



Town of Barre VERMONT

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING February 8, 2022

AGENDA

1. Call to order.....8:05 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving February 1 meeting minutes.
5. Announcements.
6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
7. Consider approving plan for waterline attached to Rt. 110 bridge.
8. Discuss Recreation Board matters.
9. Consider accepting grant for water bottle filling station.
10. Consider approving CVSWMD’s request to use DPW Yard for household hazardous waste collection.
11. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for February 8, 2022.
12. Miscellaneous: **a)** Jockey Hollow Deli and Catering 1st Class Commercial Kitchen license; **b)** other licenses and permits, if any.
13. ‘Round table.
14. Executive session: legal (no action anticipated).
15. Adjourn.

MINUTES

The duly warned meeting of February 8, 2022 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 8:05 p.m.

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

Selectboard Members Absent: None.

Staff Members Present: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang, Town Clerk Tina Lunt, and Town Engineer Josh Martineau.

Others Present: Allan Garceau, and Times Argus Reporter Eric Blaisdell.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair White called the meeting 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 agenda as presented.

APPROVE THE MINUTES:

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the February 1, 2022 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical corrections.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The next quarterly installment of property taxes and the second semi-annual sewer payment are due February 15.
- The public is welcome to attend the Barre Town Budget Committee meetings, which are every Tuesday through March at 6:00 p.m. More info is at barretown.org.
- Request an early ballot for the next school elections, or for 2022 elections, by calling the Town Clerk's office at 802-479-9391.
- The Selectboard seeks to fill one vacancy on the Barre Town Housing Advisory Committee. This Committee is made up of five members from the community and is responsible for suggesting housing related amendments to the zoning and subdivision bylaws. This body meets as needed and has not met regularly for some time. However, it is helpful for the Town to have such a committee to advise the Selectboard on issues related to housing. Questions? Contact Planning and Zoning Director Chris Violette at 802-479-2595 or cviolette@barretown.org.
- Are you a homeowner who is behind on your housing-related bills due to the COVID-19 pandemic? You may qualify for assistance from the Vermont Housing Finance Agency. To learn more and apply, call (833) 221-4208.
- The snowstorm last week might have gotten you thinking: would you, or a Vermonter you know, need help in a disaster? If there was an ice storm, flood, fire, major traffic accident, or other such event that caused a power outage, isolated you, or prompted the need for you to evacuate your home, would you need extra help? Elders or people with certain disabilities might, if such an event lasted more than a day or two. The Citizens Assistance Registry for Emergencies, or CARE was created for just that reason. Emergency services are better able to help people who are registered with CARE. If you or someone you know might need special help in a prolonged emergency, please use the registration link at e911.vermont.gov/care.
- Community Animal Aid's free monthly clinic for cats and dogs returns this Saturday, February 12th, to the East Barre Fire Station. This clinic will run from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and serve individuals and families who are homeless or receive public assistance. Proof of 3 Squares, Medicaid, Fuel Assistance, WIC, Meals on Wheels, or similar program is required. This clinic is sponsored by veterinary Doctor Hecimovich [HECK-movich], certified veterinary technicians, and Vermont Technical College vet students. For more information, search for Community Animal Aid on Facebook.
- The next Barre Town newsletter will be in the mail soon. In the meantime, anyone may read it online at barretown.org. Click on Publications and Budget and then on 2022 February newsletter.

GUESTS: None.

BRIDGE WATERLINE:

Background: The Agency of Transportation's final plans for the Rt. 110 bridge, including the Town's waterline were sent to intra-agency review. A couple months ago the State decided to pursue a concrete slab design for the bridge. When the Town talked to the State and its consultant, there was discussion to attach the waterline to the underside of the concrete. The pre-cast concrete company did not accept the design. AOT has come back with another design with the waterline attached to the side of the bridge. AOT will complete its final plan review in a few months. A decision will need to be made if the waterline is staying in the plan.

A copy of the final plan (design) was distributed to the Board members for review.

Town Engineer Josh Martineau was present. Mr. Martineau gave a brief overview of the design, explaining the attachment of the waterline. Mr. Martineau stated it is a fairly common design.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to accept AOT's plan to attach the waterline outside of the concrete decking of the Rt. 110 bridge.

RECREATION BOARD:

Background: The Town has discussed issues with the Rec program multiple times. A sub-committee was formed to review ordinances, polices, Rec Board Charge, and job descriptions. Committee members are reporting back to the Selectboard with their recommendation.

Mrs. Malone, Mr. Bolduc and Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang were present to provide feedback on behalf of the Recreation Working Group's recommendation.

Mrs. Malone stated the Recreation Working Group met a total of three times and began their work back in August. The consensus of the group was the Town's facility and offerings have grown over time, and the current three-tier management is problematic.

The following three draft documents were shared with Board members:

- Restructure Proposal: proposal of current staff versus proposed new restructuring plan
- Recreation Board Charge
- Job Description: job description for a Recreation Director

Mrs. Malone noted these documents were prepared carefully by researching other municipalities. The restructure proposal document was created by completing an analysis of staff hours. Mr. Bolduc shared the new plan accommodates both recreation and cemetery staffing and allows them flexibility. The goal is for the cemetery staff not to have to assist recreation on a regular basis.

As discussion continued, Mrs. Malone asked staff to take time to analyze the proposal as she understands it is a lot to digest. She asked those to keep in mind the recreation facilities have grown tremendously over the last years and unfortunately it has not been able to be managed as well as it should be. Mrs. Malone noted the facilities and offerings will continue to expand and the importance of the Town needing to provide the

Rec Board with a clear charge and better communication. Mr. Bolduc expressed the Town has been very lucky to have such an involved Recreation Board and they may not always have this commitment.

Selectboard Minutes of February 8, 2022 Continued:

Mr. Mitchell shared his concerns around the proposal. He noted this will be a big change for the Town and he still has many questions before making a decision.

Mr. Nelson shared his appreciation for the Recreation Working Group, noting a few suggestions he will share regarding the job descriptions.

Ms. Wang stated the Rec Board, by consensus, approved the job description document with one change. They are supportive of having a full-time recreation director. Mr. Bolduc thanked Ms. Wang for her support with drafting the job description document.

Alan Garceau was present on behalf of the Cemetery Commission. Mr. Garceau noted the Cemetery Commission is in favor of the Recreation Working Group proposal. He added that our current Sexton has done a wonderful job and the Town is lucky to have such great looking cemetery grounds.

The Board plans to continue discussion next week.

GREEN UP VERMONT WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATION GRANT:

Background: The Town was granted the water bottle filler grant from Green Up Vermont, for the filling station and up to \$1,000 for installation costs. These would be installed in the Town's Rec area.

Ms. Wang shared their will be no regular maintenance on the filling stations.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to accept the water bottle filler grant from Green Up Vermont.

Mrs. Malone expressed her thanks to Ms. Wang for the speedy process on the grant application.

HOUSHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION:

Background: The Solid Waste District requests permission to use the DPW Yard for a Household Hazardous Waste collection on Saturday, April 9. The date is at least 2 weeks earlier than previous years, due to the hauler's availability.

The Town has a few concerns with the earlier date, one being weather. If it snows the evening before, or morning of, collection the DPW staff will need to plow the collection work area and plow trucks will need to get in and out of the yard. The DPW yard could use the back road to enter and exit the yard.

The line of traffic the last couple years has reached out to and down the road. The queue was directed to line up to the west, which was straighter. Town Manager Carl Rogers suggested we could ask the district to direct traffic to line up on Websterville Road to the west of the driveway and ask them to set up in a way to create a longer line in the DPW yard.

Mr. White asked about using Pitman Road for the entrance of the collection. Mr. Rogers noted operationally he does not see why this would not work. Mr. Rogers will talk with Solid Waste District regarding additional options for setup.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Solid Waste Districts request to use the DPW Yard for a Household Hazardous Waste collection on

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April 9, provided the District provide a certificate of insurance naming the Town as an additional insured and work with the Town Manager to develop an efficient and safe traffic pattern.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrants for the week of February 8, 2022.

MISCELLANEOUS:

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the 2022 First Class Liquor License for Jockey Hollow Deli and Catering

ROUND TABLE: None

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 9:34 p.m. for legal.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 10:06 p.m.

ADJOURN:

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Jack Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:06 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.