

**MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2013**

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Barnet Town Clerk's Office.

Board members present: Selectmen Theodore Faris, Jeremy Roberts, and Gary Bunnell.

Meeting Chair: Co-Chair Theodore Faris presided as Chair for this meeting.

Others present: Road Foreman Keith Gadapee, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, and Shelli Gadapee.

1. Approved minutes of regular meeting held December 17, 2012

Mr. Bunnell moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held December 17, 2012. Seconded by Mr. Roberts and approved by voice vote.

2. 2013 tax anticipation note bids

The Board reviewed bids for tax anticipation borrowing for calendar year 2013. Bids received from Community National Bank, Merchants Bank, Passumpsic Savings Bank, and Union Bank. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Bunnell moved to accept the bid of Passumpsic Savings Bank for a line of credit of \$620,750 at a rate of 0.92%. Seconded by Mr. Roberts and approved by voice vote.

3. Discussion regarding 2012 TransCanada Hydro Northeast tax appeal

Mr. Faris read two items of correspondence relating to this appeal:

- A letter from the Law Offices of Salmon & Nostrand regarding a representation agreement for Salmon & Nostrand's representation of the Town of Barnet in this appeal. Mr. Faris reviewed an attached copy of the agreement, and noted that he had signed this agreement and it was returned to Salmon & Nostrand on December 19, 2012. Also accompanying this letter was a scheduling order from the Superior Court regarding the scheduling of events connected with this appeal.
- A carbon copy of a letter from Salmon & Nostrand to George E. Sansoucy, also enclosing a copy of the scheduling order, and discussing arrangements for Mr. Sansoucy's appearance as an expert.

4. Appearance by Road Foreman Keith Gadapee regarding Highway Department matters

Mr. Gadapee appeared to discuss several matters relating to the Highway Department:

- **Dump-Lok.** Mr. Gadapee presented a specifications sheet for a safety device designed to lock open the dump bodies of dump trucks. These have a cost of \$800-\$900; Mr. Gadapee recommends that the Highway Department purchase a pair. Discussion ensued.
 - Mr. Roberts moved to approve this purchase. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.
- **Leftover values.** Mr. Gadapee asked if the Board, for budgetary purposes, would like him to report to them the value of items purchased in 2012 but remaining in stock at the end of the year.
 - The Board indicated that it is not necessary for Mr. Gadapee to report these numbers.
- **Winter maintenance of light-traffic Class 3 roads.** Mr. Gadapee asked if the Board would like the Highway Department to perform less or lower priority maintenance on Class 3 roads with light traffic, such as Bony Woods Road.
 - The Board indicated that the Highway Department should give these roads lower priority during winter maintenance.

- **Public reaction to smaller Highway Department workforce.** Mr. Gadapee asked if the Board has heard negative feedback from residents regarding the level of winter maintenance service provided this season because the road crew is operating with one fewer employee.
 - The Board indicated that it has not heard negative feedback.
- **Tailgate sander.** Mr. Gadapee discussed a pick-up truck tailgate sander that the Town owns but does not use. Another local town has asked if Barnet would give it to them. Discussion ensued.
 - The Board agreed to not give this sander away, but to retain it for possible future use for parts.
- **Record keeping review.** Mr. Gadapee reviewed the various record-keeping he performs to track Highway Department personnel time, equipment maintenance, etc. to determine what information the Board would like him to continue to collect.
- **2010 Bridge Report.** Mr. Gadapee discussed his recent review of the State of Vermont's 2010 inspection report on the Town of Barnet's bridges. There are numerous bridges that require repair soon. Mr. Gadapee would like to pursue a Vermont Agency of Transportation Structures Grant for one of these bridges in 2013.
- **Capital Expenditures Plan.** Mr. Gadapee presented a proposed plan for replacement of trucks and equipment in the Town's fleet, to commence discussion on planning for future purchases. Discussion ensued.

5. Discussion regarding 2013 budget

The Board and Mr. Gadapee discussed the 2013 Highway Department Expenditures budget at length, and the Board finalized the 2013 Selectmen's Budget.

6. Other business

- **Appearance by Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden.** Ms. Warden discussed two matters with the Board: 1) An appeal to be heard at an upcoming Planning Commission & Zoning Board hearing. 2) Several stale-dated checks in payment of zoning fees, which Ms. Warden recently found in her files. The Board agreed to instruct Ms. Warden to retain these checks in her files and not to pursue reimbursement to the Town for these fees.

7. Discussion regarding personnel matters (executive session)

- Mr. Roberts moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 9:10 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Mr. Faris, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Bunnell, Mr. Gadapee, Mr. Heisholt, and Shelli Gadapee.
- Mr. Roberts moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 9:20 p.m.
- Mr. Roberts moved to extend to Keith Gadapee the Worker's Compensation-related benefit offered in Section IV, Part G. of the Personnel Policy for longer than the 30 days established in the Personnel Policy.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Roberts moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk