

**MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 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, Brian Bedor, John Bishop, and Dakota Butterfield.

1. Approve minutes of regular meeting held August 26, 2013

Mr. Roberts moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held August 26, 2013. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

2. Appearances by members of the public

a. Brian Bedor regarding Town Forest Road. Mr. Bedor, a resident of Town Forest Road, stated a complaint regarding his opinion that maintenance of Town Forest Road has been neglected. Mr. Bedor indicated that there are two sections of the road that have deteriorated from paved to gravel condition, and that the road was not graded when the grader was there recently. Discussion ensued.

- The Board indicated that it has discussed Town Forest Road extensively this year, but has not yet determined the best course of action; full repair, including installation of drainage and paving, would be very costly.

b. Dakota Butterfield regarding County Hill Road. Ms. Butterfield, a resident of County Hill Road, appeared to discuss the Board's recent discussion and decision regarding this road. Ms. Butterfield requested clarification regarding the length of the paving project planned, and encouraged the Board to choose "Option #2," as presented by Road Foreman Keith Gadapee at the Board meeting of August 26, which was the more extensive paving plan. Discussion ensued.

- The Board clarified that the paving project estimates presented by Mr. Gadapee were based on a length of 450 feet.

c. John Bishop regarding West Main Street paving project. Mr. Bishop, who resides at the corner of West Main Street and Stevenson Road, appeared to inquire regarding the schedule for the West Main Street project, and whether the project will incorporate a sidewalk using Mr. Bishop's property, as discussed at prior Board meetings. Discussion ensued.

- Road Foreman Keith Gadapee indicated that the project plan does not incorporate a sidewalk, but will attempt to create a wider flat grassed area along the shoulder of the road on Mr. Bishop's property.

3. Correspondence from Mary Jane Egerton regarding County Hill Road

Mr. Faris read a letter and an email from Ms. Egerton regarding the Board's recent discussion and decision pertaining to County Hill Road. The letter encourages the Board to choose "Option #2" as presented by Road Foreman Keith Gadapee at the Board meeting of August 26. The email requests clarification regarding the length of the proposed project, and encourages the Board to repave the entire length of the road.

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

a. County Hill Road. Mr. Gadapee indicated that some of the work on County Hill Road has been completed as instructed by the Board at their previous meeting. Mr. Gadapee also suggested that a Caledonian-Record article relating to a proposed paving project on this road was unclear. Mr. Gadapee wished to clarify that both options presented by Mr. Gadapee to the

Board a) contained dollar amounts based solely on Mr. Gadapee's estimates, and b) were based on a project 450 feet in length.

b. Proposals from Vermont Recreational Surfacing. Mr. Gadapee presented and discussed a proposal for installation of guardrails at four locations. Two of these installations would be in conjunction with road construction projects: West Main Street (\$3,654) and Anderson Street (\$4,549). The two others would be new guardrail locations: Symns Pond Road (\$2,179), and Cloud Brook Road (\$4,949). Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to accept the proposal; Mr. Faris signed the same.

c. Magnesium chloride. Mr. Gadapee reported that he has been pleased with the performance of the magnesium chloride the Highway Department has used for dust control this year. This was the first year the Highway Department used this product.

d. Projects underway. Mr. Gadapee reported that the Anderson Street box culvert project, Somerhill Road drainage project, and West Main Street construction project have all been started and are progressing as planned.

5. Correspondence from United States Army Corps of Engineers

The Board reviewed a letter advising of Corps of Engineers regulations as they pertain to work in waterways and wetlands, Corps permitting process after natural disasters, and a new Corps Vermont office location.

6. Discussion regarding 2014 health insurance

Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt presented several documents relating to costs and coverage of the Town's current health plan and various plans available through Vermont Health Connect. As indicated by Tanya Chambers of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns at the Board's July 22 meeting, the Vermont Health Connect plan that most closely resembles the Town's current plan is the Platinum standard deductible plan. Mr. Heisholt indicated that based on the Town's current scenario (i.e. number of employees participating in plan, type of plan – single, couple, or family – utilized by participating employees, and the Town's payment of ninety percent of the premium) the total monthly cost to the Town for the Platinum plan would be \$7,716. The Town's monthly cost for its current plan is \$8,239. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Bunnell moved to contribute to premiums for ninety percent of the Platinum standard deductible plan for employee alone, employee and spouse, employee and child or children, and family. Seconded by Mr. Roberts and approved by voice vote.

7. Other business

a. Town Hall maintenance. Mr. Faris indicated that he has spoken with Town Hall Caretaker David Stevenson regarding a damaged window and a hazardous tree at the Town Hall. Mr. Stevenson has arranged for Charlie Somers to repair the window and cut down the tree. Mr. Faris requested that Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt call the owners of the property adjacent to the Town Hall to discuss entering their property with equipment for tree removal.

8. Outstanding check warrants

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

9. Adjournment

Mr. Roberts moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk