

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA
April 13, 2010

PILOT: Budget Presentation Plans/Pelkey Award

6:30 p.m.

1. Call to order. 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Consider approving minutes from meeting of April 6 meeting.
4. Announcements.
5. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
6. Presentation by Barre Town Thunder Chickens Snowmobile Club.
7. Consider final approval (third reading) of an ordinance lowering the speed limit on Taplin Road from 40 mph to 35 mph.
8. Discuss designating a School Zone on Websterville Road.
9. Consider TSAC recommendations: a) advisory speed signs on Taplin Road; b) 50 new signs on 5 roads.
10. Consider authorizing application for building energy audit.
11. Consider authorizing payment for purchase of used vector.
12. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
13. Miscellaneous: consider approving liquor and tobacco licenses.
14. 'Round the Table.
15. Executive Session: (if needed)
16. Adjourn

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
April 13, 2010

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of April 13, 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, 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 Murphy, Town Engineer Harry Hinrichsen, TSAC members Dan Newhall and Paul White, Paul McGinley, Linda Mercy, Mark Reaves, and Romeo Pelletier.

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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 Fish, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Selectboard Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2010. Gagne was not present for the vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. If you have not received a census form please contact 1-866-872-6868. Forms are still being distributed. For more information on the Census visit www.2010census.gov.
2. Green Up Day is Saturday, May 1, 2010. Green Up is a 30+ year tradition in Vermont. Clubs, organizations, families, and neighborhood groups volunteer to clean up litter and other debris from public areas. The Town provides collection of gathered waste materials, safety vests, road signs, and latex gloves. Trash bags are provided by the Green Up day organization. Bags can be picked up at the Town Manager's Office. However, a signup sheet is available. For more information about this event or to volunteer, contact offices@barretown.org.
3. The Holden Road lawn waste site will be open on Saturday, April 10, 8:00 a.m. - Noon. Volunteers will be manning the site on Wednesdays (beginning May 5), 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Thursdays (beginning April 22) 9:00 a.m. - Noon.
4. Reminder: absentee ballots for May Town Meeting will be available in mid-April.
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.
6. Notice: the Board of Recreation is still looking for a member to fill a vacancy on the Board.

GUESTS

Romeo Pelletier, Lepage Road resident, informed the Selectboard that a Barre Town Police Officer is harassing the drivers using the Beckley Hill/LePage Road area of Town. He has been issued two tickets by the same Police Officer as well as many other residents in the area. Mr. Pelletier stated neighbors have informed him the Officer is sitting on the hill at least twice a week for two hours. This is harassment. He would like to know just how many tickets this Officer has written and the revenue for the Town.

Wolfe asked Mr. Pelletier if he was speeding when ticketed. He stated he did not think he was. Wolfe further stated the Town does not issue tickets "for the revenue." The Officer is doing his job by patrolling and making Barre Town a safer community. Blow

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informed Mr. Pelletier that as a former member of the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC) he has attended meetings where residents of the area have complained about speeding.

Mr. Pelletier stated he has lived in the area over 40 years, driven these roads, and has not had any tickets until a few months ago. It would have been nice if a warning would have been issued.

PRESENTATION BY BARRE TOWN THUNDER CHICKENS

Background: The past 9 years the Barre Town Thunder Chickens Snowmobile Club has held a Poker Run & Silent Auction to raise funds to support the Travis Mercy Skatepark located at the Barre Town Recreation Facility. All proceeds are used for the maintenance/improvements of the Skatepark.

Linda Mercy and Mark Reaves were present. Mr. Reaves presented the Selectboard with \$2,139.00 from the 2010 Poker Run & Silent Auction. Over the past nine years the Snowmobile Club has raised just over \$13,000.00. Thanks to the Club's fundraising no tax dollars are being used to maintain the Skatepark.

Ms. Mercy noted that out of the 140 snowmobile clubs in Vermont the Barre Town Thunder Chickens have been named "Club of the Year."

The funds were presented to Chair Blow and the Club was thanked.

ADOPTION - TAPLIN ROAD SPEED LIMIT

Background: This is the third 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." Gagne was not present for the vote.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt "An Ordinance Of The Town Of Barre, Vermont, Amending Section 7-61 Of The Barre Town Code Of Ordinances By Reducing Established Speed Limits." Gagne was not present for the vote.

SCHOOL ZONE ON WEBSTERVILLE ROAD

Background: During a recent Selectboard meeting the question arose as to "what constitutes a school zone in the State of Vermont?" The Town Engineer did research and the data was distributed to the Board.

He noted a school zone in Statute is defined (VSA 19 §921) as "...municipalities shall erect or cause to be erected on all public highways near a school, warning signs bearing the legend "school zone." The signs shall conform to the standards of the manual on uniform traffic devices." Basically what this means is that school zone signs are put in place for

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cautionary measure. However, within a given school zone there are no specific rules providing governance, nor is there power given to local governing bodies to determine distinguishable zone specific standards. The provision for school zones in Vermont only provides for the placement of cautionary signs.

Board member Wolfe noted that in the MUCTD Title 21, Sec A there is also a reference addressing speed limit within a school zone.

TSAC members Dan Newhall and Paul White were present. The school zone designation has been discussed by this committee numerous times over the past several years. Several months ago a group of individuals from the Barre Town School requested TSAC consider designating a section of Websterville Road a school zone. To ensure the School Board was okay with this TSAC asked for a formal request from the School Board which was received.

TSAC is breaking down the school zone process into two parts. Barre Town currently has signage advising motorists of the school, but it is not a legal school zone unless it is ordained. Therefore, part 1 is to legally designate (set boundaries) in ordinance a school zone. The result would mean relocating the existing school signs.

Part 2 is to set up studies to determine the school activities/policies and impact to the designated school zone. The study results could effect changes to speed and signage.

There was discussion regarding school policy of no children biking/walking to school, no crash data available to warrant a speed change, the MUTCDs liberal description, future sidewalk development in front of the school and toward Sterling Hill, moving of the school gardens (across the road) to school property, and the need to have trained flaggers to assist children when crossing Websterville Road.

On a motion by Fish, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted unanimously to designate a "School Zone" on the Websterville Road, using the Barre Town Elementary & Middle School boundaries, and per the MUTCD relocate the existing school signs to meet the minimum requirement of a 300' setback from said boundaries. Gagne was not present for the vote.

During the discussion Blow stated that while he is in favor of creating the school zone he cannot justify a speed reduction until school policy changes to allow pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

TSAC RECOMMENDATIONS

Background: TSAC has two recommendations for Selectboard consideration; 1) Advisory speed placards on Taplin Road, and 2) New/replacement signs in conjunction with a High Risk Rural Road Grant, five roads in Barre Town (Bridge Street, Morrison Road, Graniteville Road, Church Hill Road, and Websterville Road) were designated. Deadline for submitting the approved sign list is the end of next week.

On a motion by Newton, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the addition of the 25 mph advisory placards to the curve ahead signs on Taplin Road. Gagne was not present for the vote.

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The High Risk Rural Roads grant will provide the signs, posts, and installation of approved signs.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the signage as outlined by the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee for the High Risk Rural Roads sign changes for Morrison Road (start at Allen Street). Gagne was not present for the vote.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the signage as outlined by the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee for the High Risk Rural Roads sign changes, deleting items 1, 8, 10, and 12 for Graniteville Road (starting at Middle Road). Gagne was not present for the vote.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the signage as outlined by the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee for the High Risk Rural Roads sign changes for Church Hill Road (starting at Graniteville Road). Gagne was not present for the vote.

Since there are so many sign/replacements to review the consensus is to review Bridge Street and Websterville Road changes at next week's meeting.

APPLICATION FOR BUILDING ENERGY AUDIT

Background: The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) received an energy efficiency grant to help member towns with energy efficiency at town buildings. The Town may apply for participation in the grant with applications due on April 30. Selectboard approval is needed to begin preparing the application.

Prior to the meeting the Selectboard was given information on the various town buildings to include heat source, electricity consumption, costs, and date of construction/renovation.

On a motion by Newton, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize staff to submit an energy efficiency grant application for a free energy audit for the municipal building and truck garage. Gagne was not present for the vote.

PAYMENT FOR PURCHASE OF USED VACTOR

Background: Barre Town is purchasing a used Vactor from the City of Montpelier. Delivery could be as early as late next week. The Town Manager is seeking input on how to pay for it. The cost is \$55,000 and the Town should receive \$17,500 - \$20,000 for selling our share of the current vactor to Barre City.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to pay the City of Montpelier \$55,000.00 for a vactor purchase from the Equipment Fund and to further note the revenue received from Barre City (sale of our share of the jointly owned vactor) will be put back into the Equipment Fund. Gagne was not present for the vote.

WARRANTS

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Rogers informed the Selectboard in December 2009 the Barre Town EMS provided temporary EMS service to Northfield. They are once again requesting the same temporary service.

On a motion by Fish, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to provide Northfield Ambulance with temporary daytime EMS coverage, (6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.), on April 23, 2010 and April 26 - April 30, 2010. Gagne was not present for the vote.

'ROUND THE TABLE

Wolfe stated he has been rethinking the Selectboard decision as to who should receive the bulk trash donations and is asking for reconsideration.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Blow, the Selectboard voted to reconsider their action of April 6, 2010 with regard to selecting a group to receive the bulk trash donations on May 8, 2010. Fish was opposed and Gagne was not present for the vote.

Wolfe noted the two groups (Flags for Veterans and SUHS Projection Graduation) are both community oriented and extremely good causes. He would like to see donations be split 50/50 between the two groups.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Blow, the Selectboard voted unanimously to select Flags for Veterans and SUHS Project Graduation to receive the bulk trash donations, splitting them 50/50. Gagne was not present for the vote.

Blow stated the Selectboard had received a letter commending Barre Town Police Officer Paul Thayer for his professionalism and courtesy to all parties involved in an auto accident on April 7, 2010. The Selectboard stated it is rare to hear such good things and wanted to thank Officer Thayer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Fish, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:03 p.m. Gagne was not present for the vote.

Donna Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard
