



Town of Barre VERMONT

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING March 7, 2023

AGENDA

1. Call to order.....8:02 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving February 28, 2023, meeting minutes
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
7. Joint meeting with Town Planning Commission to discuss S.100
8. Consider Town Charter amendments: a) elected auditors, and b). BCA reorganization meeting
9. Consider approving Rock of Ages unregistered vehicle road crossing permits
10. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for March 7, 2023
11. 'Round the table
12. Executive session, if needed
13. Adjourn

MINUTES

The duly warned meeting of March 7, 2023, was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 8:00 p.m.

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

Selectboard Members Absent: None.

Staff Members Present: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Clerk Jennifer Bushway, and Assistant Town Manager Chris Violette.

Others Present: Terry Reil, Chris Nedd, Byron Atwood, and Mike Gilbar, Cedric Sanborn, and George Clain.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair White called the meeting to order at 8:02 p.m.

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

APPROVE THE AGENDA:

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

1. Add personnel under item #12 Executive Session.

APPROVE THE MINUTES:

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the February 28, 2023 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical corrections.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Community Forest Management Committee's next meeting is this Monday, March 13th beginning at 6:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Municipal Building or attended remotely.
- The Barre Town Fire Department will be hosting their annual drive-thru rabies clinic on Saturday, March 11 at the Public Works Garage, 79 Pitman Road from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This dog and cat clinic welcomes residents from any town, the cost per vaccination remains at \$15.00. Please make sure that dogs are leashed, and cats are crated and that you have filled out an intake and consent form which can be found at barretown.org. The Barre Town Clerk's Office will be open from 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building to license Barre Town dogs.
- On Tuesday March 21st the Barre Town Recreation Department along with the Barre Town Middle and Elementary School will be hosting an open gym in the multipurpose room. This event runs from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and will focus on gross motor activities for elementary age children.
- The Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District will be holding a household hazardous waste collection on Saturday April 8th at the Public Works Yard at 79 Pitman Road. Eligible items include paints or stains without identifiable labels, paint thinners, cleaners that contain bleach etc. The cost is \$20 per vehicle, gates open at 9:00 a.m. and is available to Barre Town residents and residents of any member town.
- Barre City and Barre Town Recreation Department are hosting the annual Egg Hunt on Saturday April 8th starting at 10:00 a.m. at Rotary Park.
- The Town is seeking letters of interest to be mailed at PO Box 116 Websterville VT 05678 or emailed to offices@barretown.org to serve on the following regional boards or committees: Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission, Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District, CV Fiber and Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission's Transportation Advisory Committee.

GUESTS: None

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Background: The House and Senate have bills that substantially limit current zoning provisions within Chapter 117 of Title 24. The Planning Commission has been following this closely. The Senate version of Bill S.100 is the topic of this agenda item. There are many provisions within this bill that are troubling. The Planning Commission would like to discuss these items with the Selectboard and ultimately produce a joint letter that can be sent to the Governor.

Planning Commission members present: Cedric Sanborn, George Clain, Mike Gilbar, Byron Atwood, Mike Gilbar, and Terry Reil.

Planning Commission Chair Cedric Sanborn was present. Mr. Sanborn stated that the Planning Commission has discussed S.100. This bill is designed to address the projected housing shortage by 2030. Local zoning is a major part of this bill. The State has mandated zoning requirements and to address parking requirements. Mr. Sanborn expressed these requirements work for urban areas but cannot be compared to what the needs are for Barre Town, noting the mandates will cause a loss of local control. Additionally, the parking requirements being proposed are concerning for Barre Town. Mr. Sanborn stated the Planning Commission also has concerns around Act 250, and the significant cost in permit fees.

Mr. Sanborn recommends the Selectboard and Planning Commission send a joint letter to the Senate Committee. Secondly, he suggested a letter be written to the Governor for his staff to review from a municipal point of view. Lastly, Mr. Sanborn thought it would be beneficial if someone from the Selectboard or Town Office testified on behalf of Barre Town.

Conversation continued as Board and Planning Commission members shared their concerns with the bill. Ideas were shared on how to ensure Barre Town is well represented. Town Manager Carl Rogers recommended a press conference to help get the word out about S.100. The Planning Commission will draft a copy of a letter to the Governor to be completed by March 15, 2023.

CHARTER CHANGE:

Background: During last week's meeting the Board requested additional time to review and discuss the two Charter change amendments. There are two amendments needed. One of the amendments is regarding the abolishment of the Office of the Auditor. Secondly, an amendment is needed regarding the Board of Civil Authority, Section 6. Last week the Board provided feedback for Town Attorney Mike Monte to review.

Town Attorney Mike Monte provided the Board with draft language for review.

Conversation began as Board members discussed the amendment regarding the abolishment of the Office of the Auditor. Discussion focused on the language of the article, noting there would need to be a reference stating, "pursuant to Section 10F of the Barre Town Charter" Board consensus is to go with the proposal to vote to abolish the Office of Auditor, but not to remove the language of the Auditor until next year.

The Board approved the language that Town Attorney Mike Monte proposed for Section 6, Board of Civil Authority.

ROCK OF AGES UNREGISTERED VEHICLES

Background: Rock of Ages has 15 vehicles or equipment items that are too large to be registered for use on the road. However, Rock of Ages may need to operate these vehicles/equipment across Town roads to get from one work area to another. State law requires the vehicle/equipment owner to get permits to cross specific roads. This year Rock of Ages asks for a permit to cross at seven locations listed on the permit forms. The locations are the same as last year.

Selectboard Minutes of March 7, 2023 Continued:

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve Rock of Ages fifteen permits to operate an unregistered vehicle across a Town highway and authorize the chairman to sign the permits.

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 March 7, 2023.

Mr. White noted the wide variations in the sewer bills from the City. A discussion took place regarding this being due to BOD.

MISCELLANEOUS: None

ROUND TABLE:

Paul White:

- Chair White asked the Town Manager if he had heard anything more regarding the Opioid settlement. Mr. Rogers said he will check in with the City Manager.
- Chair White inquired as to whether the Board would like to interview the four Planning Commission applicants. Board consensus is to wait until the Budget Committee has finished meeting. Interviews will be scheduled April 4th and 11th.
- Chair White inquired about the regional board vacancies. He asked if the incumbents wanted to be reappointed. The Manager stated a number of them did not want to be reappointed. The Town will need a CVRPC, CVRPC Transportation Advisory Committee and CV Fiber representative.

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 9:44pm. for personnel.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to exit executive session at 9:59p.m.

ADJOURN:

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:59p.m.

APPROVED MINUTES

Barre Town Selectboard

Paul White, Chair

Norma Malone, Vice Chair

Selectboard Minutes of March 7, 2023 Continued:

Justin Bolduc

Jack Mitchell

Bob Nelson

Filed in the Barre Town Clerk's Office on this _____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST: _____, Barre Town Clerk.