

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA
January 5, 2010

PILOT: Budget Committee Interview

6:00 p.m.

1. Call to order 7:15 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving minutes from meeting of December 22 meeting
4. Announcements
5. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
6. Review results of 2009 equalization study
7. Consider resident's request for reimbursement of driveway improvements.
8. Consider TSAC recommendation for an ordinance reducing speed on designated roads (first reading).
9. Consider appointing Budget Committee members.
10. Consider approving AOT Construction Engineering Reimbursement Agreement.
11. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
12. Miscellaneous
13. 'Round the Table
14. Executive Session: real estate, personnel, and legal
15. Adjourn

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
January 5, 2010

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of January 5, 2010 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 7:01 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Jeffrey Gagne, Jeff Blow, Jeff Newton, Marion Fish, and William Wolfe.

REGULAR MEETING

Attendance for the regular meeting included: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna Kelty, Town Management Intern Kelly Houston, Town Engineer Harry Hinrichsen, Assessor Joseph Levesque, and Charles Castle.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

On a motion by Fish, seconded by Gagne, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Selectboard Meeting Minutes of December 22, 2009.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Barre Town provides residents with access to winter sand. Sand for public use is located just outside the DPW yard gate on Websterville Road. Stock up before winter conditions arrive. Availability is not guaranteed, especially during winter storm events. Don't wait for stock piles to diminish. Please help yourself to what is available and stay outside of the DPW gates to ensure safety and accountability.
2. Notice: It's time to file your HS-122 Homestead Declaration form.
3. Reminder: winter parking ban is in effect from 11:00 p.m. through 7:00 a.m.

ORDINANCE AMENDMENT - SPEED LIMITS (FIRST READING)

Background: The Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC) made several speed limit recommendations which are being presented as a first reading of an ordinance amendment. Chapter 7, Article IV, Section 7-61 changes include: 1) extending the 25 mph 200' south of Waterman Farm Road; 2) a speed reduction from 40 to 35 mph all the way to Waterman Farm Road, Waterman/Donahue Roads, and Short Street; and 3) to delete the combined listing of Waterman/Donahue Roads and to list each road separately.

A motion was made and withdrawn by Wolfe, seconded by Newton to advance the ordinance amendment to a public hearing (second reading).

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to read by title only "An Ordinance Of The Town Of Barre, Vermont, Amending Section 7-61 Of The Barre Town Code of Ordinances By Reducing Established Speed Limits."

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to advance "An Ordinance Of The Town Of Barre, Vermont, Amending Section 7-61 Of The Barre Town Code of Ordinances By Reducing Established Speed Limits" to a public hearing (second reading).

Budget Committee candidate Rolland Tessier was interviewed.

GUESTS - None

RESULTS OF THE 2009 EQUALIZATION STUDY

Background: Barre Town received notification the State's 2009 equalization study indicates our coefficient of dispersion (COD) is set at 12.53% and the common level of appraisal (CLA) is at 82.56%. The State will mandate a Town do a reappraisal once the CLA falls below 80%. Both COD and CLA calculations are favorable when compared to last year's numbers.

Selectboard Minutes of January 5, 2010 continued:

Barre Town has the opportunity to petition the Director of Property Valuation and Review for a redetermination of the equalized education property value (EPPV) and/or COD. The Assessor has determined the COD to be acceptable in most categories except for the commercial/miscellaneous category. His concern is associated with the Rock of Ages settlement and the impact it will have on the overall education Grand List. He recommends the Selectboard appeal the EPPV (\$700,194,000) as the Rock of Ages settlement could adversely influence this figure. The Board has 30 days to appeal; petitions must be received within 30 days of the Clerk's receipt of this report. The report is dated December 18, 2009 and was received on December 22nd.

Assessor Joseph Levesque was present and discussed the report with the Selectboard. The Assessor will work with the Manager to prepare the letter with specifics.

On a motion by Gagne, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Barre Town Assessor in conjunction with the Town Manager to issue a statement of appeal to the Director of Property Valuation and Review concerning the equalized education property value.

AOT CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT

Background: The Selectboard is being presented a reimbursement agreement associated with the Bridge Street bridge project. It is estimated it will cost \$7,900 to relocate sewer utilities (and manholes) during construction. This cost is absorbed by the Agency of Transportation (AOT); the Town is incurring no additional cost for this portion of the project.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Town manager to sign the Barre Town BRF 6100(7) Construction Engineering Reimbursement Agreement.

WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

A motion was made by Fish, seconded by Gagne, to approve the accounts payable warrant as presented. Blow and Newton abstained.

MISCELLANEOUS

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Gagne, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the following 2010 Alcohol and/or Tobacco Licenses:

- 1) 1st Class Liquor License for Canadian Club Inc.*
- 2) 2nd Class Liquor and Tobacco Licenses for M&M Beverage Centers*
- 3) 2nd Class Liquor and Tobacco Licenses for Graniteville General Store LLC*
- 4) 2nd Class Liquor and Tobacco Licenses for D&D Smokehouse Store & Deli.*

'ROUND THE TABLE

Gagne wished everyone a happy new year and requested a moment of silence for the two Bailey children who died in a fire.

Blow informed the public the Town received a letter from VTrans regarding the Selectboard's request to reduce the speed limit on U.S. Route 302 approaches to the

Selectboard Minutes of January 5, 2010 continued:

roundabout intersection with VT 110 and Cobble Hill. The Vermont Traffic Committee voted to retain the existing speed limits but also voted to repeal the No Parking Zone on the north side of U.S. Route 302 across from Roland's Mini Mart.

APPOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Selectboard interviewed the Budget Committee applicants this evening. The Selectboard will appoint two members, the Town Clerk one member, and the three (3) Budget Committee members appoint the final two members. Candidates are Jon VanGuilder, Paul Malone, Tracy Delude, Val Vallerand, Barry Stryker, Rolland Tessier, and Douglas Farnham.

The Town Clerk appointed Tracy Delude. By paper ballot the Selectboard appointed Jon VanGuilder and Rolland Tessier.

The meeting recessed at 7:38 p.m. and reconvened at 7:42 p.m.

REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT

Background: On December 15, 2009 the Town Engineer responded to a letter from Charles Castle (Skylark Terrace) requesting reimbursement for driveway improvements. The situation in question occurred when Mr. Castle was reconstructing his driveway. On the permit the Town Engineer made suggestions on how drainage could be improved, not citing cost of labor associated with the work. The contractor completed the work as recommended.

Mr. Castle feels the Town failed to address drainage issues when his road was repaved in the summer of 2000. At the time there was a provision made to upgrade the storm drain. No provision was made to improve the drainage pipe in the Castle's driveway. At the time the Town was unaware of existing driveway drainage issues.

The Engineer's letter states that "private driveways are the responsibility of the property owner." Mr. Castle is not satisfied with this answer and wishes to present his case before the Selectboard.

Charles Castle noted the following facts:

- ✓ The road was repaved and drainage work done within the last ten years
- ✓ During the drainage work period a drain pipe was replaced under his driveway as well as the installation of two catch basins (one on each side).
- ✓ The drain pipe was not perforated to allow ground water to enter the pipe and was covered with stay-mat.
- ✓ His property received water from Robin Drive, Skylark Terrace and the property developed behind his parcel
- ✓ There were drainage issues at the time of pipe replacement and catch basin installation.
- ✓ The contractor who did the reconstruction of Mr. Castle's driveway spoke with the Town Engineer about the recommended changes.
- ✓ Mr. Castle feels there have been continuous drainage issues and the drain pipe at the end of driveway should have been perforated 10 years ago during installation.

Selectboard Minutes of January 5, 2010 continued:

The Town Engineer presented an aerial photo to show the location, photos of the 2000 road reconstruction project, and a diagram showing the layout of drainage changes made during the 2000 reconstruction project. Hinrichsen stated that the Town normally bills the property owner if their driveway drainage pipe is replaced; Mr. Castle was not billed.

During the discussion the Manager stated the Town will perforate a drainage pipe if it is deemed necessary that excess ground water needs to be collected to prevent saturation of road beds, drainage ditches, and gullies. The Engineer concurred there is a lot of water in the area due to the high clay content in the soil.

Fish inquired if Mr. Castle had not fixed the drainage problem could it cause problems with the town road bed? The Engineer stated it is possible.

A motion was made by Gagne, seconded by Fish, to approve the \$500.00 driveway drainage improvement request of Charles Castle. The motion failed with Fish voting yes and Newton, Wolfe, Blow, and Gagne voting no.

Blow stated he appreciated the comment Mr. Castle had made earlier regarding approving his request and opening "Pandora's Box," and for that reason he did not support the motion.

MISCELLANEOUS (2)

Chair Blow informed the Board he attended the Barre City Council Meeting this past Tuesday. During the meeting the Semprebon Family presented Barre City and Barre Town with their bequeath (\$500,000.00 each).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Fish, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 8:15 p.m. to discuss real estate, personnel, and legal.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Gagne, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 9:12 p.m.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Gagne, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:12 p.m.

Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard