



# Town of Barre VERMONT

## BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING November 29, 2022

### AGENDA

1. Call to order.....6:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda
4. Consider approving November 7, and 15 special meeting minutes and November 15 regular meeting minutes
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
7. Interview applicant for Recreation Board
8. Consider approving Sno-Bees and Thunder Chickens snowmobile clubs’ request for trails to cross Town property or to ride along Town roads
9. Consider approving 5-year gravel road work plan
10. Consider approving winter road maintenance agreement with Orange
11. Consider approving contract for replacing furnace and hot water heater in 22 Wilson Street
12. Consider appointment to the Recreation Board
13. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for November 22 and 29
14. Miscellaneous, including licenses and permits if any
15. Round the table
16. Executive session: personnel, real estate
17. Adjourn

### MINUTES

The duly warned meeting of November 29, 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, W. John “Jack” Mitchell, and Bob Nelson (arrived at 6:28 p.m.).

**Selectboard Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Members Present:** Town Manager Carl Rogers, and Town Clerk Tina Lunt. Those attending virtually: Town Engineer Josh Martineau and Planning and Zoning Administrator Chris Violette.

**Others Present:** Anastasia Douglas, Dave Rouleau, and Times Argus Reporter Eric Blaisdell. Those present virtually: David Danforth

**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 Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted to approve the agenda as presented. Bob Nelson was not present for the vote.*

**APPROVE THE MINUTES:**

*On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted to approve the November 7, 2022 and November 15, 2022 special meeting minutes. Bob Nelson was not present for the vote.*

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted to approve the November 15, 2022 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical corrections. Bob Nelson was not present for the vote.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- We are accepting letters or emails from registered Town voters who would like to serve on the 2023 Budget Committee. The Committee will meet from the end of January to the end of March and review every Town fund budget. Participation on the Budget Committee is the most efficient means to learn about Town operations. Letters or emails will be accepted until December 29.
- On Monday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m. a film about last summer's Quarry Dance project will be played here, in our meeting room. After the approximately 45-minute film there will be time for questions and answers and discussion about the dance project. There is no charge to attend.
- Our former Deputy Health Officer was appointed Town Health Officer creating a vacancy in the Deputy position. The Deputy fills in for the Health Officer when the Health Officer is not available. Barre Town sees about a dozen Health Officer calls per year. For more information about the position contact the Town Manager's Office.
- The Vermont Homeowners Assistance Program, known as VHAP, is winding down. VHAP assists homeowners with their tax and utility bills if the homeowner suffered financial hardship because of the COVID-19 pandemic. If you or someone you know had a loss of income during the pandemic and has past due utility or property tax bills, visit the website for more information: [vermonthap.vhap.org](http://vermonthap.vhap.org). The program will stop taking applications in December. If you need help, act now.

**GUESTS: None.**

**RECREATION BOARD INTERVIEW:**

Background: The vacancy on the Recreation Board was created by Tyler Morse's resignation. Mr. Morse's term would expire on May 31, 2024. The Recreation Board meets the first Monday of the month. Advertisements and announcements for letters of interest stated applications received by November 23

Selectboard Minutes of November 29, 2022 Continued:

would be considered on November 29. One application was received and that applicant, Anastasia Douglas will be interviewed by the Selectboard.

Anastasia Douglas was present. Ms. Douglas shared that she has resided in Barre Town with her husband and three children for the past 3 years. She is a staff director at a lobbying firm. Ms. Douglas noted that she currently serves on the Disability Rights Vermont Board and has served on other municipality Boards in the past as well. She is looking for local opportunities. Ms. Douglas shared the Recreation Board has always been an interest to her as she enjoys the Town's recreational facilities and events. Additionally, she has a Master's in Environmental Law and noted this could be a resource to the Board.

Board members thanked Ms. Douglas her for her interest in serving the community.

### **SNO-BEES AND THUNDER CHICKENS' CLUB REQUEST TO USE TOWN ROAD:**

Background: Snowmobile clubs must have property owner permission to run a trail across private property. The Thunder Chickens and Sno-Bees snowmobile clubs cross numerous parcels of Town owned land. Permission to cross a road at a 90° angle is not required but riding on or along a road does require the Town's approval.

The Sno-Bees submitted the permission form. The form has one addition from last year, Lyman Road. If driving up Lyman Road, the snowmobile trail comes to the road at the top of the large field on the left. The trail crosses the road at an angle to a point near the Lyman Road turnaround.

Dave Rouleau President of the Thunder Chickens was present. The request is the same as last year. Town Manager Carl Rogers advised Mr. Rouleau of the Wilson Industrial Waterline project work that is being completed this winter. The Manager noted the Club will need to re-route its trail behind the work zone. Mr. Rouleau noted that signage will be added.

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the request by the Thunder Chickens to operate trails across town land with the conditions that trails be property signed with conditions; signing the Violette Street trail, signing any trail crossing a road at less than a 90 ° angle and the conditions listed in the Club's letter dated November 21, 2022.*

*On a motion by Justin Bolduc, seconded by Norma Malone the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Sno-Bees 2022-2023 request to operate trails across town land with conditions for the Sno-Bees would be signing road crossings and trails along roads per State law.*

### **2023-2028 5-YEAR GRAVEL ROAD PLAN:**

Background: Annually, the Selectboard reviews and approves the 5-Year Gravel Road Plan. This plan is one of the many tools used to craft the next fiscal year budget.

Town Engineer Josh Martineau was present virtually.

Town Manager Carl Rogers noted the only change to the plan is that Morgan Lane was moved up one year and this pushed Benoit Drive and Sherman Drive back one year.

*On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the 5-Year Gravel Road Plan for fiscal years 2024 to 2028.*

**TOWN OF ORANGE WINTER ROAD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT:**

Background: For several years Barre Town and Orange have had an agreement involving road maintenance on Partridge, Ladd, and Cutler Corner Roads that cross the Town line. The understanding of winter road maintenance has not changed.

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Winter Road Maintenance Cooperative Agreement with the Town of Orange, Vermont per the letter dated November 22, 2022 which the Chair will sign.*

**22 WILSON STREET FURNANCE AND HOT WATER HEATER:**

Background: The current year's Building Fund budget includes \$8,450 for a new furnace and \$3,520 for a new water heater in the day care building at 22 Wilson Street.

The Town has received two quotes for replacing the furnace and water heater. Brad Flowers Plumbing and Heating quoted \$9,344 for the furnace and \$2,259 for the water heater. Pro Heat quoted \$3,716 for the furnace and \$2,692 for the water heater. Flower's Plumbing and Heating's furnace quote is substantially more than Pro Heat's, however, they proposed two changes that Alfred Ladd thinks will make a big improvement in the comfort of the Town building.

Mr. Rogers shared additional information on the two proposed estimates the Town received. He noted that Mr. Ladd has worked with Flower's Plumbing and Heating and has confidence in their work. Additionally, he has concerns that the proposed heater with Pro Heat will not be large enough.

Board members were in agreement that Flower's Plumbing and Heating is a well-known company and is a better option for the building needs and improvements.

*On a motion by Justin Bolduc, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted to approve Brad Flowers Plumbing and Heating proposal for a furnace and hot water heater for the total purchase price of 11,603.00. Bob Nelson abstained.*

**APPOINTMENT TO RECREATION BOARD:**

Background: The resignation of Tyler More left a vacant seat on the Recreation Board. Anastasia has submitted a letter for consideration and the Selectboard has interviewed Ms. Douglas.

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to appoint Anastasia Douglas to the remainder of a 3-year term to the Recreation Board, said term to expire May 31, 2024.*

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:**

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrants for the week of November 22, 2022.*

Selectboard Minutes of November 29, 2022 Continued:

***On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted to approve the accounts payable warrants for the week of November 29, 2022. Bob Nelson abstained.***

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Clerk Lunt shared that she and Finance Director Katelyn Kran found two desks at State Surplus. These were purchased and installed by the Public Works crew this week.

**ROUND TABLE:**

Paul White:

- Chair White stated that the Town Forest Committee has met twice. Larry Rogacki was elected Chair and Jim West was elected Vice Chair. Washington County Forester Robert Nelson joined the November 21 meeting. The Committee has scheduled the following dates to meet: December 12 and 19 and January 16, 23, and 30<sup>th</sup>.

Bob Nelson:

- Mr. Nelson shared that the October EMS report noted that the calls in Berlin were up 18%. He suggested this is something the Board should keep an eye on.

Justin Bolduc:

- Mr. Bolduc asked the Manager if the purchase order for the poles went out? Mr. Rogers confirmed that it did.
- Mr. Bolduc inquired about the Quarry Hill property. In speaking with BAD, he suggested that Mr. Violette initiate a phone call.

Jack Mitchell:

- Mr. Mitchell asked Mr. Violette a technical question regarding the sizing of the images on the TV displays. He asked if these could be increased. Mr. Violette stated he is not sure if this is an option with the Microsoft Teams software, but he will look into the possibility of increasing the size of the TV display.

**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 7:08 p.m. for personnel and real estate.***

***On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 9:29 p.m.***

**ADJOURN:**

***On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Jack Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:29 p.m.***

**APPROVED MINUTES**

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Barre Town Selectboard

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Paul White, Chair

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Norma Malone, Vice Chair

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Justin Bolduc

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Jack Mitchell

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Bob Nelson

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

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