

**MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, JULY 8, 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, Roseann Leute, and John Leddy, Esq. (McNeil Leddy & Sheahan, P.C.).

1. Approve minutes of regular meeting held June 24, 2013 and special meeting held June 29, 2013

- Mr. Faris moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held June 24, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.
- Mr. Faris moved to approve as presented the minutes of the special meeting held June 29, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

2. Appearances by members of the public

Roseann Leute of the Barnet Historical Society (BHS) appeared to request the use of the Town Hall as an alternate location for a BHS event to be held August 17, 2013 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Goodwillie House will be used if there is good weather. Discussion ensued regarding use of water and handicap access at the Town Hall.

- The Board agreed to approve this request for use of the Town Hall.

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

- a. Seminar attendance.** Mr. Gadapee reported to the Board regarding his attendance at seminars about Better Backroads grant applications, and MSHA compliance.
- b. Better Backroads grant application.** Mr. Gadapee presented and discussed his application for a grant project on Somerhill Road. This project would upgrade one culvert, add one culvert, stone line a ditch, seed and mulch, and add splash pools to water outlets. It is proposed that this will resolve a problem that occurs each rain event wherein fines are washed into the ditch, resulting in a plugged culvert. The estimated total project cost is \$19,769.45, for which the grant amount of \$10,000 is requested. Discussion ensued.
 - The Board agreed to apply for this grant as per Mr. Gadapee's application, and Mr. Roberts signed the same.
- c. Anderson Street box culvert concrete contractor bids.** The Board reviewed bids as revised per the Board's request at their previous meeting. The bids were submitted as follows: AC Trades: \$11,190; Bob's Construction: \$12,880; Ross Page Foundations: \$10,850. Discussion ensued.
 - Mr. Faris moved to accept the bid of Ross Page Foundations. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.
- d. Anderson Street box culvert excavation contractor bids.** The Board reviewed bids, which were submitted as follows: C & C Bunnell Excavating: \$10,430; Kenneth Bunnell & Sons: \$3,680; Mathews Excavating: \$3,060. Discussion ensued.
 - Mr. Faris moved to accept the bid of Mathews Excavating. Seconded by Mr. Roberts and approved by voice vote.

- e. **Correspondence from Ruggles Engineering regarding Carter Street retaining wall.** The Board read an email and attached estimate for subsurface investigations and structural design, as requested by the Board at their previous meeting. Total estimated cost is \$5,475. Discussion ensued.
 - Mr. Faris moved to hire Ruggles Engineering to proceed with proposed engineering.
- f. **Flagger certifications.** Mr. Gadapee reported that flagger certification for all Highway Department employees has expired. These certifications require a training seminar to renew, and are valid for two years. Discussion ensued.
 - The Board agreed to instruct Mr. Gadapee to have one-half of the Highway Department receive the required training this year, and the other half next year.

4. Correspondence from residents of County Hill and Tripp Lane regarding paved portion of County Hill Road

Mr. Roberts read a letter from several residents complaining that County Hill Road does not receive equitable maintenance attention from the Town. Discussion ensued between the Board and Mr. Gadapee regarding the current condition of County Hill Road and future maintenance plans.

5. Discussion regarding UniFirst contract

The Board reviewed a proposed contract renewal and a copy of the current weekly invoice. The current contract will expire May 2014. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to table this matter.

6. Other business

- a. **Appearance by Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden regarding highway access permit.** Ms. Warden, who issues E911 numbers for locations with approved highway accesses, discussed the approved location of the access on Garland Hill permitted to Carl Doerner. Ms. Warden, the Board, and Mr. Gadapee agreed that the driveway was not installed where it was permitted. Discussion ensued.
 - The Board agreed that Mr. Bunnell, Road Commissioner, will meet with Mr. Gadapee and Mr. Doerner at the site to discuss this matter.

7. Appearance by Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden regarding Planning Commission & Zoning Board appointments

Ms. Warden reported that the terms of Kathleen Crown and William Biddle have expired. Both have agreed to serve another term and were nominated by the Planning Commission & Zoning Board.

- Mr. Faris moved to re-appoint Kathleen Crown and William Biddle. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

8. Discussion regarding legal proceedings (executive session)

- Mr. Faris moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 7:57 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Mr. Faris, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Bunnell, Mr. Heisholt, and Mr. Leddy.
- Mr. Faris 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.

9. Correspondence from Law Offices of Jay C. Abramson to Brendan and Kate Boardman (executive session)

- Mr. Faris moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Entered executive session at 8:50 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Mr. Faris, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Bunnell, and Mr. Heisholt.

- Mr. Faris moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 8:55 p.m.
- No action taken.

10. Correspondence from Karne Choling regarding renovations of library building

The Board read a cover letter and reviewed attached sketches describing the proposed construction of a wall to create a corner office on the second floor, which Karne Choling leases. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to allow the construction of the wall, with the condition that it is designed to be easily removed if necessary.

11. Animal licensing reports

The Board reviewed reports regarding licensed and unlicensed dogs, as submitted by Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt. Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to deliver the list of unlicensed dogs to Second Constable David Stevenson for enforcement of the dog ordinance.

12. Notice of Education Tax Rates for Fiscal Year 2014 from Vermont Department of Taxes

The Board read the notice indicating that the non-residential tax rate is to be \$1.4108 and the homestead tax rate \$1.4757.

13. Correspondence from Vermont Agency of Natural Resources regarding schedule of planned stewardship activities

Mr. Roberts read a cover letter and the Board reviewed details of activities to be performed in the upcoming field season at the Roy Mountain Wildlife Management Area.

14. Correspondence from United States Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regarding TransCanada Hydro Northeast Inc. incremental hydropower generation for production tax credit

The Board reviewed notices relating to TransCanada's application for a tax credit for efficiency improvements or capacity additions at Comerford and McIndoe Falls dams.

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 9:10 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk