

**BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA**  
**March 2, 2021**

1. Call to order 8:05 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving February 23, 2021 meeting minutes.
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests (by phone) for non-agenda items.
7. Consider adoption Resolution No. 2-21 authorizing filing of Step III funding application for a State Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan.
8. Consider adopting Policy about use of speed bumps, humps, and tables.
9. Consider appointing a representative and alternate to the C.V. Solid Waste Management District.
10. Consider approving a contract for professional appraisal services.
11. COVID-19 report, if needed.
12. Consider approving weekly Accounts Payable Warrants for March 2, 2021.
13. Miscellaneous: a) 2021 Second Class Liquor Licenses for: 1) Graniteville General Store and 2) Dollar General Store.
14. 'Round the table.
15. Executive session: real estate and personnel.
16. Adjourn.

**BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES**  
**March 2, 2021**

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

It is noted for the record the Town Clerk-Treasurer was not present due to election duties. The following synopsis was prepared using the Teams video recording.

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 or by phone for the regular meeting were Jeff and Barbara Allen, Jennifer Dole, and the Lovejoys.

**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 Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the amended meeting agenda.*

- a) Item 15, Executive Session, add contracts.*

**MINUTES**

Corrections were provided to the Town Clerk yesterday. Consensus of the Board is to table approval of the February 23, 2021 minutes until the next meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- ✓ Barre Town Budget Committee meetings are open to public. They are held on Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 7:55 p.m. through March. The Tuesday March 9<sup>th</sup> agenda will get into General Fund. For the video or telephone conference information, go to [www.barretown.org](http://www.barretown.org) or call 802-479-9331.
- ✓ If you like to work outdoors, consider applying for one of the five summer helper positions with Barre Town. Four are needed for the Department of Public works and one with the Cemetery/Recreation Department. Pay starts at \$12.75/hour with an opportunity to earn attendance bonuses. Application review will begin March 26, 2021. See the job posting at [www.barretown.org](http://www.barretown.org).

Selectboard Minutes of March 2, 2021 Continued:

- ✓ The February Barre Town Newsletter has been mailed. There is information about the positions of Assistant Town Clerk and Town Treasurer, as well as the elected Town Clerk position from which the long-serving Donna Kelty is retiring. You can also read updates on the reappraisal and Town forest logging. The Newsletter is also available on the Town website.
- ✓ The Annual Fire Department Rabies Clinic will be held on Saturday, March 20, 2021 at the Public Works garage. Stay tuned for more details.

### **GUESTS**

Jeff and Barbara Allen have property abutting property that was bequeathed to Barre Town. During recent discussions, the rights-of-way accessing both parcels were noted. One such easement directly impacts Mr. and Ms. Allen. By telephone, some historical information on the easements and their respective uses were noted. Mr. Allen informed the Board there is quite a bit a ledge which has resulted in his using the easement to access a portion of his lot, and since the 1950's there has been a trail that crosses the easement as well.

Chair White noted the Selectboard is awaiting some information from the Town Attorney/Estate Attorney and has made no decision. The Allen's were thanked for the information and will be notified when the item will appear on the meeting agenda.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2-21 STEP III FUNDING APPLICATION**

Background: To further push along the waterline funding application for the Wilson Industrial Park the next item to be worked on is a Resolution. The application requires the governing body to adopt the resolution. This Resolution must accompany the application to consider it complete. The Board was provided general application information.

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt "Resolution # 2-21, A Resolution of the Town of Barre, Vermont, Authorizing Filing of a DWSRF Step III Application for the Wilson Industrial Park Waterline Extension.*

### **CONSIDER POLICY FOR SPEED BUMPS, HUMPS AND TABLES**

Background: The Barre Town Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC) receives several requests for a speed hump every year. Last year, after declining a request, began discussion on creating a policy addressing these types of items, speed bumps, humps, and tables. At the February 17, 2021 meeting, TSAC voted to recommend the Selectboard adopt a policy covering these items.

Conversation recognized the possible need for such a policy. The Selectboard does have a concern with a policy that "prohibits" any of these items. Currently speed humps work well for the Sterling Hill Road, so there may be some point in the future where one of the calming measures would be beneficial. It was also noted the Policy is not quite complete in that it does not address what is acceptable.

Last year when working on the Personnel Policy, the Board recognized there were several policies of this nature that should be combined, such as Sign Policy, Equestrian Policy, etc. Consensus of the Board is to send this policy back to TSAC and ask they "wordsmith" to make a more comprehensive and complete Policy and perhaps look to incorporate some of the other Policies as noted into one. Both Chair White and member Malone stated they would be willing to provide assistance as needed. Manager Rogers stated he will inform the Town Engineer to place the item on the TSAC agenda and invite Ms. Malone/Mr. White so the Committee will understand what the Selectboard is looking for.

### **APPOINT CVSWMD REPRESENTATIVES**

Background: Annually, the Town must appoint a representative and alternate to the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District Board (CVSWMD). Our current representative is Fred Thumm (also serves as Chair for the CVSWMD Board) and Jack Mitchell as the alternate. Both are willing to serve again. The current term ends March 31<sup>st</sup>.

The Manager stated he received an inquiry asking if this position should be advertised like some of our other Board and Committees. Town Attorney Monte has been contacted to inquire if we should, given what the Town Charter states. There seems to be a gray area with local Boards/Committees versus regional ones. The Attorney opinion will clarify. It has been customary not to advertise for these appointments when there are incumbents (doing a good job) want to be reappointed.

Selectboard Minutes of March 2, 2021 Continued:

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to appoint Fred Thumm as representative, and Jack Mitchel as alternate to the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District for a one-year term to expire March 31, 2022.*

### **CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL SERVICES**

**Background:** Rock of Ages properties are unique with the vast quantity of granite still in the ground in the business value of properties. Assessor Russ Beaudoin suggests having a more qualified person perform the reappraisal. During our last reappraisal Resource Technologies Corporation was hired to do the appraisal work and the Town was satisfied with the work. It does appraisals of mineral properties and businesses every year. The Board was provided a copy of the contract prior to the meeting.

*On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the contract for professional appraisal services with Resource Technologies Corporation for \$17,000 and to authorize the Town Manager to sign said contract.*

### **COVID-19 REPORT**

Manager Rogers provided the following information:

- The State has authorized the “Freezing Fun For Families” softball tournament to be held starting this weekend. There will only be 6 teams playing for 2 hours each day.
- The Barre Town Fire Department will hold a drive-thru rabies clinic on Saturday, March 20, 2021, Noon to 2:00 p.m. Participants will enter from the Shop property located in the Wilson Industrial Park, drive to the DPW Garage using the access road between lots. Following signs will stop at bay #1 where the pet(s) will be retrieved from the vehicle. From there the driver will proceed to bay #2 where the pet will be picked up. Vehicles will exit onto the Websterville Road.
- The Barre Town Fire Department has canceled its Father’s Day Chicken BBQ.
- Staff is healthy and there have been no major COVID expenses.
- The EMS has received an amended 2020 work contract from the VDH. The amendment will provide around \$11,000 more in revenue for their services. Our EMS is currently assisting with COVID testing when requested. The mobile home visit unit is on standby and awaiting authorization.

### **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT**

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrants dated March 2, 2021.*

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

*On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the 2021 Second Class Liquor License for the following businesses:*

- 1) *Graniteville General Store; and*
- 2) *DG Retail LLC, dba Dollar General Store #14217.*

Motion discussion focused on the change of Corporate Officers for DG Retail and the fact that Tobacco licenses are approved by the State of Vermont.

Assistant Manager Wang informed the Selectboard that after the Board of Abatement issue that arose regarding the use of technology new protocols/instructions have been put in place to assure that prior to Deliberative/Executive sessions that no individuals on the phone can hear/participate in the Boards discussion.

Ms. Wang also reported the Barre Town Special Election waterline ballot article passed overwhelmingly. Other school election results were noted.

### **‘ROUND TABLE**

Justin Bolduc noted that he frequents the Bridge Street/Route 14 area. He is concerned with the number of tractor trailer trucks exiting the Reynolds & Sons business and turning left going over the Bridge St bridge and trying to turn on to Route 14 South. Currently trucks are prohibited.

Manager Rogers stated the intent, once the Route 14/Bridge Street intersection is reconstructed trucks will be allowed to use that exit route. Currently the turning radius means these large trucks must cross the center yellow line. However, the project is not scheduled for a couple of years.

Selectboard Minutes of March 2, 2021 Continued:

Board consensus is to forward the item to the TSAC to see if some additional signing can be added to deter large trucks from using this exit.

Bob Nelson noted the copy of the Rock of Ages “Notice of Determination” and inquired where the property is located. Manager Rogers stated he believes it is the tract of land runs along the Williamstown/Barre Town border down Baptist Street and going toward the former Rock of Ages Visitor Center in Upper Graniteville. He will confirm this.

Jack Mitchell reminded Board members that a couple of weeks ago he stated a resident had contacted him regarding the possibility of the Selectboard waiving late charges/penalties. It is noted that under normal condition the Board of Abatement holds that authority. However, the Manager will check with the Town Attorney to determine if the Governor’s Executive Order granting Selectboard authority to waive these items is still in effect.

Mitchell also inquired if there is anything that can be done regarding a recent tax sale property. He was contacted by a resident stating the buyer at the tax sale was unaware of existing State liens on the property. Manager Rogers stated there has been issues with this parcel. It went to tax sale in October 2020. However, the Attorney did disclose the State lien information. After the tax sale there was a fire. The owner (bidder at the tax sale) was given permission to secure the building and make changes. Discussion noted it is not the Board’s place or is it appropriate to offer resolution to the problem.

Paul White inquired if the Board could receive a report on the delinquent taxes, sewer, and water of the Town. It was noted the Town Clerk can provide the report.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, 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 9:30 p.m. for real estate, contracts, and personnel.*

*On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 10:33 p.m.*

**ADJOURN**

*On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:34 p.m.*

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Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

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Selectboard Chair

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Barre Town Selectboard