manager to sign the ambulance service contract with Berlin.

Jack Mitchell thanked the staff for all their work.

2021 OVERWEIGHT TRUCK PERMIT

Background: Annually, the Selectboard approves the Single (truck) and Fleet (truck) permits. The Manager, pointed out in his notes to the Board, some minor changes.

During review it was noted the Single Truck Permit spoke to more than one truck. Notations were made for the necessary changes.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Overweight Truck Permit forms (Single and Fleet) for 2021 subject to making the changes as noted in discussion above for the Single Truck Permit form.

COVID-19 REPORT

Manager Rogers reported as follows:

- EMS is helping at the COVID vaccination clinics.
- Departments report staff is healthy and supplies are good.
- Statistics in the number of COVID cases in Washington County were provided by the Manager. The week of January 20th there were 83 new cases and the week of January 27th there were 150 new cases. Everyone is strongly encouraged to follow ACCD guidelines.

Jack Mitchell spoke to items mentioned at the Governor's Press Conference today.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Jack Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrants dated February 2, 2021.

Motion discussion focused on the Gorman Brothers paving bill which was extremely late (on their end not ours), ambulance reimbursements (entities using audit agencies to review billing practices), and pricing on our Verizon cell phones (we receive Emergency Responders pricing).

MISCELLANEOUS

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the 2021 Second Class Liquor License for Bevins 5 Family Enterprises.

Selectboard Minutes of February 2, 2021 Continued:

Asst. Manager Wang spoke to the recent SolarWinds IT hack and noted our software vendors do not use the company product(s). That being said it was noted no system has the perfect “locked door.”

‘ROUND TABLE

Norma Malone:

- She noted that during the Budget Committee meeting approximately twice a minute you lose the audio of someone speaking. It appeared to only happen to those in the Selectboard meeting room. After a bit of discussion, the thought is perhaps the software “recording” the video was the culprit. A few Board members agreed to stay on the platform after the meeting stopped recording to test this theory.

Jack Mitchell:

- Inquired if the new Finance Director would be attending any Budget Committee meetings. Manager Rogers stated Kate Kran is scheduled to start on March 8, 2021. She will be invited and can attend if you she would like.
- He stated he had been seeing a lot of logging trucks go by his house. How are things going? Manager Rogers stated our Town Forester Jeff Smith estimated that Limlaw is 30% complete with the logging in the large area and is very happy with the progress. All the modernized onsite equipment is the reason for the trucks (some logging, some carrying tree mulch, etc.). Even with the cold temperatures on Saturday there were several residents who came out to see how the Town Forest is being cared for.
- In a recent Roads and Bridges magazine he read an article about a company that has a “rage yard.” It is basically a scrap yard. Individuals who are upset can take there revenge out on scrap vehicles using several methods (smashing, driving a tank over it, or using shotguns, shoot it up).

Paul White noted we have some answer on EMS Billing and inquired when the discussion will take place. Manager Rogers stated it is on next week’s meeting agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

ADJOURN

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:24 p.m.

Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard