

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA

November 9, 2021

- P.I.L.O.T. Visit with BUUSD Superintendent.....6:00 p.m.
1. Call to order.....6:30 p.m.
 2. Pledge of Allegiance.
 3. Consider approving agenda.
 4. Consider approving November 2 meeting minutes.
 5. Announcements.
 6. Receive guests for non-agenda items.
 7. Consider provisional acceptance of Alex Drive.
 8. Consider authorizing purchase of digital audio-visual equipment for meeting room.
 9. Consider authorization to close gravel section of Sterling Hill Road.
 10. Consider approving cooperative winter road maintenance arrangement with the Town of Orange.
 11. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants for November 9, 2021.
 12. Miscellaneous, including licenses and permits, if any.
 13. 'Round table.
 14. Executive session: personnel
 15. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES

November 9, 2021

The duly warned meeting of November 9, 2021 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 6:00 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Norma Malone, W. John "Jack" Mitchell (arrived at 6:17 p.m.), Justin Bolduc, Paul White, and Bob Nelson (arrived at 6:23 p.m.)

Attendance for the regular meeting: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang, and Town Clerk Tina Lunt.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

APPROVE THE AGENDA

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the agenda as amended:

1. *Add to item #14, Executive Session: contracts*

MINUTES

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the November 2, 2021 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical corrections.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✓ Barre Town is now accepting application for a full-time, year-round Public Works Person. Tasks include maintenance and construction related to roads, drainage, sewer, water, and buildings. The starting hourly rate is \$22.28, depending on amount of related experience. More information about the position and the excellent benefits are at barretown.org. Applications are due by 4:00 p.m. Thursday, November 18.
- ✓ The Barre Town Lawn Waste Site will be open on November 13, and possibly November 20, depending on the weather.
- ✓ Now through April 1, overnight parking on Town streets between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. is not allowed, regardless of weather.
- ✓ The second installment of property taxes are due on November 15.

Selectboard Minutes of November 9, 2021 Continued:

- ✓ The Town seeks to fill several service positions, including a vacancy on the Cemetery Commission, a vacancy on the Housing Advisory Committee, and the Deputy Health Officer position. For more information, visit barretown.org or call the Town Manager's Office at 479-9331.
- ✓ COVID vaccinations, whether first shot, second shot, or booster shot, for all eligible ages, including children aged 5-11, are available. You can make an appointment by going to healthvermont.gov and clicking on the link, COVID-19 vaccine. Note that there's a daily vaccine clinic organized by the Barre Town and Waterbury EMS Department at the Berlin Mall.

GUESTS – NONE

ALEX DRIVE – PROVISIONAL ACCEPTANCE

Background: Fecteau Homes requests formal provisional acceptance of Alex Drive. The Selectboard, along with Town Engineer Josh Martineau completed a site inspection on Monday, November 8.

Jim Fecteau was present.

Town Manager Carl Rogers stated Fecteau Residential has turned in various road test results. Town Engineer Josh Martineau is requesting the Town grants provisional acceptance.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to grant provisional acceptance of Alex Drive, with the understanding Fecteau Residential will be responsible for winter maintenance during the 2021-2022 winter.

DIGITAL AV SYSTEM

Background: The Town has met several times now regarding the plans to upgrade its audio-visual system in the Selectboard meeting room. Board members have narrowed down the necessary components and preferences on a new upgraded system. Based on capabilities, features and ability to expand the system Board members favor the Fuzzbuzz equipment. Prior to purchasing the equipment, the Selectboard asked that CVTV and Fuzzbuzz Technologies, Inc. communicate regarding system capabilities and that the Town receives an opinion from an electrician regarding the electrical work.

Tony Campos from CVTV was present for the discussion.

Mr. Campos stated that after his meeting with Fuzzbuzz Technologies, Inc. he is confident they can work with the proposed equipment and that Fuzzbuzz Technologies are meeting all CVTV's required guidelines. Mr. Campos requested the Hoard's support in a request letter he is planning to submit for a contract between CVTV and Charter Communications, regarding a dedicated fiber line for Barre Town.

Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang shared an update on the electrical work. Ms. Wang noted Benoit Electric provided the Town with a conservative estimate of \$5,500 and are available to do the work.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the purchase and work by Fuzzbuzz Technologies, Inc. based on their proposal dated November 2, 2021.

CLOSING SECTION OF STERLING HILL ROAD

Background: Any time a road is closed Selectboard authorization is required. Practice has been that the gravel section of Sterling Hill Road close for the winter because of the very steep grade. In prior years a date certain for the road was set however, in past years it has been to keep it open as long as possible and let the DPW Superintendent close it when needed and ideally keep it closed for the remainder of the winter.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Norma Malone, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the DPW Superintendent to close the gravel section of Sterling Hill Road when needed due to ice/or snow and to keep it closed until next spring when the Superintendent thinks it can be re-opened. Except, the Superintendent may re-open the section of road if snow and/or ice will be short-lived.

WINTER ROAD MAINTENEANCE ARRANGEMENT WITH TOWN OF ORANGE

Background: The arrangement between Barre Town and Town of Orange has been in place since Culter Corner Road was paved. After Cutler Corner was paved Barre Town was sending a sand truck out Cutler Corner to reach Ladd Road. Orange must plow and sand its section of Ladd Road. Barre Town needs to plow and sand Partridge Road. Last year’s agreement letter was shared with the Board.

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Chairman to sign a letter stating the cooperative winter road maintenance arrangement with the Town of Orange.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrants for the week of November 9, 2021.

MISCELLANEOUS

Town Clerk Tina Lunt inquired about the Local Democracy Towns Internship Program that UVM is hosting. Mrs. Lunt is seeking the Selectboard’s thoughts and opinions around this program and how it could benefit the Town. Board discussion focused on possible projects for the intern and if the program would be useful or not to the Town office. Mrs. Lunt will share the opportunity at the next department head meeting.

‘ROUND TABLE

Mr. Bolduc inquired about the sandbags that were placed near the storm drains at the bottom on Sterling Hill. Town Manager Carl Rogers stated the sandbags were placed there 10 days ago, due to a mysterious foam that was coming out of the sewer manholes. Town Engineer Josh Martineau and Public Works were called out to inspect the problem. Mr. Martineau and an individual from the State traced the foam back to a Wilson Industrial Park manhole near Vermont Creamery however, they were unable to pinpoint what the foam was or what may have caused it. Mr. Martineau is working with a sewer consulting engineer to help identify what may have happened.

Mr. Bolduc noted the freshly painted restroom doors at the recreation area. He added that someone has put duct tape on the fresh paint.

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 7:19 p.m. for personnel and contracts.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Justin Bolduc, the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session at 9:30 p.m.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Norma Malone, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:31 p.m.

Tina Lunt, Town Clerk

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard