



Town of Barre VERMONT

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING

May 31, 2022

AGENDA

1. Call to order.....6:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda
4. Consider approving May 24 Selectboard meeting minutes
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
7. Presentation by CV Regional Planning Commission’s Transportation Advisory Committee representative
8. Consider awarding contract for purchase of materials needed for Rt. 110 bridge waterline
9. Discuss uses of Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
10. Discuss plans for reviewing and revising the Community Forest Plan
11. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for May 31, 2022
12. Miscellaneous: **a)** malt, vinous and spirituous liquors catering permit for JWD Corp at Wilkins Harley-Davidson on June 4; **b)** other licenses and permits, if needed
13. Round the table
14. Executive session (if needed)
15. Adjourn

MINUTES

The duly warned meeting of May 31, 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 Town Engineer Josh Martineau. Those attending virtually: Planning and Zoning Administrator Chris Violette.

Others Present: Times Argus Reporter Eric Blaisdell, Rec Board Chair Doug Farnham, and Stephanie Magnan. Those attending virtually: Michelle Kersey.

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:

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Jack Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the amended agenda as follows:

1. Add to item #14 Executive Session: personnel and legal

APPROVE THE MINUTES:

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted to approve the May 24, 2022 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical corrections. Justin Bolduc abstained.

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.
- 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.
- Town departments are looking for summer help. Applications for full-time or part-time work with the Public Works, and Recreation Departments are being accepted. The DPW could really use two people for about three weeks to trim brush and cut tree limbs blocking visibility of road signs. The Town will consider applications for just this work. High school seniors, or other high school students who are at least 18 years old, are invited to apply. Contact the Town Manager’s Office for an application or for more information about any summer work.
- There are five Town Board and Commission vacancies. Please consider volunteering to serve on either the Cemetery Commission, Development Review Board, Recreation Board or Traffic Safety Advisory Committee, which has two open positions. For more information contact the Town Manager’s Office at 802-479-9331 or visit www.barretown.org and on the homepage, click on Boards and Commissions. Letters of interest by email or postal letters should be submitted to the Town Manager’s Office. Applications will be considered as received.

GUESTS:

Doug Farnham was present. Mr. Farnham inquired about the status of the Recreation Director position. Town Manager Carl Rogers shared his plan is to begin work on an advertisement for the Rec Director position this week.

CV REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Background: Stephanie Magnan is the Town’s representative to the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Transportation Advisory Committee. Sebastian Arduengo is the alternate. Mrs. Magnan has offered to attend a meeting and talk about the committee’s purpose and current projects and or priorities.

Stephanie Magnan was present. Ms. Magnan stated that The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) serves as a liaison between VTrans and the Town. The TAC serves in an advisory capacity to the Regional Planning Committee Board of Commissioners. Ms. Magnan spoke briefly regarding road surface management and Municipal Roads General Permits.

Conversation focused on Board members asking Ms. Magnan questions and inquiring about the status on current projects. Ms. Magnon shared her thoughts on the effectiveness of TAC and feels it is important to get input from the communities. In closing Board members thanked Mrs. Magnan for coming in and for the updates she was able to provide.

RT. 110 BRIDGE WATERLINE CONTRACT MATERIALS:

Background: Town Engineer Josh Martineau has worked with Robert Clark from OtterCreek Engineering to prepare a list of materials needed for the Rt. 110 bridge crossing and 60’ of pipe needed to complete the 8” waterline from the bridge to the pipe under the roundabout. The State’s bridge contractor will attach the water pipe to the bridge and lay the pipe and connect it to the pipe under Rt. 302.

Town Engineer Josh Martineau was present. Mr. Martineau shared that the lead time on steel is 10-12 months, and to have the materials available for construction the Town needs to purchase these items now.

On a motion by Justin Bolduc, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to award the Rt. 110 bridge waterline materials contract to Ferguson Water Works at a cost of \$44,475.

CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS (CLFRF):

Background: The Town is receiving \$2.3 million in federal funds to help our community recover from the impact of the pandemic has had and invest in the future. The Selectboard has invited public input on how to best spend the funds. The Board has had numerous discussions and gathered a list of priority items on how to best use the CLFRF funds. This agenda item is to continue this discussion.

Town Manager Carl Rogers shared the Town has received a few more requests/ideas for use of the CLFRF funds. He recommended the Selectboard focus on continuing to prioritize their list and continue to get estimates on projects.

The Board heard from Town Engineer Josh Martineau regarding additional ideas. Mr. Martineau identified the following needs:

- Remote flaggers
- Message Boards
- Old 302 Pump Station

Additionally, the Board discussed BOD samplers and flow meters as items previously listed as ARPA ideas. Mr. Martineau will move forward with getting an estimated price on the flow meters.

Michelle Kersey from Downstreet Housing was present. Ms. Kersey shared that Downstreet currently owns 500 apartment units and mobile homes, and a couple properties in Barre Town. Currently, Downstreet is working with Vermont Foundation of Recovery to convert a building into recovery housing for woman with children. The facility will be made available for women throughout the state of Vermont. Downstreet would then connect them with other resources such as The Turning Point and Washington Country Mental Health. Ms. Kersey shared the project has gone through traditional funding sources but due to the pandemic the cost increase has been on the rise. The project has a balance of \$76,000 needed to move forward for completion. Additionally, \$30,000 is needed to develop safety unit housing for anyone who may need to be removed from the facility. Board members thanked Ms. Kersey for her time and presentation. The item will be added to the list for future discussion and decision making.

Conversation continued as the Board discussed additional items that could be prioritized. Multiple items were opened back up for discussion. Those included the following:

- Wheelchair accessibility trails within the Town Forest
- 44 Brook Street bathroom facility
- Additional water source
- Electric car charging stations
- Shop generator

Town Manager Carl Rogers shared the Cemetery Commission passed along the idea of covering the cost of a Columbarium Niche, as they currently do not have enough funds in reserves for the construction of one. Board members felt the Town could fund this in other ways then through the use of ARPA funds.

The Board agreed to add the following items to the priority list: shop generator, remote flagger, and old 302 pump station.

TOWN FOREST PLAN:

Background: The Community Forest Plan was approved in February/March of 2013. The plan states it shall be updated at least every ten years. The purpose of this agenda item is to get acquainted with the Plan and begin the discussion about revising and rewriting the Plan.

It was noted the Town Forest Plan should be updated by February 2023. Town Manager Carl Rogers stated the conservation easement does not require updating.

Board member shared their suggestions on who should be involved on the rewriting of the Plan. Those recommendations included the Rec Board Director, a Rec Board committee member, Selectboard member, and citizens at large. The Board discussed County Forester Robert Nelson's involvement in the revisions of the forestry section and if this would be the best interest of the Town. Additional resources such as Caitlin Cusack from Vermont Land Trust and entities such as Millstone Trails Association and Disc Golf could be used to provide input for the revision of the plan.

Mr. Mitchell suggested he would like to see a 7-member diverse committee. Board consensus is to move forward with a 7-member committee. Town Manager Carl Rogers will provide a copy of the past Charge for Board members to review. This will be shared with those who are interested in serving on the committee. Applicants will be encouraged to familiarize themselves with the history of the Town Forest.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Selectboard Minutes of May 31, 2022 Continued:

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 24, 2022.

MISCELLANEOUS:

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve and authorize the Town Clerk to sign the Request to Cater Malt and Vinous/Spiritous Liquors for JWD Corporation, dba Gusto’s for an event to be held on June 4, 2022, 663 South Barre Road (Wilkins Harley Davidson).

ROUND TABLE:

Jack Mitchell:

- Mr. Mitchell inquired about the pavement construction on Websterville Road. He noted he hopes it’s a smooth transition this time around with the cutting being done around the railroad tracks.
- Mr. Mitchell noted there are two catch basins near Brook Street on the right-hand side filled with debris.

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 Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 8:27 p.m. for legal and personnel

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Jack Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 9:21 p.m.

ADJOURN:

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:21 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.