

**BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA**  
April 6, 2010

PILOT: Review 2009/2010 budget reports

6:30 p.m.

1. Call to order. 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Consider approving minutes from meeting of March 30 meeting.
4. Announcements.
5. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
6. Presentation of Barre Town's Green Up Day poster winners.
7. PUBLIC HEARING (second reading) of an ordinance lowering the speed limit on Taplin Road from 40 mph to 35 mph.
8. PUBLIC HEARING for proposed Town Charter amendments.
9. PUBLIC HEARING for proposed sale of lot in the Wilson Industrial Park.
10. Consider authorizing the Town Manager to sign documents for sale of Wilson Industrial Park lot.
11. Discuss plans for new assessing services contract.
12. Consider authorizing closing part of Quarry Hill Road and Fisher Road for special event.
13. Consider accepting VT Division of Property Valuation & Review stipulation for the 2010 common level of appraisal and coefficient of dispersion.
14. Consider naming group to work at and receive donations at Spring bulk trash collection.
15. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
16. Miscellaneous: consider approving liquor and tobacco licenses.
17. 'Round the Table.
18. Executive Session: (if needed)
19. Adjourn

**BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES**  
April 6, 2010

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of April 6, 2010 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, Lower Websterville at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Jeff Blow, Jeff Newton, Jeff 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 Murphy, Chelsea Graves, Erin Graves, Danette Gagne, Sandra Cameron, David Cameron, Amelia Cameron, Jack Mitchell, Fred Thumm, and Jeanne Daniele.

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

## MINUTES

*On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Selectboard Meeting Minutes of March 30, 2010 and Special Meeting of April 2, 2010. Fish was not present for the vote.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Do your part to help maintain the roads during mud season by limiting heavy deliveries (i.e. oil, building supplies, large household purchases) and by consolidating trips back and forth.
2. Reminder: HS-122 Homestead Declarations are due by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Filing this form identifies you as a resident homeowner, a designation for tax purposes. Be sure to file on time to avoid penalty.
3. The Holden Road lawn waste site has not been opened for the season yet. The Town Manager's Office is looking for volunteers to man the site. Contact the Town Manager's office if you or someone you know is interested in volunteering for this essential public service.
4. Green Up Day is Saturday, May 1, 2010. Green Up Day is a 30+ year tradition in Vermont. Barre Town participates in the annual spring clean-up held the first Saturday in May. Clubs, organizations, families, and neighborhood groups volunteer to clean up litter and other debris from public areas. The Town provides collection of debris from public areas, along with collection and disposal of litter and bulk items cleaned up by scores of volunteers. Safety vests and road signs are provided where needed. The Town also offers latex gloves. Vermont Green Up Day supplies the durable trash bags. Bags are not yet available; however, a sign-up sheet is located in the Town Manager's Office. For more information about this event or to volunteer, contact [offices@barretown.org](mailto:offices@barretown.org).
5. Every ten years the US Census Bureau sets out to count every person residing in the United States. Residents are counted through mailings, phone calls, and door-to-door visits. In the 2000 Census 72% of households that received a mailing mailed it back. 2010 Census mail-back participation rates are being tracked as we speak. Forms will be issued throughout the month of March. We encourage all residents to take 10 minutes and answer 10 questions. The information will benefit everyone. The more accurate information the Census Bureau receives about our town, the more fairly we will be treated.

Selectboard Minutes of April 6, 2010 continued:

6. The Town Manager informed the public the Town of Barre does not set the rates for users of the Wilson Recycling Depot. Earth Waste Systems rents the Recycling Depot from the Town. This company set their rates in a proposal to the Town. It is Earth Waste Systems' responsibility to know and charge these rates. For clarification purposes, recycling is free (provided it is source separated) when it is accompanied with trash disposal. CVSWMD representative Fred Thumm stated the company has been contacted and asked to post clear signage regarding the fee structure.
7. On Friday, April 30, 2010, 4:30 p.m. at the Montpelier High School Auditorium, several Barre Town residents will be honored to show appreciation for their strong commitment to local public service. The following individuals will be honored: Alice Bartlett, Roland Fournier, Irene Haskell, Samuel Hutchins, II, Tom Koch, Paul Malone, W. John "Jack" Mitchell II, Daniel Monte, Robert Pellon, Cedric Sanborn, and Charles Thygesen Sr.

**GUESTS - None**

### **PRESENTATION OF GREEN UP DAY POSTER WINNERS**

Background: This year Barre Town has two Washington County Green Up Vermont poster contest winners. Amelia Cameron is a first grade student at Barre Town and Chelsea Graves is an eighth grade student.

Co-Chair of Green Up Day Danette Gagne was present. She introduced Amelia Cameron and Chelsea Graves and presented each student with a savings bond and Certificate of Appreciation.

Festivities in Barre Town this year will include the appreciation BBQ for volunteers, (tickets available at the Town Manager's office). Selectboard members are again asked to come and cook at the BBQ.

This year there will also be a 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Green Up Day celebration, May 1, on the State House lawn.

### **PUBLIC HEARING - TAPLIN ROAD SPEED LIMIT**

Background: This is the second hearing on the proposed ordinance amendment for a speed limit reduction on Taplin Road (40 mph to 35 mph). The Traffic Safety Advisory Committee has been dealing with other issues on this gravel road and recommended the speed limit reduction.

*On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, 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." Fish was not present for the vote.*

The public hearing opened at 7:13 p.m. There were no comments.

*On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to close the public hearing at 7:14 p.m. and to advance "An Ordinance Of The Town Of Barre,*

Selectboard Minutes of April 6, 2010 continued:

*Vermont, Amending Section 7-61 Of The Barre Town Code Of Ordinances By Reducing Established Speed Limits" to the third and final hearing. Fish was not present for the vote.*

## **PUBLIC HEARING - PROPOSED TOWN CHARTER AMENDMENTS**

Background: This is the first of two require public hearings required for the proposed Charter amendments which will appear on the Town Meeting Ballot (May 11, 2010).

The Public Hearing opened at 7: 14 p.m.

Chair Blow reviewed the five (5) proposed changes and the reason behind the changes.

1. Change Open Town Meeting from Monday before Australian Ballot voting to Wednesday before. The Selectboard will hold their weekly meeting, BCA checklist Update Meeting and have the Open Meeting (all televised) citing this method would reach a greater number of residents.
2. Insert petition language to align more with State Statute. Thirty signatures or 1% of the voters' signatures to run for local office.
3. To clarify that no person shall hold offices which are defined as incompatible in Vermont Statutes.
4. Due to accounting rule changes increase the number of days to 185 after the close of fiscal year to issue the Town Report.
5. To clarify the Manager's role in preparation of a budget; and the budget as approved by the Budget Committee (5 Selectboard plus 5 residents) will be the one presented to the voters.

Resident Jack Mitchell stated he was okay with the first 4 amendments. However, he did suggest that perhaps it is time to reactivate the Charter Committee to start a review.

He is however, opposed to amendment (5) regarding the Budget Committee. While there are conflicting legal opinions with regards to authority, Mitchell feels the "Selectboard" as the governing body should have final say on the budget to be presented to the voters. Other Town Committees act in an advisory capacity to the Selectboard. He went on to say "This is a bad precedent to set giving the Budget Committee power over a final budget."

Resident Fred Thumm stated that as a former Budget Committee member he understands how members might feel their time spent serving was not valuable when a Selectboard alters the numbers which are presented to the voters. He urges the Selectboard to be extremely careful when heading in this direction.

Resident Jeanne Daniele stated 57 signatures for a petition to run for local office is not a lot. Reducing this number to 30 does not encourage a candidate to meet with the residents and does not support the lower petition requirement.

Ms. Daniele has also served on a Budget Committee and understands the responsibility of the Selectboard and the Committee. She feels the final budget say should be with the Selectboard.

Selectboard Minutes of April 6, 2010 continued:

Ms. Danielle would also like the Budget Committee to include members from the economic development sector (such as representative from BAD). The Budget Committee could be better utilized and should work year round (January thru December). She further questioned why the Town Auditors are not involved in the Budget Process.

*On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to close the public hearing at 8:00 p.m. Fish was not present for the vote.*

### **PUBLIC HEARING - PROPOSED SALE OF LOT**

Background: The Town signed a purchase-sale agreement with Harris Enterprises several months ago. Their Act 250 permit was released this week and they are now ready to move forward with the closing. To sell a property the Selectboard, in accordance with the Charter, must hold a public hearing. Harris Enterprises will be purchasing a 4.95 acre lot in the Wilson Industrial Park.

The Public Hearing opened at 8:03 p.m.

Resident Jack Mitchell asked several questions regarding easements, road improvements, and location in the lot.

The lot is located between the Town's DPW Maintenance Facility and Wilson Recycling Depot. The road currently ends at the pavement with the Town retaining a right-of-way for the remaining unpaved section. The road will be extended (with pavement and a hammerhead) to the end of the lot being purchased. Increased traffic will not impact the Town's Act 250 permit.

Resident Jeanne Daniele stated her concern with the selling price of \$28,000 per acre, it seemed too low. She noted there were drainage issues along that area and wanted to know the cost of road paving/drainage improvements versus total sale price. This was unknown at this time, but the Manager stated the numbers were discussed last Fall.

The hearing closed at 8:13 p.m.

### **AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN SALE OF LOT DOCUMENTS**

Background: The Manager is seeking Selectboard approval to sign the documents for the sale of the Wilson Industrial Park lot to Harris Enterprises. The proceeds from the sale will go into the Community Development Fund which has paid expenses for developing the Wilson Industrial Park.

*On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Town Manager to sign the necessary documents for the sale of a Wilson Industrial Park lot to Harris Enterprises. Fish was not present for the vote.*

### **DISCUSS ASSESSING SERVICES CONTRACT**

Background: The current 3-year assessing contract expires the end of August. The Selectboard asked for an opportunity to discuss this. Should the discussion lead to points that may put the Town at a competitive disadvantage (disclosing strategy or amounts to be paid), the Board may call for executive session.

Selectboard Minutes of April 6, 2010 continued:

The consensus of the Selectboard is to discuss this item in executive session.

### **CLOSING OF QUARRY HILL AND FISHER ROADS FOR SPECIAL EVENT**

Background: Thunder Road and Barre Partnership are holding the annual race car show on Main Street (Barre City) on Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. After the show the cars will be paraded down South Main Street to Quarry Hill Road, onto Fisher Road, and into the race track. Under Title 23, Chapter 13, Section 1010 of State Statutes authorizes towns and cities to close roads for special occasions. The request is to close Quarry Hill and Fisher Roads from approximately 12:10 to 12:30 p.m.

*On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize closing Quarry Hill Road (from the City line to Fisher Road) and Fisher Road from approximately 12:10 - 12:30 p.m. Fish was not present.*

### **PROPERTY VALUATION & REVIEW (PVR) STIPULATION**

Background: In January the town received the 2010 common level of appraisal (CLA) and coefficient of dispersion (COD) determination from PVR. The Assessor suggested we appeal. Our legal counsel on the Rock of Ages matter suggest we also appeal because settling with Rock of Ages for less than what PVR lists as Rock of Ages' assessment could cost Barre Town money. We appealed the original 2010 calculations. Upon review PVR removed one sale which the Assessor objected. However, the legal counsel advises the Selectboard should not accept the Notice of Tentative Redetermination. Basically, the Town is keeping the appeal alive for the same reason we stated in the appeal.

*On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to reject Property Valuation & Review's Notice of Tentative Redetermination dated March 23, 2010. Fish was not present for the vote.*

### **BULK TRASH - SELECT GROUP TO RECEIVE DONATION**

Background: The spring bulk trash collection is Saturday, May 8, 2010. Organizations or people representing a fundraising effort volunteer to work in exchange for user donations. Two groups are requesting consideration, Spaulding High School Project Graduation (has worked the last 2 spring collections) and the Flags for Veterans.

*On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to select Flags for Veterans as the group to receive the May 8, 2010 Spring Bulk Trash Collection event donations. Fish was not present for the vote.*

### **WARRANTS**

*On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrant as presented. Fish was not present for the vote.*

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

*On a motion by Newton, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve and to authorize signing a 2010 Alcohol and Tobacco License for B & R Enterprises (Brookside Country Store). Fish was not present for the vote.*

Selectboard Minutes of April 6, 2010 continued:

Intern Kelly Murphy informed the Board a memo had been placed at their desk regarding creating a "school zone." This item will be on the next Selectboard meeting agenda.

**'ROUND THE TABLE**

Newton inquired when the Holden Road Lawn Waste site will be open. Rogers stated it normally does not open until the last Saturday in April/first in May. The DPW crew mans the Saturday shift and volunteers round out the weekday openings. Given the recent "good weather" the Selectboard asked the Manager to try to open the lawn waste site, at least on Saturdays, as soon as he can.

Blow stated Montpelier's new vector is in. As early as the end of next week the Town may be asked to take possession of Montpelier's old one. The Manager will place the item on the next meeting agenda.

*On a motion by Blow, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt "A Resolution Of The Town Barre, Vermont Opposing Senate Bill S292; An Act Relating To Term Probation, The Right To Bail, Medical Care Of Inmates, And A Reduction In The Number Of Nonviolent Prisoners, Probationers And Detainees" and to send copies to our elected officials prior to final action by the Legislature. Fish was not present.*

During the motion discussion the concern is the early release of non-violent prisoners and the impact to municipal public safety services throughout Vermont.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss personnel, contracts, and real estate. Fish was not present for the vote.*

*On a motion by Newton, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 9:37 p.m. Fish was not present for the vote.*

**ADJOURN**

*On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Gagne, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:37 p.m. Fish was not present for the vote.*

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Donna Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

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Selectboard Chair

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**Barre Town Selectboard**