

**MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 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: Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt.

1. Approve minutes of regular meeting held January 14, 2013

Mr. Roberts moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held January 14, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

2. Appearances by members of the public

There were no appearances by members of the public.

3. 2013 budget discussion

The Board concluded discussions with Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt regarding the 2013 budget. Board agreed on finalized budget with appropriations requests of \$604,636 for the Selectmen's budget and \$529,700 for the Highway Department budget.

4. 2013 Town Meeting warning

Mr. Faris read the proposed 2013 Town Meeting warning as prepared by Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt. This warning is the same as the previous year's, except that Articles 21, 22, 23, and 24 on the 2012 warning do not appear on the 2013 warning, and the appropriation request for Calx Ambulance Service is increased from \$7,160 on the 2012 warning to \$17,050 on the 2013 warning.

- The Board signed the warning as presented.

5. Correspondence from George E. Sansoucy, PE, LLC regarding TransCanada tax appeal

The Board reviewed a copy of a letter from Sansoucy to Richard Coutant, Esq. containing a detailed discovery request.

6. Correspondence from Caledonia County Sheriff's Office regarding 2013 patrol contract

Mr. Faris read the contract having a term of January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013 for the Caledonia County Sheriff's Department to provide the Town with police services including the aggregate amount of six hours per week from June 1 to October 31 and four hours per week from November 1 to May 30. Town expense for contract includes officer time at the rate of \$30.00 per hour, and court time at the rate of \$30.00 per hour.

- The Board agreed to enter the agreement; Mr. Faris signed the contract.

7. Correspondence from Cartographic Associates, Inc. regarding GIS Services Maintenance Agreement

The Board reviewed the proposed agreement between Cartographic Associates, Inc. and the Town of Barnet concerning the delivery of user support for listers' Query Manager GIS software. The cost to the Town for this support is \$500.00. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to enter the agreement and signed the contract.

8. Discussion regarding legal expenses for Board of Trustees

Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt indicated that he received a request from the Board of Trustees of Public Funds for the Selectmen to authorize legal expenses for the Trustees to speak with Town Agent Jay Abramson regarding developing a policy for trust fund disbursements. Discussion ensued.

- The Board instructed Treasurer Heisholt to forward the original Esden Fund trust documents to Town Agent Abramson for his review to determine who has the authority to expend the trust's funds.

9. Copy of correspondence from Board of Auditors to School Board

Mr. Faris read the copy of a letter from the Board of Auditors to the School Board, which makes inquiries and suggestions regarding accounting practices and fiscal management arising from the Auditors' annual review of the School District's records.

10. Correspondence from Vermont Superior Court, Caledonia Unit regarding annual account of Harriet S. Palmer Trust

Mr. Faris read the notice of a hearing for review of this trust fund to be held February 13, 2013 at 11:30 a.m. at the Probate Court.

11. Correspondence from Vermont Department of Taxes regarding Property Valuation & Review (PVR) annual report

The Board reviewed cover letter and 2013 PVR Annual Report, containing statewide information regarding property values and taxes for the 2012 tax year.

12. Budget Committee meetings to be held January 30, 2013

Mr. Faris read the warning for Budget Committee meetings to be held at the Town Clerk's Office at 7:00 p.m. to review the proposed 2013 budget of Town of Barnet, and 7:30 p.m. to review the proposed fiscal year 2014 budget of the Barnet School District.

13. Other business

- **Passumpsic Village Store sale.** Town Clerk Heisholt provided an update on the status of the real estate transaction involving the Passumpsic Village Store.

14. Outstanding check warrants

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

15. Discussion regarding legal proceedings (executive session)

- Mr. Roberts moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:15 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Mr. Faris, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Bunnell, and Mr. Heisholt.
- Mr. Roberts moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:50 p.m.
- No action taken

16. Adjournment

Mr. Roberts moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk