

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA
October 6, 2009

DRAFT

- PILOT: Discuss the Budget Process 6:30 p.m.
1. Call to order 7:00 p.m.
 2. Pledge of Allegiance
 3. Consider approving minutes from meeting of September 29 meeting
 4. Announcements
 5. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
 6. Consider adopting Resolution #8-09 in appreciation of Sam Hutchins service as Town Health Officer.
 7. Consider awarding contracts for: a) waterline materials, b) waterline construction.
 8. Mack truck update.
 9. Consider second reading (public hearing) of an ordinance regarding yield signs.
 10. Discuss process for proposing several Charter amendments.
 11. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
 12. Miscellaneous
 13. Round the Table
 14. Executive Session: real estate, legal, and personnel (action expected).
 15. Adjourn

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
October 6, 2009

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of October 6, 2009 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, Jeffrey Gagne, and William Wolfe.

REGULAR MEETING

Attendance for the regular meeting included: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, Town Management Intern Kelly Houston, Fire Chief Chris Violette, Police Chief Michael Stevens, DPW Superintendent Steve Blondin, Times Argus Reporter Dave Delcore, Jeanne Daniele, Dave Beland, Attorney Michael Monte, and Earl Everhart (VTEC).

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Selectboard Minutes of October 6, 2009 continued:

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 September 29, 2009. Gagne abstained.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Holden Road lawn waste site will be open as usual (Wednesday, 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - Noon, and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. - Noon). Starting October 10th through October 25th, there will be special extended weekend hours. The site will be open from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Saturday and Noon - 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.
2. Reminder: Mill Street waterline is still under construction and will be for the next couple of weeks. The road will be closed to thru traffic. Please alter your travel patterns accordingly.

GUESTS

Jeanne Daniele noted that Barre Beautiful is doing the landscaping at the Rock of Ages Visitor's Center traffic island (intersection of Graniteville Road/Middle Road). In 2000 Barre Beautiful held a garden show and donated \$3,000 to be used for a YMCA, which has not come to fruition. She is requesting the Selectboard consider using these funds for the traffic island landscaping project.

Chair Blow asked Ms. Daniele, Barre Town's Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) delegate, for an update on the Act 250 meeting held last Thursday regarding the Knapp Airport and S.B. Electronics.

Ms. Daniele noted the Town Manager also attended the hearing. She stated there was a lot of discussion regarding the Knapp Airport renovations and the project was moving forward.

Ms. Daniele noted the S.B. Electronics Act 250 application was good to go forward. She noted she voted no. Her reason was due to the lack of building/operating within the "green standards."

Chair Blow asked the Town Manager to contact Byron Atwood to see if he was still interested in serving as a CVRPC representative for Barre Town. If he is then invite him to the next PILOT session.

RESOLUTION #8-09 FOR SAM HUTCHINS HEALTH OFFICER

Background: Sam Hutchins has been Barre Town's health officer since 1971. He is the 3rd Health Officer to have served Barre Town - 38 years of service. Over the years he has worked on: ensuring properly working septic and sewer systems; enforced Rental Housing Health Code; prevented improper garbage storage; has responded to animal bites; and played an important role in responding to disease outbreaks and emergency related public health concerns. Over the years Sam has fulfilled his duties as health officer with a large degree of professionalism and practical knowledge. He has been a great asset to the Town.

The item was passed over.

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WATERLINE CONTRACTS

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Background: Last week the Selectboard received information detailing development work in the Wilson Industrial Park as it relates to the S.B. Electronics project. As part of this project the Town is responsible for building the road and making available utilities for hook-up. Part of the process is extending the waterline. Waterline materials (pipes, hydrants, fittings, and other associated parts) and construction of the 650', 8" waterline were put out to bid. The material bids were opened on October 2, 2009 and the construction bids will be opened on October 6, 2009 (afternoon).

- a) Waterline materials: There were three bids for the contract ranging from \$16,577 - \$21,817. Two of the three contractors submitted complete bids, meeting the required specifications. E.J. Prescott of Montpelier submitted the lowest bid at \$16,577 and the local vendor allowance does not apply.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to award the Wilson Industrial Park waterline materials contract to E.J. Prescott at their bid price of \$16,577.

- b) Waterline construction: Bidding instructions were sent to fourteen (14) contractors, most local. The Manager distributed the nine bid results. The low bidder was Estes Trucking. Estes Trucking did a good job with the Honey Brook project and informed the Manager he did well financially.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Gagne, the Selectboard voted unanimously to award the Wilson Industrial Park waterline construction contract to Estes Trucking for their bid price of \$9,965.00.

MACK TRUCK UPDATE

Background: On September 15, 2009, there was an accident at our gravel pit involving the Town's Mack 10-wheeler. Property Damage Appraisers of Burlington, on behalf of VLCT insurance pool, has ruled the cab and chassis totaled. This claim is worth the value of the truck (\$41,465) and the transfer of equipment (\$14,382) totaling \$55,847. After assessing the damage and determining the necessity of this vehicle the Selectboard is asked to consider the following options:

- a) The Town takes the claim money and purchase a new 10-wheeler from company stock, to ensure availability this winter season.
- b) Try to repair and reuse materials from the damaged truck and order new items that are beyond repair; thus constructing a truck out of the wreckage.
- c) The Town does not purchase a new truck right away to determine absolute priorities. Consider other alternatives for this winter season (i.e. using the orange truck or leasing a truck short term, or contracting out the work).
- d) Purchase a 6-wheeler truck that is ready to go.

The Manager has spoken with the DPW Superintendent who prefers option a). Charlebois, who has the contract for our most recent plow truck purchase, stated they currently have a demo model in stock, which would run approximately \$100,000. Currently the truck is red, if needed Charlebois will repaint the truck green at cost. Superintendent Blondin is certain the Town can use the old plow and wing as well as the hitching components and hydraulics from the old truck. He estimates that will cost the town roughly between \$65,000 - \$70,000 in addition to the insurance money to purchase and construct the truck for this winter's season.

Items of concern during discussion are paying more (\$12,000) for an automatic transmission, delivery time if ordering new, and currently being two trucks down.

Selectboard Minutes of October 6, 2009 continued:

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On a motion by Blow, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted to purchase a new truck from Charlebois, like the one we just purchased, if Charlebois will honor the purchase price of \$91,769. Fish and Gagne voted no.

During the motion discussion the Manager was directed to explore other options including using the orange truck. Superintendent Blondin informed the Board the orange truck is not in a condition to "pound the roads every day." Furthermore the v-box does not allow for the best road salt/sand application. The Board briefly discussed scenarios should the orange truck become unusable.

PUBLIC HEARING - SECOND READING - YIELD/STOP SIGN AMENDMENT

Background: The first reading of the ordinance amendment was held on September 22, 2009. The Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC) recommended three yield signs to be placed on Teja Road and East Cobble Hill Road to control traffic.

On a motion by Fish, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to read by title only "Town of Barre, Vermont, Washington County, Vermont, An Ordinance Of The Town Of Barre, Vermont Amending Section 7-44 (C) Of The Barre Town Code of Ordinances By Adding Three New Yield Streets."

The public hearing opened at 7:31 p.m. There were no public comments.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to close the public hearing at 7:32 p.m.

On a motion by Fish, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted unanimously to advance the amendment of "Town of Barre, Vermont, Washington County, Vermont, An Ordinance Of The Town Of Barre, Vermont Amending Section 7-44 (C) Of The Barre Town Code of Ordinances By Adding Three New Yield Streets" to a third and final hearing on October 13, 2009.

CHARTER AMENDMENTS

Background: The Selectboard work list included discussing possible charter amendments. The amendments include: 1) Elected School Board member not reflected as an elected office in the Town Charter, which resulted in a conflict when the individual was elected as a Town Auditor - clarification needed; 2) the authority (budget committee versus selectboard) to set the budget proposed to town voters; and 3) deadline by when the annual financial statements and audit is to be completed. The Selectboard is to determine which election the amendments will be presented (March or May) and who will prepare the draft proposed amendments? The matter is currently for discussion only.

During discussion it was noted there are additional amendments which also need review: a) changing the date of the Annual Open Meeting from the Monday before the election to the Wednesday (deadline to register to vote) before the election; and b) changing the number of petition signatures required for elected officials (from 1% of voter checklist to 50 - the number required to run for State Representative).

The consensus of the Selectboard is to proceed with the charter amendments and to have a special meeting on March 2, 2010. Town Manager Rogers was asked to place this item on an agenda and to invite the individuals who worked in the early 1970's Charter Committee to speak with the Selectboard.

Selectboard Minutes of October 6, 2009 continued:

GUESTS (2)

Several East Barre residents stated they were attending the meeting to find out what action the Selectboard was going to take regarding the chicken farm in East Barre. Blow stated the item was going to be discussed in Executive Session later this evening. Depending on what is learned this item may be on the agenda for discussion at next week's meeting.

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FIRE TRUCK TANKER

Background: The Selectboard had awarded a contract to VTEC for the purchase of a fire truck tanker. Documents were prepared and sent to VTEC for signature. The Manager received a letter from VTEC stating they would be requiring progress payments. Our specifications state payment will be in a lump sum upon delivery. VTEC sent the Town a letter stating if they did not receive progress payments the purchase price will have to increase \$3,361 to cover financing costs, material, SGA, and the employee salaries in the building.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Blow, the Selectboard voted to rescind the 2009 contract to purchase a fire truck tanker from VTEC. Gagne voted no and Newton abstained.

Earl Everhart informed the Selectboard that progress payments are standard in the industry. In his 12 plus years association with VTEC, this is the first rejection of this plan by a municipality or fire department.

The Town Manager stated the next lowest bidder was Deep South Fire Trucks in Mississippi. He spoke to the vendor and they agreed to honor the bid price plus pay for delivery of the truck. Mr. Everhart noted the tanker from Deep South is designed for use in Mississippi and very little use of road salt.

Blow stated the Town worked very hard to stretch the budget to award the tanker purchase from VTEC at their bid price which was over budget. However, with the additional fee of \$3,361 the purchase price from VTEC is \$11,000 higher than the next lowest bidder. A difference he cannot justify paying in these economic times.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted to purchase a fire truck tanker from Deep South Fire Trucks at their bid price of \$124,010.00. Gagne voted no and Newton abstained.

WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

A motion was made by Gagne, seconded by Wolfe, to approve the accounts payable warrant as presented.

MISCELLANEOUS

For informational purposes Rogers noted the State Agency of Transportation on October 12, 2009 will begin working on the Route 63/Miller Road project. Approximately 2,000 - 3,000 yards of fill will be delivered to the site during that week.

'ROUND THE TABLE

Newton asked the Town Manager to check into the possibility of the Town's insurance paying for a rental truck until the Town can acquire a replacement for the Mack truck.

Selectboard Minutes of October 6, 2009 continued:

Fish asked on the status of the brush issue at the Silver Circle property. Rogers stated the DPW will need to check out the area to determine if the brush/shrubs are in the town right-of-way and/or if it will interfere with the snowplowing of streets.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Fish, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 7:59 p.m. to discuss real estate, legal, and personnel.

On a motion by Gagne, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 9:18 p.m.

2009 CONTRACT AMENDMENT

On a motion by Gagne, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to amend the 2009 land rental contract with Shawn Thygesen and amend the rent from \$1,800.00 to \$950.00.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Fish, seconded by Gagne, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.

Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard