

**MINUTES - SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF BARNET, VERMONT
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 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, and Gail Aloisio (Northeastern Vermont Development Association).

1. Approve minutes of regular meeting held September 9, 2013

Mr. Faris moved to approve as presented the minutes of the regular meeting held September 9, 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. Appearance by Gail Aloisio of Northeastern Vermont Development Association regarding Municipal Planning Grant

Ms. Aloisio appeared to discuss submission of the grant discussed at prior Board meetings. The application is prepared for submission, pending a resolution to be executed by the Board (including appointment of an Alternate Authorizing Official). Discussion ensued.

- The Board agreed to appoint Gary Bunnell as Alternate Authorizing Official, and executed the resolution.

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

a. Anderson Street box culvert project. Mr. Gadapee reported that this project is complete, pending installation of guardrails by Vermont Recreational Surfacing & Fencing. The project was completed on schedule and according to plan.

b. West Main Street construction project. Mr. Gadapee reported that work commenced on this project on September 16, and it is progressing according to plan.

5. Discussion regarding 2014 health insurance benefit

Treasurer Benjamin Heisholt indicated that in discussing this matter at the previous Board meeting, two sub-sections of the personnel policy were not addressed. These two sub-sections were discussed at this meeting as follows:

- Section VI.B.1 pertains to a part-time employee benefit. The Town currently offers to pay 50% of the monthly premium for the policy chosen by the Town to employees working twenty to thirty hours and 75% to those working thirty to forty hours. No part-time employees currently enroll in the Town's health insurance benefit. The new legislation defines a full-time employee as working thirty or more hours per week. The Selectmen must determine if they will offer health insurance to any employees working fewer than thirty hours per week. Discussion ensued.
 - Mr. Faris moved to contribute to the premium of the Assistant Town Clerk for fifty percent of the Platinum standard deductible plan for employee alone, employee and spouse, employee and child or children, and family. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

- Section VI.B.2 pertains to a retiree health insurance benefit. The Town currently offers retirees of the Town who retire between the ages of 62 and 65 to retain their existing health insurance coverage through the Town, with the retiree paying the full premium. There are currently no retirees who participate in this benefit. Mr. Heisholt indicated that Tanya Chambers of the Vermont League of Cities & Towns advised that it would not be in retirees' interest to participate in such a benefit in 2014, because outside of Town insurance they may be eligible for federal subsidies. Discussion ensued.
 - Mr. Faris moved to repeal this sub-section of the Personnel Policy effective January 1, 2014.

6. Other business

- a. **Transfer Station & Recycling Center signs.** Mr. Roberts discussed correspondence received from the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District (NEKWMD), which indicated NEKWMD has experienced a surplus with which they plan to purchase signs for district transfer stations and recycling centers. These signs would indicate that the facility is associated with NEKWMD. Mr. Roberts reported that he instructed NEKWMD to not send Barnet a sign, as this would not be the most effective use of waste district funds.

7. Correspondence from Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District (NEKWMD) regarding closed landfill management requirements

The Board reviewed a letter from NEKWMD Executive Director Paul Tomasi and attached Procedure Addressing Completion of Post Closure Care for Solid Waste Disposal Facilities. These documents relate to the pending termination of the twenty-year Post Closure Care period and commencement of ensuing Custodial Care period. The most prominent feature of this shift is the cessation of the requirement to take monitoring samples. In the process of facilitating this shift, it was discovered that some of Barnet's sampling data is not in the Town's possession. Mr. Tomasi requested the Board's permission to contact the Agency of Natural Resources for results if Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt is unable to obtain them from the sampling laboratory. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Faris moved to give permission to Mr. Tomasi to inquire with the Agency of Natural Resources regarding results. Seconded Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

8. Discussion regarding Transfer Station fees

Mr. Heisholt discussed his recent conversations with Transfer Station & Recycling Center Supervisor Bruce Marston regarding some customers' confusion about pricing. Currently the Town charges \$2.00 for 30 gallon bags, and \$5.00 for 55 gallon bags; the Town receives many bags that are larger than 30 gallons but smaller than 55 gallons. Mr. Marston suggests that the Board add a category for 42 gallon bags at \$3.00. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Faris moved to add to the schedule of Transfer Station fees a category for 42 gallon bags at \$3.00 each. Seconded by Mr. Bunnell and approved by voice vote.

9. Other business

- a. **Appearance by Zoning Administrative Officer Shirley Warden regarding Planning & Zoning matters.** Ms. Warden appeared to discuss two matters:
 - i. **Passumpsic property clean-up.** Ms. Warden reported that the partially-demolished property that the Board has discussed several times in the past year has been fully demolished, and the site has been cleaned-up very well. Discussion ensued.
 - The Board requested that Ms. Warden send a thank you note to the owners of the property.
 - ii. **Planning Commission & Zoning Board (PC/ZB) resignation.** Ms. Warden reported that she has received a resignation letter from David White. Mr. White has indicated that he is willing to serve until the Board can appoint a replacement. Ms. Warden indicated that the PC/ZB has discussed two individuals as potential

replacements, and will make a recommendation to the Board soon. Discussion ensued.

10. Outstanding check warrants

The Board reviewed and approved all outstanding check warrants.

11. 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 7:40 p.m. Attendance in executive session: Mr. Faris, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Bunnell, and Mr. Heisholt.
- Mr. Bunnell moved to exit executive session. Seconded by Mr. Faris and approved by voice vote. Exited executive session at 7:58 p.m.
- No action taken.

12. Adjournment

Mr. Bunnell moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Faris and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk