



BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING
May 24, 2022

AGENDA

1. Call to order.....6:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda
4. Consider approving May 17 Selectboard meeting minutes
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
7. Interview candidate for CV Fiber Board
8. Consider adopting Resolution No. 4-22 extending sincerest and deepest appreciation to Deborah Lefebvre on her retirement
9. Consider approving and authorizing letter of support for Montessori School of Central Vermont USDA Rural Development grant application
10. Consider authorizing Town Clerk to issue a special event permit for Rockfire
11. Consider approving radio study service proposal
12. Consider approving use of CLFRF for water and sewer service connections for the Town’s lot at 22 Buick Street
13. Consider authorizing a Utilities Relocation Agreement with VTrans for the Rt. 110 Bridge project
14. Consider appointments to boards, commission, and committees
15. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for May 24, 2022
16. Miscellaneous, including other licenses and permits, if any
17. Round the table
18. Executive session (if needed)
19. Adjourn

MINUTES

The duly warned meeting of May 24, 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, Bob Nelson, and W. John “Jack” Mitchell.

Selectboard Members Absent: Justin Bolduc.

Staff Members Present: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Town Clerk Tina Lunt, Planning and Zoning Administrator Chris Violette, Town Engineer Josh Martineau, Finance Clerk Deb Lefebvre, Assistant Town Clerk Wendy Moore, Executive Secretary Tina Thurston, EMS Director Chris LaMonda, Finance Director Katelyn Kran, Assistant Town Clerk Jennifer Bushway, and Treasurer Jennifer Allard.

Others Present: Michael Milo, Kristen Martin, Pierre Couture, Times Argus Reporter Eric Blaisdell, Donna Kelty, Liz Vaughan, Lenny Hutchinson, Alice Bartlett, and Joyce Beaudin.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair White called the meeting to order at 5:59 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 agenda as follow:

1. Add to item #16 Miscellaneous: fireworks permit
2. Add to item #18 Executive Session: negotiations

APPROVE THE MINUTES:

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the May 17, 2022 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical corrections.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Recreation Board is offering something different – a free outdoor movie for children and their family. Movie night is Saturday, June 4. As you might expect the movie, titled BFG, will start at dusk. Location is the softball field at the Town Recreation Area. Bring your own blankets, lawn chairs and snacks. The Boy Scouts will offer a concession stand.
- Another Community Animal Aid clinic will be held at the East Barre Fire Station on Saturday, June 11 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The clinic for dogs and cats is free for people receiving public assistance such as 3 Squares, Medicaid, fuel assistance, WIC, or Meals on Wheels.
- Mark your calendar; the Barre Town Fire Department’s Father’s Day Chicken barbeque is back. Meals are served, to eat-in or take-out, from noon to 2:00 p.m. The barbeque is held at the East Barre Station.
- Tennis lessons are available this summer. The lessons will be conducted July 19 to 22nd and again July 26th to 29th. Both weeks, beginners’ lessons will be from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m., and intermediate lessons will be held from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Children age 8 and up and adults may register. The fee is \$45 per week or \$60 for both weeks. Call the Town Manager’s Office at 802-479-9331 for more information. A flyer and registration form are available via a link in the announcements on the Town’s homepage.
- According to state law, an application for a fireworks display must be submitted not less than 15 days before the display. If you are planning a display over the July 4th weekend, please submit your application to the Town Clerk’s Office by June 17th.
- If you or your family suffered financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic check out the Vermont Homeowners Assistance Program for help with past due taxes and utilities like water and sewer. Barre Towners are receiving assistance; you might qualify too. Learn more at www.Vermonthap.vhfa.org.

GUESTS: None.

INTERVIEW FOR CV FIBER BOARD:

Background: During last week's Board meeting interviews were held for vacant positions on the CV Fiber Board. Mr. Michael Milo had technical difficulties and was unable to join last week's interviews. The primary and alternate CV Fiber board positions are vacant.

Michael Milo was present. Mr. Milo has lived in the Barre area over 10 years and is semi-retired. Mr. Milo shared he is interested in serving on the CV Fiber Board, as it relates to his IT networking career experience.

Board members thanked Mr. Milo for coming in and shared their appreciation for volunteering to serve on the Board.

RESOLUTION NO. 4-22 HONORING DEBORAH LEFEBVRE:

Background: Deborah Lefebvre began working as Assistant Town Clerk November 4, 2013. She has held various positions throughout her years with the Town moving to Assistant Town-Clerk-Treasurer position on January 1, 2017. The Town created the Finance Office in 2021 and her job was changed to Finance Clerk. She has served as the point of contact for cemetery matters. The Selectboard is recognizing her retirement with a resolution and presentation.

Jack Mitchell read the resolution.

Staff present echoed much of the language written in the resolution, expressing that Deb's immense problem-solving skills made her a great resource to the Town. Deb is acknowledged as being patient, cheerful, resourceful, intelligent, and has demonstrated an incredible work ethic over her years with the Town.

Board members thanked Deb for her dedication to the Town, noting that it was very clear she has been a key asset to the Town office and an important player in staff transitions.

On a motion by Paul White, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 4-22, "A Resolution of the Town of Barre, Vermont in Appreciation of Deborah Lefebvre's Service to the Town of Barre."

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF CENTRAL VERMONT:

Background: In January the Selectboard supported the school's project and application to the state's Capital Investment Grant program. The Montessori School of Central Vermont (MSCVT) continues to work on funding for its expansion project.

Kristin Martin was present. Mrs. Martin stated the Capital Investment Grant funding was not received back in January. Currently, MSCVT is working with USDA Rural Development on a loan application to continue their work on funding opportunities. The USDA loan application requires a form to be signed by the Town of Barre.

The funding will help with a proposed expansion of 6,000 square feet. This will create a multi-purpose room, two additional classroom spaces and create more space for an infant/toddler room.

Mr. Mitchell asked if staffing has been a concern at MSCVT, as it has been for other schools. Mrs. Martin confirmed that the Montessori school has retained all of their staff for the 2022-2023 school year. The school currently has an enrollment of 96 students.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the May 24, 2022 letter of support for the Montessori School of Central Vermont's USRDA grant application and authorize the chairman to sign it.

ROCKFIRE SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT

Background: This year Rockfire activities will only be held on Saturday, June 25. There will be no Friday night activities. The event is based at Millstone Lodge on Littlejohn Road. The event organizers request Littlejohn Road be closed at Sabetto Street and at the Waterman Street intersection. There will be food vendors and entertainment at the lodge beginning at 6:00 p.m. A police officer is requested for the road closure at Waterman Street and for helping participants cross Church Hill Road from Violette Street to the Grand Lookout. There will be fireworks from the Lookout. The Recreation Board approved use of the Town Forest trails.

Pierre Couture was present. Board members addressed a few concerns with Mr. Couture regarding complaints from last year. Those included parking and the clean-up of luminaries and glass after the event.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Town Clerk to issue a Special Event Permit for the Rockfire event to be held June 25, 2022 with the following conditions:

- a) The organizers notify the Clark's no less than 2 weeks prior to the event and give the Clark family a pass or permit that will get them through the road blocks;***
- b) sky lanterns are not permitted;***
- c) all luminaries are to be removed before Saturday, July 2, 2022;***
- d) all ashes, charred wood and unused firewood to be removed from the campfires areas;***
- e) the \$500 deposit be waived, and***
- f) the organizers provide the Town a certificate of insurance naming the Town as an additional insured;***
- g) the organizers obtain a fireworks permit.***

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Jack Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to close Littlejohn Road between Sabetto Street and Waterman Street on Saturday, June 25 from 5:30 p.m. to Midnight per Title 23, Section 1010 of the Vermont State Statutes.

RADIO STUDY:

Background: The Town's radio system services all Town Departments (Public Works, EMS, Fire and Police) A town-wide radio study has been in place due to concerns over the reliability of the radio system. Chris Violette has been working with Norm Boucher from Communication Design Consulting Group, LLC regarding the Town's radio study. A radio system study services proposal was shared with Board members for review.

Town Manager Carl Rogers shared that Finance Director Katelyn Kran suggested a proposal be approved through the Selectboard to confirm it meets the ARPA expense requirements.

Selectboard Minutes of May 24, 2022 Continued:

Mr. Violette gave a brief overview of his work with Mr. Boucher. The proposal is to look at relocating from the existing tower located at Mt. Pleasant (East side) to Mt. Pleasant (West side). Mr. Violette noted the Town needs to have negotiations with American Tower regarding this relocation. Additionally, the Taplin Road site is a second location the Town is interested in pursuing. Board members noted the availability of the Taplin Road site would be beneficial to the Town if the opportunity is there.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve and authorize the Town Manager to sign the radio system study services proposal from Communication Design Consulting Group, LLC dated May 16, 2022.

22 BUICK STREET:

Background: The Board has had previous discussion regarding the water and sewer connections for 22 Buick Street. The residential structures that were on the lot used a well; there is no pre-existing connection to the public water main, which is across the street from the lot. The lot is suitable for an affordable home. Affordable Housing is one of the qualified uses of Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CLFRF). The Board has this item on their list of ARPA ideas for installing water and sewer connection for those looking for affordable housing.

Town Manager Carl Rogers stated Town staff will need to do exploratory digging to locate the force main. Town Engineer Josh Martineau estimates the cost for providing the water and sewer connection on the lot to be \$5,812.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize DPW to install water and sewer service connections at the lot known as 22 Buick Street and to use CLFRF money for those expenses.

Rt. 110 BRIDGE UTILITY AGREEMENT:

Background: This utility agreement states the Town will provide materials needed for the State's contractor to construct the 8" waterline attached to the bridge and the approximately 60' of waterline needed to connect to the pipe that is under Rt. 302.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Agency of Transportation's Utility Relocation Agreement for project Barre Town BF0169(12), the Rt. 110 bridge replacement project.

APPOINTMENTS FOR BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES:

Background: Annually the Selectboard makes various appointments to the Boards, Commission, and Committees as terms expire on May 31st.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to reappoint Cedric Sanborn to the Development Review Board for a 3-year term to expire on May 31, 2025.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to appoint Angela Labrador to the Development Review Board for a 3-year term to expire on May 31, 2025.

Selectboard Minutes of May 24, 2022 Continued:

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to appoint Gerry Otis as the alternate to the Development Review Board for a 1 year term to expire on May 31, 2023.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to appoint Charles Woodhams and Sebastian Arduengo to the Housing Advisory Committee for a 3-year term to expire on May 31, 2025.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Jack Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to appoint Byron Atwood to the Planning Commission for a 4-year term to expire on May 31, 2026.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to appoint Dave Rouleau to the Recreation Board for a 3-year term to expire on May 31, 2025.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to appoint Brett Myer to the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee for a 3-year term to expire on May 31, 2025.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Jack Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to appoint Michael Milo to the CV Fiber Board for a 1-year term to expire on March 7, 2023.

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to appoint Dan Souza as alternate to the CV Fiber Board for a 1-year term to expire on March 7, 2023.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrant for the week of May 24, 2022.

MISCELLANEOUS:

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Jack Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve a fireworks permit for Martin Prevost to hold a display on May 28, 2022 at 180 Sunset Road with the standard conditions.

ROUND TABLE:

Norma Malone:

- Mrs. Malone asked the Manager if Bellavence has started working on the waterline. Mr. Rogers noted they are scheduled to start the work toward the end of June.
- Mrs. Malone inquired about the DPW yard stormwater project status. Mr. Rogers noted it is actively moving forward.

Jack Mitchell:

- Mr. Mitchell commented on the Town not receiving the Class 2 paving grant this year. He expressed how fortunate the town has been in past years.
- Mr. Mitchell recommended that a discussion regarding ambulance billing be added to a future agenda item to address the multiple concerns the Board needs to make decisions on.

Selectboard Minutes of May 24, 2022 Continued:

Bob Nelson:

- Mr. Nelson shared the Barre Area Veteran’s Council is hosting the annual Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday May 30th. The ceremony will be held at 11:00 a.m. in the Barre City Park.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Norma Malone, 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 Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 7:42 p.m. for negotiation.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 8:37 p.m.

ADJOURN:

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:37 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.