



Town of Barre VERMONT

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING

May 3, 2022

AGENDA

1. Call to order.....6:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda
4. Consider approving April 26 Selectboard meeting minutes
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
7. Consider Green Mountain Gravel’s request for police assistance and temporary stopping traffic to conduct a cycling event
8. Consider awarding contract for the Websterville waterline replacement project
9. Discuss use of Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
10. Consider adopting Resolution No. 3-22 presenting the 2022 Wendell F. Pelkey Citizenship and Service Award
11. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for May 3, 2022
12. Miscellaneous, including other licenses and permits, if any
13. Round the table
14. Executive session (if needed)
15. Adjourn

MINUTES

The duly warned meeting of May 3, 2022 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 6:00 p.m.

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

Selectboard Members Absent: None.

Staff Members Present: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Town Clerk Tina Lunt, and Planning and Zoning Administrator Chris Violette.

Others Present: Times Argus Reporter Eric Blaisdell and Scott Kindestin. Those attending virtually: Steve Maas, Phil Kolling, Robert Clark, and Jeff Blow.

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

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

APPROVE THE AGENDA:

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

APPROVE THE MINUTES:

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the April 26, 2022 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical corrections.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Green Up Day is Saturday, May 7. Please be on the look out for Green Up volunteers collecting litter and trash from alongside roads. If you see Green Up volunteers ahead, please slow down. Thank you to all of the Barre Town residents and businesses that are Greening Up. Your work is greatly appreciated.
- The Annual Election of Officers, which includes voting on proposed budgets, is Tuesday, May 10. Voting is conducted in the Barre Town Middle and Elementary School from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Also on the ballot are 20 not-for-profit agency donation requests and two proposed Charter amendments. For more information contact the Town Clerk’s Office at 802.479.9391. A budget booklet is available on the Town website and at these fine stores: Lawson’s, Trow Hill Grocery, Hannaford, Graniteville General, Gunner Brook Store & Deli, and Quarry Hill Quick Stop.
- Saturday, May 14 the Town is offering its Spring Bulk Trash Collection. Service hours are 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event is held at the public works yard, at 129 Websterville Road. Fees are charged. The event is for Barre Town residents’ home or residential use. If you are not familiar with the service, please see the April Town newsletter or visit the Solid Waste Department page on the Town website.
- The Selectboard plans to re-appoint or appoint board, commission, and committee members at the May 24 meeting. The April newsletter provides a quick application form and the list of positions. If you have any thoughts about volunteering to serve your town, please see the article and submit an application. For more information contact one of the Selectboard members or the Town Manager’s Office.
- A citizen has generously volunteered to monitor the lawn waste site Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Through the season she will be unavailable some of those days. The Town could use a few volunteer back-ups, people who could monitor the site when the primary is not available. Please call the Manager’s Office if you would like to volunteer. The site is open now, including Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to noon.
- The public works department still has three open summer helper positions. Applicants must be 18 or older. Applications for full-time or part-time will be accepted. The DPW could really use two people for about three weeks to trim brush and tree limbs blocking visibility of road signs. The Town would consider applications for just this work. The crew of at least 2 people drive a small, one-ton dump truck over every road looking for signs that are partially obscured. A pole saw, power pole saw, or small chain saw would be used to clear the brush, which is loaded into the truck. Ideally, this work is done in June. Contact the Manager’s Office for an application or for more information.

- Chair Announcement: Last Tuesday night after executive session the Selectboard voted to authorize the Chairman to sign a service agreement with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns.
- Mr. Mitchell announced that the spring bulk trash collection will be held on Saturday, May 14. Resident are encouraged to read the Town newsletter for details. Multiple items will not be accepted. Those include but are not limited to: grass, brush, hazardous materials, large metal, appliances, lawn mowers, gas grills, bicycles, exercise machine, aluminum siding, and electronics. Please see the Town newsletter for further information on items and where these items can be disposed of. Residents can call the Town garage on Saturday, May 14 at 802-476-5483 with any questions.
- Mr. Bolduc asked residents to be cautious of motorcyclists and walkers as the warmer weather has arrived.
- Mrs. Malone announced that Open Town Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 4, 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal building. There will be no Selectboard meeting on Tuesday, May 10 due to the Annual Election.
- Mr. White announced The Friends of the Aldrich Public Library are having a Christine Litchfield Memorial Concert featuring musical guest Anything Goes. This is a free event, and all are welcome. The event will be held on Saturday, May 7, 7:00 p.m. See the library website for details.

GUESTS:

Mr. Scott Kindestin was present. Mr. Kindestin stated he is here to follow up regarding concerns for BCA public hearings. Board members shared with Mr. Kindestin that his concerns need to be addressed with the Board of Civil Authority.

GREEN MOUNTAIN GRAVEL BIKE RIDE EVENT:

Background: Steve Maas and Phil Kolling, co-owners of Green Mountain Gravel (GMG) attended an earlier Board meeting on March 29 to inform the Town they would like to conduct a gravel road bike ride on Sunday, October 9. The start and finish line would be at the recreation area picnic shelter. There would be three events: 60, 37, and 18 mile rides. The start of the rides would be staggered at 9:30, 10:00, and 10:30.

Mr. Maas and Mr. Kolling were present virtually. Mr. Maas reports GMG has reached out to all other towns that will be participating in the ride except for Corinth and they have received a positive response. They expect to receive Corinth's permission, as just a short section of the route is located in Corinth.

GMG is requesting a police officer to stop traffic at the intersection of Compo Street and Graniteville Road when the riders exit Compo Street. Chief Dodge was present and stated he did not foresee any issues with the planned ride.

Mr. Maas shared that the Certificate of Liability Insurance is pending, as they need approval from the host town before they can purchase the policy.

Selectboard Minutes of May 3, 2022 Continued:

Mrs. Malone stated the Rec Board failed to take action on GMG's request to use the Millstone West Bike Path. She asked that Mr. Maas and Mr. Kolling follow-up with the Rec Board in regard to this.

Board consensus is they are in favor of the ride and look forward to updates as the event planning continues.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the intermittent road closure by a police officer to stop traffic on Graniteville Road at Compo Street as needed for cyclists existing Compo Street the morning of Sunday, October 9, 2022 and to apply the Charges for Services Policy to the request for police services, contingent on showing the Town as an additional insured.

WEBSTERVILLE WATERLINE:

Background: Bidding specifications were sent out for the Websterville Waterline project. This project is to replace the old and undersized water pipes located in upper Websterville's side streets, which include Little John Road, Brook Street, Libercent Street and Violette Street. The original plan was for the Department of Public Works to complete a section each year however, the Town has plans to use the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds for this project. In November the Selectboard authorized OtterCreek to begin spec work on the waterline project. Bidding specs were sent out and a total of 7 bids were received. The bids came in higher than expected.

The Town contacted Robert Clark from OtterCreek Engineering to talk about logical contract deductions. A letter offering four possible deductions was shared with Board members for review. Mr. Rogers gave a brief overview of the suggested deductions. Those include: a paving deduction, eliminate Brook Street to Church Hill Road, eliminate Sabetto loop, and eliminate Violette Street.

Robert Clark from OtterCreek Engineering was present virtually. Mr. Clark shared the low bid was from Munson Earthmoving. Mr. Clark noted that Munson Earthmoving would still be interested in the job with the deductions. The plan is to start the work in August and have the project completed before Thanksgiving, pending the availability of materials.

Board members discussed the recommendations, sharing their feedback and concerns. Mrs. Malone noted the project would be taking up 25% of the ARPA funds. Board members voiced their concerns with this as the intent of the ARPA funds was to use the funds to serve the majority of the residents. Town Engineer Josh Martineau explained by contracting this work out it would eliminate DPW from having to do the work themselves and in return it would allow them time to center their attention on several other places throughout the Town.

Board consensus is they would like to have a discussion regarding the ARPA funds prior to making any final decisions. Board discussion moved to the next agenda item, noting after that discussion they will return to this agenda item for a final decision.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to unanimously to award the Websterville Water Mains contract to Munson Earthmoving based on its per unit cost bids, with the following deductions: eliminate pavement replacement, eliminate the approximate 380 feet section of pipe in Brook Street between Libercent and Church Hill Road, and eliminate the 8" pipe in Sabetto Street.

CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS:

Background: The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) included \$300 billion in pandemic-related aid for state and local governments. The Town of Barre was awarded \$2,307,709.02 and is responsible to spend in accordance with Federal Guidelines. Selectboards have discretion over how to spend the allocations. Over the last few months, the Board has invited public input on how to best spend these funds. There are specific categories and limits on how the Town is allowed to spend the money.

Town Manager Carl Rogers provided the Board with a list of ideas for review and discussion.

Board discussion started with the prioritizing of the list. Board members shared their recommendations for what projects should stay on the list and those that should be removed. Conversation started with those items that were already committed to.

Mrs. Malone inquired about the upgrade to the Town radio system. Mrs. Malone suggested removing this item from the list, noting the difficulty of the permit process. Mr. Violette stated he is currently working with a consultant on possible options and will have new figures for the Board to review soon. With this new information, Board consensus is to leave this item on this list.

The list included multiple supportable housing/private partnership related projects. Mrs. Malone stated the focus of the ARPA funds should be on infrastructure, facility, and safety needs. Board consensus is to remove these items from the list.

Conversation continued as Board members finalized the prioritizing of the list and a few additional ideas being shared.

Discussion returned to the previous agenda item for final decision on the Westerville Waterline.

WENDELL F. PELKEY CITIZENSHIP AWARD:

Background: Annually the Selectboard awards the Wendell F. Pelkey Citizenship and Public Service Award to an individual who demonstrates an on-going commitment to the Town. The recipient will receive the award at the Open Town Meeting being held on May 4, 2022, 7:30 p.m. at the Barre Municipal Building. A winner was selected last week and the Resolution is being presented for adoption.

On a motion by Justin Bolduc, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 3-22, A Resolution of the Town of Barre, Vermont presenting the 2022 Wendell F. Pelkey Citizenship and Public Service Award.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrant for the week of May 3, 2022.

MISCELLANEOUS: None.

ROUND TABLE:

Bob Nelson: Mr. Nelson thanked Mr. Violette for maintaining the audio-visual system.

Justin Bolduc: Mr. Bolduc thanked Mr. Violette for being full-time Moderator for this evening’s meeting.

Norma Malone: Mrs. Malone reminded everyone that there will be no Selectboard meeting next week due to the Annual Election. The next Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 17 and will include reorganization of Board members.

ADJOURN:

On a motion by Justin Bolduc, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:19 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.