

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA
November 17, 2009

PILOT: Discussion with Barre Partnership

6:30 p.m.

1. Call to order 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving minutes from meeting of November 10 meeting.
4. Announcements
5. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
6. Consider second reading (public hearing) of sidewalk maintenance ordinance.
7. Consider third reading (final approval) of stop intersection ordinance.
8. Consider Board of Abatement recommendation for sewer billing.
9. Discuss Local Vendor Allowance (LVA) in purchasing policy.
10. Consider engineering proposal for Bridge Street bridge sewer line.
11. Report on flu contingency plans.
12. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
13. Miscellaneous.
14. 'Round the Table.
15. Executive Session: legal, action expected.
16. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
November 17, 2009

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of November 17, 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,

CALL TO ORDER

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

Selectboard Minutes of November 17, 2009 continued:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

On a motion by Newton, seconded by Gagne, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Selectboard Meeting Minutes of November 10, 2009.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Sterling Hill Road is now closed for the winter season and will be reopened in the spring once weather permits.
2. The Municipal Building will be closed on Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th for Thanksgiving.
3. The Barre Town Fire Department is selling calendars to benefit the Fire Department's Auxiliary. The calendars are fifteen dollars and can be purchased at the Municipal Building.
4. The winter edition of the Barre Town Newsletter will be mailed shortly. This edition is particularly informative; notifying residents of winter policies and tips.

GUESTS

Robert Murphy, Chair of the Barre Town Bikepath Committee, was present and gave a brief update. Using the 1997 conceptual analysis plan the committee is reviewing ways to connect will Barre City. Mr. Murphy stated the committee is exploring 3 bikepath areas: 1) East Barre to connect with the Barre Town Elementary School, 2) The Quarry Hill Railroad Route to connect with the City, 3) connecting to the South Barre Bikepath via somewhere near Wilson Street or perhaps downhill to East Parkside Terrace to connect to Barre city Elementary. Mr. Murphy is requesting the Selectboard approve a resolution to show the Town's commitment to the project so that perhaps the probate court will release some of the Semprebbon funding.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the resolution as presented regarding the Town's commitment to the Bath Path project.

The next Bikepath Committee meeting will be November 30, 2009, 5:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

PUBLIC HEARING - SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE ORDINANCE

Background: The purpose of this second hearing is to take public comment. Currently there is no ordinance stopping residents and other entities from transferring snow from driveways on to sidewalks. Codifying this standard will enhance the Town's ability to address snow removal practices.

Selectboard Minutes of November 17, 2009 continued:

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 The Barre Town Code Of Ordinances, Section 6-2 Prohibiting Depositing Snow On Public Sidewalks."

The public hearing opened at 7:18 p.m. with no comment.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to close the public hearing at 7:18 p.m.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to advance "An Ordinance Of The Town Of Barre, Vermont, Amending The Barre Town Code Of Ordinances, Section 6-2 Prohibiting Depositing Snow On Public Sidewalks."

THIRD READING - STOP INTERSECTION ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Background: This ordinance amendment was first read on October 27, 2009. The Traffic Safety Advisory Committee recommended the installation of two new stop signs. One on Short Street at the intersection with Donahue Road and the second on East Balsam Drive at the intersection with Osborne Road.

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 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 7-44(b) Of The Barre Town Code Of Ordinances By Adding Two New Stop Streets."

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt "An Ordinance Of The Town Of Barre, Vermont, Amending Section 7-44(b) Of The Barre Town Code Of Ordinances By Adding Two New Stop Streets".

SEWER ALLOCATION POLICY DISCUSSION

Background: The Board of Abatement (BCA) recently handled a request for abatement of sewer charges for a vacant building. During the BCA meeting the Clerk was instructed to send a letter to the Selectboard asking them to review the Sewage Allocation Policy and to "consider adding language to address a readiness to serve charge."

The BCA is aware property owners have the option of going off the sewer billing list and paying a connection fee when re-activating their account. However the BCA is recommending an intermediate option.

The information is being presented tonight for discussion on items such as: the Board's willingness to amend the sewage allocation policy, possible rate structure, determining eligibility, process to receive the benefit.

After much discussion the consensus of the Selectboard is to have the staff develop language to provide an option for a property owner to come before the Sewer Commissions for a waiver of sewer fees.

PURCHASING POLICY - LOCAL VENDOR ALLOWANCE

Background: As part of the Town's purchasing policy the Local Vendor Allowance (LVA) gives local vendors the advantage over non-local competitors in the bidding process. Local vendors are granted bid reductions of 1%, 2%, or 3% depending on the "estimated purchase value." This practice ensures that, within reason, local vendors are selected which in turn benefits the community at large. The Board will be considering the policy's percentage structure and evaluate if the LVA is inline with Selectboard purchasing priorities.

Rogers reminded the Selectboard the policy allows the local vendor allowance provision to be waived. The Board could use this option more frequently.

The majority of the Selectboard (Blow, Wolfe, and Newton) want the local vendor allowance under \$50,000 eliminated, and to reduce the local vendor allowance for %50,000 - \$250,000 to 1%. Gagne and Fish were opposed and would prefer the local vendor allowance be 1% across the board up to \$250,000.

BRIDGE STREET BRIDGE SEWER LINE - ENGINEERING PROPOSAL

Background: The Bridge Street bridge project is slated to begin in 2012. In order to move forward with plans to repair the Bridge Street bridge the current sewer line needs to be modified to meet both short-term and long-term needs. During the construction the sewer line services need to remain intact. There will be some reconstruction of manholes and sewer line to meet new construction requirements. The Agreement presented outlines the services being rendered, design phases, and other associated services related to sewer line work. Forcier Aldrich quote is a not-to-exceed \$7,900.

On a motion by Gagne, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Town manger to sign the Sewer Line Relocation Agreement with Forcier Aldrich & Associates.

REPORT ON FLU CONTINGENCY PLANS

The Town Manager stated the department heads have been working on flu contingency plans. EMS Director Dave Jennings informed the Manager a person with H1N1 could be out of work up to 3 weeks, provided there are no respiratory complications.

The DPW has 8 snowplow drivers, and 5 (including 2 supervisors) shop crew who all have CDL licenses and can plow. There are 4 backups for the water/sewer systems. Snowplow routes could be changed to accommodate illness as well using outside vendors to help.

The EMS has procedures in place and the Director's duties have been divided. Fire Department personnel are keeping in touch with the Chief to determine availability and back-up needs. The Police Departments are working together.

The Municipal Building staff is being cross trained in the various offices to ensure the continuity of operations.

Selectboard Minutes of November 17, 2009 continued:

WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

A motion was made by Blow, seconded by Newton, to approve the accounts payable warrant as presented without the payment for Fothergill, Segale & Valley.

MISCELLANEOUS

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to waive the local vendor allowance on the bid specifications for the Ford F550 truck.

'ROUND THE TABLE

Gagne stated he would like the Manager to reactivate the Staff Technology Committee. He is willing to participate.

A motion was made by Fish, and seconded by Gagne to cancel the Selectboard Meetings for November 24, 2009 and December 22, 2009 for the Holiday and was later amended to include December 29, 2009. The motion and amendment was withdrawn. During discussion it was noted the Board has items on the November 24, 2009 agenda and missing the last 2 meetings of December would not be good.

On a motion by Fish, seconded by Gagne, the Selectboard voted to cancel the meeting on December 29, 2009 for the New Year's Holiday. Blow was opposed.

Fish stated many residents were concerned with the closing of Sterling Hill Road. Rogers stated prior Boards have wanted to have a date specific for closing to allow time to advertise.

Blow liked hearing the update from the Bike Path Committee and thought perhaps having the Chair of each committee come to the Selectboard a couple times a year would be good.

Gagne stated frequently when viewing the Selectboard meetings on CVTV he has noticed there is a lot static which makes it difficult to understand what being said. CVTV is aware of the problem and has been working on it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 8:31 p.m. to discuss legal, personnel, and contracts.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Gagne, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 9:30 p.m.

LEGAL ACTION

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted to approve and sign the Water Agreement with the City. Gagne voted no.

On a motion by Newton, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted to authorize the Town Manager to sign the deeds for Al Monty Subdivision and Countryside and other documents needed to turn the water lines/system over to Barre City.

Selectboard Minutes of November 17, 2009 continued:

ADJOURN

On a motion by Newton, seconded by Fish, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:34 p.m.

Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard