



# Town of Barre VERMONT

## BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING

August 30, 2022

### AGENDA

1. Call to order.....6:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda
4. Consider approving August 16 Selectboard meeting minutes
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
7. Consider Cemetery Commission’s request to use CLFRF (ARPA) money for a new columbarium
8. Consider designating a group to volunteer at and request donations at the fall bulk trash collection
9. Consider approving a letter of support for Barre Youth Sports Association’s Building Communities Recreational Facilities grant application
10. Consider awarding a contract to purchase a 10-wheeled dump truck chassis
11. Discuss report about ambulance billing service RFP samples
12. Discuss draft zoning by-law amendment to address new cannabis market
13. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for August 30, 2022
14. Miscellaneous, including licenses and permits if any
15. Round the table
16. Executive session (personnel, contract, labor negotiations); action expected
17. Adjourn

### MINUTES

The duly warned meeting of August 30, 2022 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 6:00 p.m.

**Selectboard Members Present:** Paul White, Norma Malone, Justin Bolduc, Bob Nelson, and W. John “Jack” Mitchell.

**Selectboard Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Members Present:** Town Manager Carl Rogers, Town Clerk Tina Lunt, and Police Chief William Dodge. Those present virtually: Planning and Zoning Administrator Chris Violette and EMS Director Chris LaMonda.

**Others Present:** Angela Labrador, Alan Garceau, and Times Argus Reporter Eric Blaisdell.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair White called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVE THE AGENDA:**

Selectboard Minutes of August 30, 2022 Continued:

***On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the amended agenda as follows:***

1. Add item #8a: additional Executive Session for personnel discussion

**APPROVE THE MINUTES:**

***On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the August 23, 2022 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical corrections.***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Schools are opening, which means school buses are back on the road across the State. All traffic must stop when the bus's red lights are flashing. School children are walking along roads to and from their bus stops, where they wait, sometimes impatiently, for their bus. Please be on the lookout for children walking or standing along the road.
- We are accepting applications or letters of interest in serving on the Town Cemetery Commission. The Commission has five members. It meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Typically the Commission meets April through October. The Commission oversees the three cemeteries. It adjusts Cemetery Rules and Regulations as needed, plans cemetery improvements, approves monument designs and takes other actions as states in the Rules and Regulations. Monthly meetings typically do not run two hours. For more information contact the Town Manager's Office or read about the Commission and its agendas and minutes, available on the Town website.
- The Town is accepting employment applications for a full-time Police Officer. Applications also are being accepted for per-diem officers, commonly called part-time officers. Experience is not necessary to be considered for either the full-time position or for per-diem work. Field training, which is on-the-job training, and Police Academy training are provided. Part-time work is very flexible and there are many opportunities to work. Contact the Town Manager's Office for more information or for an application.
- The fall bulk trash collection will be Saturday, September 17, 2022, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Public Works Yard on Websterville Road. The Town is seeking volunteers, please contact the Town Manager's Office if you are able to help by calling (802) 479-9331.
- A free dog and cat veterinarian care clinic is held the second Saturday of the month at the East Barre Fire Station. The clinic is open to residents and non-residents. The hours are 10:00 a.m. to noon. The clinic is free to anyone who receives some form of State assistance such as, but not only, Medicaid.

**GUESTS: None.**

**CEMETERY COMMISSION COLUMBARIUM:**

Background: The Cemetery Commission installed 2 columbaria approximately 14 years ago. One columbarium holds 48 niches. The Cemetery Commission planned to use funds from the sale of each niche to build the third columbarium. The plan was when 48 niches were sold the reserve fund would have

Selectboard Minutes of August 30, 2022 Continued:

enough money to build the next columbarium. Currently, the Commission has sold 46 niches. If not for the pandemic and resulting escalation in prices, the Commission would have enough money to build the next unit. The cost for a new columbarium is \$36,000+, a 50% increase over the price for which the Commission was planning.

Cemetery Commission Chair Angela Labrador and Vice Chair Alan Garceau were present. The Commission is requesting \$36,000 from the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CLFRF) to purchase and install the next columbarium. Ms. Labrador stated in 2009 the Town invested in installing a columbarium park in Wilson Cemetery. Mr. Garceau noted that, at the time, the Commission committed that all structures would be constructed of Barre granite. Mr. Garceau and Ms. Labrador explained the rise in costs is due to inflation and the current market conditions. The cost of one columbarium niche structure in 2008 was \$15,500 and in 2018 the price was \$21,100. These structures are now \$36,000 plus. Additionally, the Commission would need to drastically increase the niche fees which takes away from the approach of the columbarium niches being an affordable death care option. Ms. Labrador explained a one-time grant of \$36,000 would allow the Cemetery Commission to purchase and reserve the columbarium reserve fund without raising niche prices.

Discussion continued as Board members asked questions regarding options for additional structures and niche pricing.

Mrs. Malone thanked Ms. Labrador for an informative presentation. Board members expressed their support of the Cemetery Commissions request.

***On a motion by Justin Bolduc, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to commit \$36,000 of the Town's CLFRF for the construction and installation of a granite columbarium to be placed in the Wilson Cemetery, and authorize the Cemetery Commission to begin the bidding process.***

### **VOLUNTEER GROUP FOR FALL BULK TRASH COLLECTION:**

**Background:** The Cemetery Commission has been the named group to volunteer at the fall bulk trash collection for more than 5 years. The Commission uses the donated money to pay for improvements in the cemeteries. Lately, the Commission has purchased headstones to replace very old marble and slate stones that are broken beyond repair.

***On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to designate the Town Cemetery Commission as the group to volunteer and solicit donations at the fall 2022 bulk trash collection.***

### **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 knowledge would clearly place the Selectboard at a substantial disadvantage.***

***On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 6:39 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter and invited the police chief to attend.***

***On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 8:09 p.m.***

**BYSA LETTER OF SUPPORT:**

Background: BYSA uses the Bond Fields on Upper Prospect for youth football, baseball, softball, and lacrosse. When the Bond family built the new facility, the fields were not built to spec and work needed to be completed. The Bond family has contacted the Town for help as this needs a correction. The Town is suggesting BCB or BYSA seek a state grant.

The Manager stated that the cost of the project is \$16,800 and the grant is for \$8,400. The other half of the funding will come from BYSA, Barre Community Baseball, and the Bond Family.

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of support for BYSA's Building Communities, Recreational Facilities grant application to correct the Upper Prospect Street Bond Fields stormwater facility.*

**10-WHEELED DUMP TRUCK:**

Background: This purchase is for the 10-wheeled dump truck chassis in the FY '23-'24 equipment purchase plan. As stated at the August 16 Board meeting, the chassis Allegiance proposed in its bid meets specifications and was the low bid. The Manager gave an estimated cost of the dump body and plow system that would be mounted on the chassis and believed the truck would be under budget for the FY '23 truck. The Manager also believes this is accurate for the FY '24 truck. Ordering the chassis for the FY '24 truck now will help ensure the completed truck is received during FY '24.

*On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to award the contract for FY '24's 10-wheeled chassis to Allegiance Trucks-Jericho for the purchase of a 2024 International HV513, plus extended warranties at the total price of \$140,669.*

**AMBULANCE BILLING RFP'S:**

Background: Finance Director Katelyn Kran and EMS Director Chris LaMonda met with the Board on August 9. During this time there was discussion that they would take on the task of seeking ambulance billing proposals started by collecting sample RFP's. A report of their findings was shared with Board members.

Board consensus is to table this item to a future date.

**ZONING-BY-LAW AMENDMENT:**

Background: This zoning by-law amendment was prepared by the Planning Commission in response to the cannabis market coming soon. The Planning Commission's list of changes was sent to attorney Jim Barlow to put it in our ordinance form. A draft is being shared with the Selectboard for discussion. A 3-step ordinance adoption process would follow.

Chris Violette was present virtually. Mr. Violette shared there are numerous amendments needed to be made to the zoning by-law. The Planning Commission has started drafting significant changes and has started their focus on cannabis with the market approaching soon. The language within the amendments will bring more clarification around cannabis zoning regulations.

Selectboard Minutes of August 30, 2022 Continued:

Mr. Mitchell inquired about the land development amendment. Currently, permits are issued for one year. With the new amendment, residents will now have two years and up to three years to begin construction.

Discussion continued as Board members asked additional questions around the amendments looking for clarification within the language.

**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 August 30, 2022 for FY '22 and '23.*

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

*On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve and authorize the Town Clerk to sign a Special Event Permit for Dirt Church Brewing Co. LLC who will be catering an event on October 9, 2022 at the Barre Town Recreational Area from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

**ROUND TABLE:**

Justin Bolduc:

- Mr. Bolduc inquired about the AV system display screen flickering. Fuzzbuzz Technologies, Inc. has been contacted and will be visiting the Town Office next week to look at the issue.

**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 knowledge would clearly place the Selectboard at a substantial disadvantage.*

*On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 8:40 p.m. for personnel, contract, and labor negotiations and invited EMS Director Chris LaMonda to attend with action expected.*

*On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 10:03 p.m.*

**ACTION:**

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the updated Town Manager job description, dated August 23, 2022.*

**ADJOURN:**

*On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:04 p.m.*

APPROVED MINUTES

Barre Town Selectboard

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul White, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Norma Malone, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Justin Bolduc

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack Mitchell

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Nelson

Filed in the Barre Town Clerk's Office on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_, Barre Town Clerk.