

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA
February 2, 2010

PILOT: Budget Committee: Appendices, Building, Cemetery & Sewer Funds 6:30 p.m.

1. Call to order 8:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving minutes from meeting of January 26 meeting
4. Announcements
5. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
6. Consider authorization to order police car through State contract.
7. Consider approving deed for Pitman Road extension.
8. Consider approving 2010 highway mileage certificate.
9. Discuss financing for Vactor purchase; closing agreement with Barre City.
10. Discuss school cost-sharing.
11. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
12. Miscellaneous: alcohol & tobacco licenses
13. 'Round the Table
14. Executive Session: (if needed)
15. Adjourn

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
February 2, 2010

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of February 2, 2010 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, Lower Websterville at 8:10 p.m.

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

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 8:10 p.m.

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

MINUTES

On a motion by Fish, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Selectboard Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2010.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Taxes and sewer are due Tuesday, February 16. The Town Offices are open on Monday, February 15 - the federal Presidents Day holiday. If you can't get to the offices during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.), there is a drop-off box at the front of the Municipal Building. Be aware, the deadline to use the drop-off box on February 16 is midnight.
2. There is a vacancy on the Recreation Board. Town residents who are interested in serving on this board can learn more about it by going to the Town web site: www.barretown.org and clicking on Boards and Commissions. A model letter of interest is provided on the web site under Permits and Forms. Send letters of interest to the Town Manager's office.
3. The Budget Committee is meeting from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday nights until the end of March. The public may attend those sessions.
4. Also, the public is invited to attend the Budget Tour on Saturday, February 20. Meet at the town offices between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m. The tour starts promptly at 8:30 a.m. and ends about 12:30 p.m. Transportation is provided to all Town buildings and facilities. Continue your education...spend half a cold day with the Town staff, Selectboard, Budget Committee members, and other residents learning about Town operations and the budget.
5. Town Meeting Day will be here before we know it. On March 2, Barre Town will vote on school budgets and elect School Board members. If you are not registered to vote, contact or visit the Town Clerk's Office soon. If you need an early voting ballot, contact the Clerk's Office at 479-9391.

GUESTS - None

POLICE VEHICLE PURCHASE

Background: This discussion is continued from the last meeting. The State contract price of a 2010 4wd Ford Explorer is \$21,079. The Chevy Tahoe's State contract price is \$27,052. A Ford Crown Victoria through the State contract costs about the same as an Explorer. The Police Chief is requesting a second Explorer citing use of the one we have now, its dependability on slippery roads, the officers like it, and his understanding that Ford will stop making Crown Vic police cars. Gas mileage was questioned. The Crown Vic averages 12 mpg; the Explorer gets 10 mph. Using \$2.50 as the price per gallon of gasoline and 25,000 miles driven per year, the Explorer uses \$1,042 worth of gas per year more than the Crown Vic. But Crown Vic tires cost more. Over three years (the time a vehicle is in the fleet) the Crown Vic would cost \$444 more for tires than the Explorer.

The power train warranty (not through the State) would be for 5-years, 100,000 miles at an additional cost of \$1,245.00.

Selectboard Minutes of February 2, 2010 continued:

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the staff to order a 2010 4wd Ford Explorer (\$21,079) through the State contract and to purchase the 5-year, 100,000 mile warranty at a cost of \$1,245.

PITMAN ROAD EXTENSION DEED

The item was passed over as the deed was not ready.

2010 HIGHWAY MILEAGE CERTIFICATE

Background: Annually the Town prepares the mileage certificate which is submitted to the State. The total number of Class 2 or 3 highway mileage is used as a basis for the State Aid For Town Highways.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve and sign the 2010 Highway Mileage Certificate.

VACTOR PURCHASE AND CLOSING AGREEMENT WITH BARRE CITY

Background: The Selectboard has agreed to buy Montpelier's used vactor when their new one is delivered. Montpelier should be receiving their new machine soon and the Town must decide how to pay for it (\$55,000.00). Financing options include: borrowing (short 3-year term?) or if the equipment fund can afford it pay cash. The Board will be reviewing the termination clause within the Barre City Vactor agreement.

On a motion by Gagne, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to initiate termination of the Vactor Agreement with Barre City.

The Manager stated it was unclear at this time when Montpelier will be receiving their new vactor. The Town Treasurer and Manager were directed to come up with the Equipment Fund cash balance and projected cash flow for the remainder of the fiscal year to make a decision regarding the new vactor purchase.

DISCUSS SCHOOL COST SHARING

Background: For many years, the school has paid the Town an annual sum of money. The payment is commonly referred to as school cost-sharing. The amount at one time was greater than \$50,000, but has decreased every time the subject came up for review. Until last year the school was paying \$30,000 per year (since 1998). Last year the School Board changed the amount in its budget to \$2,500 with some, but not much, discussion with the Town. The school budget for 2010-2011 again includes \$2,500 for cost sharing.

When questioned Superintendent Bacon responded with a memo citing Title 16, chapter 4029(b) stating "funds received from the education fund by a school district may be used only for legitimate items of current education expense and shall not be used for municipal services." The Town Attorney was asked to comment on the memo.

The Town Attorney noted that Title 16 4029(e) states that "legitimate items of current educational expense; may include reasonable payments to a municipality for

Selectboard Minutes of February 2, 2010 continued:

services performed on behalf of a school district by its corresponding town or city clerk, the town or city treasurer, or the town or city auditors." In his opinion it further noted the Town does not hold their annual election in March (but in May). Therefore, the March Election expenses are legitimate items of current educational expense and the Town is entitled to be reimbursed its expenses. An invoice should be sent each time the Town incurs District expenses. The HS-122 corrections made by the Town, on behalf of the school, cannot be charged to the School District.

During discussion it was noted that "cost sharing" should be renamed to "cost reimbursement."

On a motion by Gagne, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted unanimously to send Superintendent Bacon and School Board Chair Brenda Buzzell a copy of our Attorney Opinion and to instruct the Treasurer to send monthly or quarterly bills to the School District for reimbursable costs as described in the Town Attorney's Opinion dated February 2, 2010 discussing School Expense Reimbursement.

Another related item is the Town Report. The Town has been ready to submit the Town Report to the printer for several weeks but has not done as we are still waiting for the school audits. The Town Attorney was questioned as to whether or not the Town must publish the audit of the Barre Town School District in the Town Report.

The opinion states the Town may publish the Town Report without the Barre Town Middle & Elementary School audit. However, the law does require the Town Report contain the audit and budget of the Spaulding Supervisory Union.

Chair Blow was unsure when the school audits would be available. He further apologized to residents for the Town Reports not being available.

WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

A motion was made by Gagne, seconded by Fish, to approve the weekly accounts payable. After discussion the motion was amended and approved as follows:

On a motion by Gagne, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted to approve the accounts payable warrant excluding the invoice to HP Fairfield in the amount of \$1,273.00. Newton and Blow abstained from the vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Town Manager informed the Selectboard the Town of Duxbury would like to purchase the damaged 10 wheeler dump body for \$4,200.00 which he believes is a fair price.

On a motion by Newton, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the sale of the damaged 10 wheeler dump body pending the Town of Duxbury's Selectboard approval.

The Manager was asked if any of the Town unions had contacted him with regards to meeting. One had, the Police Union. On Wednesday, February 10, 2009, the Town Manager, Department Head, Board Members Blow and Gagne, will meet with the Police Union representatives at 3:30 p.m.

'ROUND THE TABLE

Fish stated she would be seeking re-election this May.

Blow inquired if the Manager had received a response to the Dispatch questions submitted to the City. No response has been received.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Gagne, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 8:53 p.m. to discuss legal and personnel.

On a motion by Gagne, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 9:59 p.m.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Gagne, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:59 p.m.

Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard