



**BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING  
March 5, 2024**

**AGENDA**

- 1. Call to order.....5:00 p.m.
- 2. Pledge of allegiance
- 3. Consider approving the agenda.
- 4. Consider approving February 27, 2024, meeting minutes
- 5. Announcements
- 6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
- 7. Discuss CVSWM’s request to host a Household Hazardous Waste Collection in April
- 8. Discuss potential FY’25 ARPA purchases.
- 9. Consider approving Letter of Support of Barre City’s Prospect Heights Housing Development Grant Application
- 10. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for March 5, 2024
- 11. Miscellaneous, including licenses and permits, if any
- 12. Round the Table
- 13. Executive Session: contracts (action possible)
- 14. Adjourn

**MINUTES**

The duly warned meeting of March 5, 2024, was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 5:00 p.m.

**Selectboard Members Present:** Paul White, Norma Malone, Justin Bolduc, Bob Nelson, and Mike Gilbar.

**Selectboard Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Members Present:** Town Manager Chris Violette, EMS Director David Danforth and Assistant Town Clerk Catherine Whalen.

**Others Present:** Times Argus Reporter Eric Blaisdell

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair White called the meeting to order at 5:00 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.*

- 1. Item #13 Executive Session: add personnel.
- 2. Item # 13 Executive Session: remove action possible

**APPROVE THE MINUTES:**

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the February 27, 2024, Selectboard meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical corrections.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- The Barre Town Fire Department will be hosting their annual drive-thru rabies clinic on Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at the Public Works garage located at 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 is \$20.00. Please make sure that dogs are leashed and that cats are crated, and that you have filled out an intake and consent form which can be found at [www.barretown.org](http://www.barretown.org). The Barre Town Clerk's Office will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building to license Barre Town dogs.
- We are currently recruiting for a mechanic in our Public Works Department. This position is permanent, full-time and will focus on maintaining the Town's vast fleet of passenger vehicles and heavy equipment. If interested, call the Town Manager's office at (802) 479-9331 or visit [www.barretown.org](http://www.barretown.org).
- Dog license renewals are due before April 1st. If your dog has been licensed before in Barre Town, you should have received a renewal notification. If your dog hasn't been licensed before in Barre Town and is at least 6 months old, it must be licensed by the Town Clerk before April 1st. Valid rabies certificate must either be on file or provided with the renewal or new license. Contact the Town Clerk's Office for more information at (802) 479-9391.

**GUESTS:** None.

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION:**

**Background:** In what has become an annual tradition, the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District is seeking permission to hold a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, at the DPW truck garage, 129 Websterville Road. The event would be like previous years, using the revised traffic pattern implemented at last year's bulk trash. The event runs from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

*On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the use of the DPW yard, 129 Websterville Road, by the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District for a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.*

**FY'25 ARPA PURCHASES:**

**Background:** The purpose of this agenda item is to discuss potential ARPA funded (fund balance) purchases in FY25. The reason that this is important is that these purchases will come after the upcoming declaration that all funds have been spent. This discussion explored how to handle the numerous purchases the Town desires to put under the ARPA umbrella in FY25

Selectboard Minutes of March 5, 2024, Continued:

The Manager noted items committed but not secured by a purchase order that include: upgrade to the emergency communication radio system; remaining work to install the baseball field lights; construction of a police garage; building needs assessment; and the FEMA match money.

Board discussion focused on how to handle the various purchases as well as updates on projects.

Mrs. Malone inquired about moving the ARPA funds to fund balance, noting this will fall over multiple Funds. Mr. Violette questioned if funds could be moved to the Ambulance Fund. Bob Nelson and Mike Gilbar prefer keeping all ARPA expenses in one place. The Manager will investigate the possibility of placing the expenses in a separate article to avoid negative impacts on the budget.

The Board discussed the need for a facility needs assessment. Adjustments were made to the Building Fund. Mrs. Malone suggested spreading this work over 2 fiscal years as this is not a budgeted item.

This item will be on next week's agenda for further discussion.

### **SUPPORT LETTER FOR PROSPECT HEIGHTS GRANT APPLICATION:**

This item was added to the agenda on March 4<sup>th</sup>. The agenda was updated but the Selectboard packets were not. The BADC had formerly requested the letter of support, but the City of Barre has taken over the project. The initial application was denied, requiring a new letter.

*On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the selectboard unanimously approved a motion to send a support letter, to be authorized and signed by Selectboard Chair, Paul White, for the Prospect Heights Grant Application.*

Norma Malone asked whether other letters of support were sought, but that was unknown.

### **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 1, 2024.*

Mrs. Malone pointed out that the December Green Mountain Power charge in the ledger that was included in the calculation for the Barre City Sewer bill appears to have been paid twice. Barre City will owe Barre Town a credit for the overcharge.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** None.

### **ROUND TABLE:**

Chris Violette: The Town is having tax sales this Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Two of the four properties have been withdrawn because payment requirements were satisfied.

Mike Gilbar:

- Mr. Gilbar wanted to set a date for Bulk Trash. It is traditionally held the second Saturday in May. No further discussion was had.

Bob Nelson:

- A new ARPA list of expenditures was requested to ensure that there is a fresh list for the Board’s files.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

*On a motion by Justin Bolduc, seconded by Mike Gilbar, 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 Justin Bolduc, seconded by Mike Gilbar, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 5:50 p.m. for personnel and contracts.*

*On a motion by Bob Nelson seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to exit executive session at 6:00 p.m.*

*On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by, Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to recess the meeting at 6:00 p.m.*

Chair White reconvened the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

*On a motion by Justin Bolduc, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 8:10 p.m. for personnel and contracts.*

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to exit executive session at 8:39 p.m.*

**ADJOURN:**

*On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:39 p.m.*

APPROVED MINUTES

Barre Town Selectboard

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul White, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Justin Bolduc, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Norma Malone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Gilbar

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Nelson

Filed in the Barre Town Clerk’s Office on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

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