

**MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT  
MONDAY, MAY 13, 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 Jeremy Roberts presided as Chair for this meeting.

**Others present:** Road Foreman Keith Gadapee, Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt, Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden, Dennis McLam, and David Warden.

**1. Approve minutes of regular meeting held April 22, 2013**

Mr. Faris moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held April 22, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

**2. Appearances by members of the public**

- a. David Warden regarding Town Hall renovations.** Mr. Warden stated that he would like to be involved in the Town Hall renovations when they commence.

**3. Discussion regarding mowing of Harvey's Lake Beach field**

Mr. Roberts read a letter from Beach Committee Chairman Robert Zita. Mr. Zita advises against haying this field because haying would require operating heavy equipment over the mound septic system, which is discouraged by the engineer. The letter also includes a recommended expanded scope of landscaping work, including mowing of this field and additional maintenance at the beach area, for which Mr. Zita advises that the Board conduct a formal bidding process to select a contractor. Dennis McLam, who presently maintains the beach area, appeared. Mr. McLam suggested that he continue to maintain the beach area as in the past for this season, and indicated that he is willing to also mow the field monthly, avoiding operating a tractor or other heavy equipment on the mound system. He preferred not to quote a total price for mowing the field, but suggested that the work likely could be done for \$35 or \$40 per mowing. The Board indicated that they had received a quote from J & B Property Maintenance to mow the field monthly for a total of \$300 for the season. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to:
  - Hire Dennis McLam to mow the field, and to continue maintaining the beach area as in past seasons; and
  - Request that Mr. Zita appear before the Board during 2014 budget planning to discuss potential expanded beach maintenance for next season; and
  - Request that the Beach Committee place a sign on the beach prohibiting the feeding of wildlife.

**4. Correspondence from elected First Constable Michael Bergeron**

Mr. Roberts read a letter indicating that Mr. Bergeron would prefer not to take office as Grand Juror and First Constable, for which he was elected at the 2013 Town Meeting, because he spends five months of the year in Florida. The letter also indicates that Mr. Bergeron would be willing to hold these positions until the next Town Meeting if filling them at this time would be a hardship for the town. Mr. Faris suggested that there is relatively little Constable business during the winter months when Mr. Bergeron is out of town, and therefore Mr. Bergeron may be able to hold this position despite his part-time residency. Mr. Faris agreed to speak to Mr. Bergeron about this matter.

## **5. Correspondence from Melanie Ouellette regarding naming of private right-of-way**

Mr. Roberts read a letter in which Ms. Ouellette expressed her disappointment in the method and result of the Board's April 22, 2013 decision to name the private right-of-way off Davidson Lane "Sky Farm Lane." Further, Ms. Davidson requests, on the basis of historical and geographical information, that her property retain a Davidson Lane address rather than being changed to a Sky Farm Lane address. Mr. Roberts then read a subsequent email from Ms. Ouellette, in which she indicated that she preferred that no decision be made in this matter prior to discussion with her. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to refer this matter to E911 Coordinator Shirley Warden.

## **6. Discussion regarding proposed Capital Assets Accounting Policy**

Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt discussed the professional audit conducted for fiscal year 2011, which included a finding that the Town does not have a Capital Assets Accounting Policy, and a recommendation that it develop and implement one. Mr. Heisholt presented his proposed policy, which is based upon a sample policy provided by auditors Mudgett, Jennett & Krogh-Wisner, P.C. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to adopt the policy proposed by Mr. Heisholt and signed the same.

## **7. Discussion regarding diesel fuel and heating fuel bidding**

Mr. Heisholt asked the Board if they would like to request bids for diesel and heating fuel during the 2013-2014 season (June 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014), or continue purchasing from Fred's Propane & Heating Oil at fluctuating rates based on rack prices. Mr. Faris spoke regarding his communications with Kermit Fisher of Fred's Propane. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to not request bids at this time, but to continue to purchase these products from Fred's Propane & Heating Oil at fluctuating rates.

## **8. Discussion regarding reserve fund bank accounts**

Mr. Heisholt indicated that the reserve fund account held at Wells River Savings Bank, with a current balance of \$187,134, is currently paying interest at a rate of 0.40% annual percentage yield (APY). Although this account was earning more than 1.00% when it was first opened, the rate steadily declined thereafter, and has been at the present rate for more than a year. Mr. Heisholt recommends that the Town transfer the balance of this account to the reserve fund account held at Passumpsic Savings Bank, which is earning 0.95% APY - the same rate as when the account was opened. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed with Mr. Heisholt's recommendation to transfer the balance of the Wells River Savings Bank account to the Passumpsic Savings Bank account.

## **9. Correspondence from Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation regarding remediation of gasoline and kerosene contamination at 376 West Main Street**

Mr. Roberts read a cover letter and the Board reviewed the attached corrective action plan for remediating gasoline and kerosene contamination at this property.

## **10. Appearance by Road Foreman Keith Gadapee regarding Highway Department matters**

- MSHA inspection.** Mr. Gadapee indicated that the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) conducted an inspection of Barnet's gravel pit. The Town was issued no citations and two warnings.
- Winter sand screened.** Mr. Gadapee reported that sand screening is complete. Some sand remains to be hauled from the gravel pit to the Town Garage.
- Gilfillan Road reclaim.** Mr. Gadapee submitted a price quote from Pike Industries, Inc. for reclaiming Gilfillan Road. The total price is \$4,174.30. Discussion ensued regarding this project and other potential small road projects for this summer.
- Vermont Agency of Transportation grant application results.** Mr. Gadapee reported that the Town was awarded a Class 2 Roadway Grant for the West Main Street project and a

Structures Grant for a box culvert project on Anderson Street. It appears that grants for Passumpsic and Joe's Brook Road bridges will not be awarded. Discussion ensued regarding logistics of completing the work for the two awarded grants.

- The Board agreed to hire Mathews Excavating, the contractor who performed the work for the first part of the West Main Street project in 2012, to complete the project this year.
  - With regard to the Anderson Street box culvert project, the Board agreed to allow Mr. Gadapee to discuss the scope of the project and hire at an hourly rate one of the four following excavation contractors: C & C Bunnell Excavating, LLC, Kenneth Bunnell & Sons, Kirk Fenoff & Son Excavating, and Mathews Excavating.
  - Also with regard to the Anderson Street box culvert project, the Board agreed to allow Mr. Gadapee to discuss the scope of the project and hire at an hourly rate one of the three following concrete contractors: Bob's Construction, Andy Cochran, and Ross Page Foundations, LLC.
- e. **Magnesium chloride.** Mr. Gadapee reported that the Highway Department has received a delivery of magnesium chloride, along with the equipment for application. Innovative Surface Solutions will provide training for application tomorrow.
- f. **Gravel crushing bids.** Mr. Gadapee expects to have bids for gravel crushing to be opened at the next Board meeting, May 27, 2013.
- g. **Test holes at gravel pit.** Mr. Bunnell delivered to Mr. Gadapee two files containing data relating to test holes drilled at the gravel pit in the 1980s.

#### **11. Application of Joseph Dauphin for Highway Access Permit on Joe's Brook Road**

The Board reviewed this application for a continuous use driveway access. Mr. Gadapee reported on his inspection of the site, and recommended the approval of the permit with no requirement for a culvert. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to approve the permit and Mr. Roberts signed the same.

#### **12. Correspondence from Vermont Agency of Transportation regarding Class 2 Roadway Program and Structures Program standard grant agreements**

The Board reviewed the grant agreements for the West Main Street Class 2 Roadway Grant and the Anderson Street Structures Grant. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to sign the agreements and Mr. Roberts signed the same.

#### **13. Uniform Municipal Excess Weight Permit applications**

The Board reviewed and approved the applications of Edward Cadreact, Mike Lemieux Trucking, Inc., Donald Moore, Jr., and Darcy Nelson.

#### **14. Other business**

No other business was discussed.

#### **15. Outstanding check warrants**

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

#### **16. Adjournment**

Mr. Faris moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

*A true copy.*

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk