



BARRE TOWN MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER

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20th Year
of the Barre Town
Municipal Newsletter

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ALL TOWN OFFICES **WILL BE CLOSED ON:**

May 29 - Memorial Day
July 4th - Independence Day

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Annual Election - Budgets

2017-2018 budget work that started last fall culminates on May 9 when voters decide to approve or not approve the General Fund and Highway Fund budgets. The town Budget Committee comprised of five citizens and the five Selectboard members met from January 31 to March 28. They toured town facilities; met with department heads and other interested parties; held two special meetings and two double sessions, meeting before and after the Selectboard meeting. The Committee reviewed nine fund budgets; approved seven and recommended the General Fund and Highway Fund budgets that will appear on the May 9 Australian ballot.

For information about registering to vote and voting see the article on page 3.

On May 9, or sooner if the early voting option is exercised, voters will act on the General Fund (GF) and Highway (HF) questions, the Aldrich Library supplemental funding question and eighteen not-for-profit agency requests for a donation.

The proposed GF and HF budgets combined total \$6,443,601, which is \$193,445 or 3% more than the current budgets. Both budgets are balanced: new revenues equal expenses. No staff changes are proposed by these two budgets. Services would not be reduced. Property taxes produce almost all (93%) of the revenue for the HF and the vast majority (84.4%) of the GF's revenues. The Grand List is the tax base for property tax revenue. The town assessor advises growth in the Grand List will add \$650 of revenue to each penny of the tax rate.

<u>Current Tax Rates</u>	
General Fund	= 51.42 cents
Highway Fund	= 40.71 cents

The GF could see a .2 cent tax rate decrease and the HF a 1.56 cents increase for a net increase of 1.36 cents. The annual municipal tax bill for a property assessed at \$175,000 would increase \$23.80.

For fiscal year (FY) 2017-2018 the proposed GF is \$3,540,741, which is \$38,385 or 1.09% more than the 2016-2017 budget. As stated above the tax rate to support this budget could decrease .2 cent because of a small increase (\$18,535) in non-tax revenue and growth in the Grand List. The largest new expense is a \$48,575 line item (first of 5 yearly payments) for the fire department to buy new self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

The largest project in the GF budget is rehabilitating the four tennis courts at the main park. Based on a contractor's estimate \$26,000 was budgeted for that work. The budget was helped by a \$26,300 reduction in debt service; the town forest purchase loan was paid off in December, 2016. Also lending a helping hand in expense control is Barre Town's per capita payment to its own Ambulance Fund. The payment for FY 17-18 will be the same as 16-17.

For FY 17-18 the proposed HF budget is \$2,902,860. That figure is \$155,060 or 5.6% greater than the current budget. The tax rate hike for that budget would be 1.56 cents.

(Continued on page 2)

DATES & EVENTS

- April 29 - Household Hazardous Waste Collection
- May 1 - Cemeteries Open
- May 3 - Annual Town Meeting
- May 6 - Green Up Day
- May 9 - Election Day
- May 13 - Spring Bulk Trash
- May 15 - Property Taxes Due
- July 26-30 - Barre Homecoming
- Aug.15 - Property & Sewer Due



Barre Town Middle & Elementary School will have Registration and Screening on **April 10th** for children entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2017. This is needed if your child did not attend preschool

here at BTMES. Registration is for children born on or before August 31, 2012. Please call Betsy Pearce at 476-6617, ext. 6306, to schedule an appointment for your child.

(Cont'd: Annual Election - Budgets)

Nearly one-half of the HF increase is found in the road paving projects departments: Summer Construction and Re-treatment. The increase in these two departments is \$72,190. The total amount for road projects changes every year because the 5 year plan groups together streets in a neighborhood or side streets off a main road. The number of feet of road paved per year goes up and down. In FY 17-18 it is going up. Another reason for the increase is the reconstruction work planned for the southern end of Baptist Street. Reconstruction is labor and equipment intensive. A saving grace of this work is the equipment charges go into the Town's Equipment Fund and the labor would be paid anyway just assigned to another department.

Equipment charges in the other HF departments are going up \$33,430. The HF is the Equipment Fund's largest customer. Equipment rates are going up 5.1% partly due to the Barre Town School contracting for school bus service instead of paying the Town for bus maintenance and repair. The health insurance premium account is going up \$29,070 because one employee switched from opting out of the Town's plan to using two-person coverage, and a single employee left and was replaced by a new employee who needs two-person coverage.

A sewer vactor or flushing and vacuum truck is on order. The vactor is used for highway related functions such as cleaning catch basins. \$20,995 of the annual payment is in the HF. The remainder is in the Sewer Fund budget. Because of road salt held over from the winter of 2015-2016 the FY 16-17 budget for salt was less than usual. For FY 17-18 the road salt account is elevated to its usual amount necessitating an \$11,960 increase.

The ballot lists 19 other funding articles. For the third year Article 5 will ask if voters will approve additional funding for the Aldrich Library. This year the amount is \$50,000,

which is in addition to the \$130,000 in the GF budget. The \$180,000 sum is the same as FY 16-17.

Eighteen not-for-profit agency requests for a donation are on the ballot. Two of the agencies are new having successfully petitioned to be on the ballot. The eighteen requests total \$59,450.

The five citizen members of the Budget Committee in 2017 were: Justin Bolduc, John Hameline, Norma Malone, Bob Nelson and Jerry Parrott. The Committee also reviewed and approved the other fund budgets: Ambulance, Building, Cemetery, Equipment, Sewer, Sewer Capital Improvement and Water.

Before election day a budget booklet will be available on the town website (under Publications) and at these locations: Municipal Building, Trow Hill Grocery, Brookside Country Store, Quarry Hill Quick Stop, Hannaford, Graniteville General Store, Lawson's Store and Morgan's East Barre Market. The booklet offers more highlights and explanations about all nine budgets, the Warnings (list of ballot articles), budget summary and the budget tour book describing town departments and facilities.

Wait, there is more. A program about the budget proposals will be played on CVTV Channel 194, the local cable access channel. Look for the program the week before the election, especially on Friday and Saturday before and after the Selectboard meeting.

Of course there always is the telephone. Call the town manager at 479-9331 with questions about the proposed budgets.

By, Carl Rogers, Town Manager

Town Plan Amendments Approved

On February 7 the Selectboard voted to approve the recommended Town Plan amendments as presented by the town Planning Commission. The Selectboard's decision came after it held the two required public meetings in January (3rd and 17th). At the January 17th hearing the only citizen to attend spoke of her family's desire to locate a solar array on their farm as a means to support the farm. The family has a preferred location. The citizen and her family were concerned the Plan amendments would restrict their choosing the location for a solar array. Planning Commission members explained the Commission's recommendations. The amendments include changes to Chapter 8, Energy. The new language states the most appropriate locations for solar arrays are on roof tops and existing impervious surfaces. Also it encourages use of topography and vegetation to mitigate view of solar arrays. Furthermore, and the concern for the citizen and her family, the language states use of agricultural land for solar arrays should be avoided.

The approved amendments were sent to the C.V. Regional Planning Commission for approval.

By Carl Rogers, Town Manager

NEXT NEWSLETTER ISSUE ...in August !

Permit Reminder

Are you planning a firework display for this coming summer? Repaving your driveway? Have a building project you're finally going to do? If so it is likely that you will need a permit to do so.



One of the biggest misconceptions out there is that you don't need a permit to shoot fireworks. Nothing could be further from the truth. You can legally purchase fireworks without a permit but you're not supposed to transport them. Most importantly it is most definitely illegal to set them off without a permit.

A firework permit application can be downloaded at www.barretown.org Permits and Forms or by calling the Town Clerk's office (479-9391). You must submit the permit 15 days prior to the planned event. Permits are approved by the Selectboard (and they don't meet every week during the summer) after both the Police and Fire Chief have signed off on the display.

Planning to repave your driveway, if paving is to occur within the Town right-of-way (at or near the road) you'll need a driveway permit. A driveway permit application can be obtained at www.barretown.org Permits and Forms or by calling 479-2595.

Building a shed, a deck, a garage, or pretty much anything else outside less than 64sf in size, it is likely that you need a building permit. A valid building permit takes about 25 days to obtain so you should plan and allow ample time before you begin your project. Projects 64sf or less do not need a building permit. A building permit application can be obtained at www.barretown.org Permits and Forms or by calling 479-2595.

Also, very important to remember, if you're going to have an outside fire you may need a burn permit. Fires that are larger than an ordinary backyard campfire will need a permit. It is also important to remember that you can burn ONLY legal material natural untreated wood. The Fire Warden can be reached by calling 802-498-8694 and leaving a message. The Warden will call you back to discuss your plans and may require a site visit before he issues the permit. The burning of trash is never legal and is enforced by the Police Department with steep fines.

By Chris Violette, Planning & Zoning Director

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE! Barre Town's Annual Meeting and Elections in May

Barre Town, in accordance with our Town Charter, has two (2) Town elections (an Open Town Meeting and a vote by Australian ballot).

The Open Town Meeting, (first Wednesday in May) is a from the floor vote. It will be held on May 3, 2017, in the Municipal Building, Selectboard meeting room, and begins at 7:30 p.m. Articles to be voted on will include: setting the

property tax and sewer installment due dates; asking for approval to apply the State tax credits pro-rata (deduct the credit amount from the total tax amount and divide the remaining balance into 4 installments); to seek approval for the Selectboard to buy/sell real estate; and to present the Wendell F. Pelkey Citizenship & Service Award. Immediately following the Open Meeting there will be a presentation/overview of the proposed budget.

The Annual Election of Officers and Voting by Australian ballot will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at the Barre Town Middle & Elementary School Gymnasium. Polling hours are 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

The items appearing on the ballot include: election of Town Officers (Selectboard members, Auditor, Moderator, and Town Constable); voting on budgets (General Fund/Highway Fund); a Cemetery appropriation; an additional Library appropriation; some of the elected officer wages; numerous not-for-profit agency requests, and finally a couple small amendments to the Charter as a result of the change to the election laws which went into effect January 1, 2017.

There is no deadline to register to vote. Early Australian ballots are available. To request an early ballot telephone the office at 479-9391 or email dkelty@barretown.org.

For additional information on the proposed budgets or to view a sample ballot visit the our website homepage (www.barretown.org) and look for a link under the Announcements section.

By Donna Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Property Assessment Appeals

The assigning of property values (aka property assessment, or property appraisal) is a science designed to provide a fair, equitable process, but it is an imprecise one. This imprecision is addressed by allowing taxpayers to appeal the appraisal of their property. The 2017 grand list, which lists updated property values will be available at the Town Office in the first week of June. When it is, notices that it is available (known as "the lodging of the abstract grand list") will be posted on the town website, Times Argus, grocery stores, or post offices. If the Assessor for Barre Town has changed the appraisal of your property, you will receive a notice in the mail. Any taxpayer (not just those whose property appraisal has changed) may dispute their property appraisal through the tax grievance process, which is set by state law. A summary of the process is below:

1. File a grievance with the Assessor in writing by 14 days from the lodging of the abstract grand list, which will be the same date any notices of changes in appraisal are mailed. Upon receipt of the grievance, the Assessor will schedule a time to hear the grievance. The purpose of the Assessor's grievance hearing is to discover any possible errors or omissions in determining the value of a property. The burden of proof and persuasion is on the taxpayer. Upon completing the hearings, the Assessor will notify the taxpayer in writing of his decision. *If the tax payer does not agree with the Assessor's decision....*

(Continued on page 4)

(Cont'd: Property Assessment Appeals)

2. Appeal to the Board of Civil Authority (BCA) in writing to the Town Clerk within 14 days from the date that the Assessor mailed the result of his/her grievance hearing (step 1 above). The purpose of the BCA Tax grievance hearing is for the BCA to judge whether the property being appealed was assessed fairly when compared to similar properties in town. Again, the burden of proof and persuasion is on the taxpayer. All parties may introduce any relevant material and evidence (including oral presentation of fact presented under oath) during this hearing, whether or not the evidence was submitted previously to the Assessor. After the presentation of evidence and cross-examination, the BCA will appoint an inspection committee of three members to inspect the property and submit written findings to the full BCA within 30 days of the date of the BCA hearing. During the property inspection, property owners shall not engage in conversation pertaining to the appeal unless questions are asked by the inspection committee. Within 15 days of the BCA receiving the inspection committee report, the board will report and list reasons for their decision. The Town Clerk certifies the decision, records it in the grand list book, and notifies the property owner in writing of the decision by certified mail. *If the taxpayer does not agree with the BCA's decision...*

3. Appeal to either the state appraiser or superior court within 30 days of the town clerk mailing the notice of the decision. More information about this step will be provided by the Town Clerk when mailing notice of the BCA decision. *If the taxpayer does not agree with the state appraiser or superior court decision...*

4. Appeal to the Vermont Supreme Court. These appeals are governed by the Vermont Rules of Appellate Procedure.

For additional information on the Tax Grievance process contact the Town Clerk-Treasurer's Office at 479-9391 or email dkelty@barretown.org.

By Elaine Wang, Assistant Town Manager

Staff Changes

Bryan Brown: After 30 years of full time employment with Barre Town, Bryan will be retiring from the DPW on May 19th, 2017. Bryan served the town as a police officer, public works person and finally for 26 years as a mechanic, working primarily on the school buses, ambulances, fire trucks, and police cars. His coworkers know him as dependable and a 'straight shooter' who was easy to get along with. The BTMES Director of Transportation, Terrie Murray, said the school staff, whom he worked with the most, are really going to miss him. "Bryan was immensely helpful," she said. "He went above and beyond." Bryan would come in early to work on buses before the routes started, make many trips back and forth between the school and the DPW Shop with the

buses, and take replacement buses to ones that had broken down. Through all that, "Bryan never complained," said Terrie, "Even if he thought a repeated issue was due to driver error." Barre Town Selectboard member Jack Mitchell, who drove school buses and interacted with Bryan frequently, concurred. "Bryan was always friendly with the bus drivers. We all appreciated that a lot. And he was always right there at 6am during our morning walk around the buses to fix problems we found." Not only that, Terrie says "He taught me every part of a bus over the years, but without making me feel like an idiot! He was always very respectful and had a kind manner." We wish Bryan Brown a fulfilling retirement, and will be happy to see him now and then when the police department needs him in his part time police officer capacity, including at Thunder Road.

Police Chief recruitment: As featured in the February newsletter, Police Chief Mike Stevens plans to retire June 30, 2017. The town is updating the Barre Town Police Chief job description with his help, and is discussing the hiring plan. Stay tuned for updates.

Additions: Three town departments are pleased to fill their vacancies and return to full staffing. On February 27th, the Police Department welcomed Paula Russell onto its full-time roster. Officer Russell has been the Barre Town Animal Control Officer for 2.5 years, served as a per diem police officer as needed, and took on a regular shift when the department was short-staffed for three months. She applied for a full-time vacancy and we are glad to have her rounding out the team.

On February 6th, the Planning and Zoning Department finally filled the Planning and Zoning Administrative Assistant position vacated last summer. Emily Marineau's experience in the same role, and as a Licensed Nursing Assistant, at CVMC, signaled she would have the skills and bedside manner to serve the public well from the P&Z Office. Indeed, she has jumped right in and will be happy to assist you if you have a question about building permits or the like.

The Town Clerk's Office brought in Wendy Moore on April 3 to fill the Assistant Town Clerk position vacated at the end of last year. Wendy was an exemplary employee at the Brookside Nursing Home for 26 years and only left when the business was sold. We were sure that she would be an asset to this position requiring so much interaction with the public.

By Elaine Wang, Assistant Town Manager

Summer Paving Projects

Nova Chip Paving July 10 - 21: Buena Vista Cir., Lemay Dr., Alnita Ln., Chris Path Wy., Valley View Cir., Sunnyside Cir., Crab Apple Ln., Apple Blossom Rd., Sterling Hill Rd.



Pavement Milling July 17 - 28: Cogswell St., Baptist St., Drury Hill Rd., Websterville Rd. from Teja Rd. to Church Hill Rd.

(Continued on page 5)

(Cont'd: Summer Paving Projects)

Countryside Cir., Graniteville Rd. - Middle Rd. to Baptist St., Church Hill Rd. to pole #35, Barclay Quarry to Drury Hill Rd.

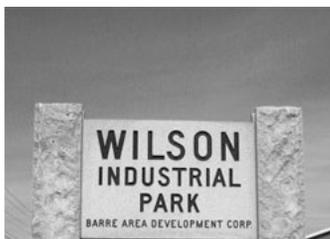
Hot Mix Paving (Phase 1) Aug. 7 - Aug. 18: Cogswell St., Drury Hill Rd., Websterville Rd. - Teja Rd. to Church Hill Rd., Baptist St., Graniteville Rd. - Middle Rd. to Baptist St. & Church Hill Rd. to Drury Hill Rd.

Hot Mix Paving (Phase 2) Aug. 28 - Sept. 8: Beckley Hill Rd. - Town line to end of pavement, Conti Cir., Countryside Cir., Apple Blossom Ln., Nuisl Rd.

If you have any questions regarding the work to be done on a road near your property, please contact the Town Engineer's Office at 479-2595.

By Harry Hinrichsen, Town Engineer

New Businesses in Wilson Industrial Park



The Wilson Industrial Park in Websterville has developed quite a diverse group of businesses over the years. Now we'd like to welcome a couple of new businesses. Old Route Two Spirits has leased space in the former Maine Drilling and Blasting Building and

Tenco Industries is about to move into the former Bombardier building

Old Route Two Spirits is a distillery that will focus on producing rum, gin, and whiskey. According to an article in Seven Days, the company will also produce micro-batches of absinthe and other liqueur which will showcase the diversity of Vermont's native crops and wild flora.

Old Route Two Spirits received a conditional use permit to operate the distillery from the Barre Town Development Review Board on May 17, 2016. The amount of work and permitting that goes into creating a distillery is considerable so the owners spent all the rest of 2016 getting ready. Highly regulated by the government, they also had to obtain permits from the Alcohol and Tobacco, Tax, and Trade Bureau, as well Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and State of Vermont.

As of the end of March, Old Route Two Spirits has received all its permits and licenses and are just finishing up research and development. They expect to be producing product by the end of April.

Tenco Industries is a leading distributor of snow and ice removal equipment. Tenco provides plows, mounting systems, spreader, dump bodies, and snow and ice control systems for Municipal and State Public Works Departments.

Tenco has operated out of the former Hill-Martin building on North Main Street in Barre City for 15 years. Moving to the industrial park, they have leased space in the building originally built for Bombardier but currently home to Northern Power Systems, a wind turbine manufacturing

company. Tenco will share the space with Northern Power Systems.

By Chris Violette, Planning & Zoning Director

Project Updates

Bridge Street Sidewalk: Construction bids for this 300 foot sidewalk on Bridge St. will be due on April 21. Construction inspection services were contracted for earlier this month. Actual construction will take place this summer. Funds for this project are 80% from the state and 20% from the town.

East Barre Sidewalk: The second of four landowners have granted to the town their easement required for this sidewalk totaling 580 feet on Mill St. and Websterville Rd. Other landowner discussions are still underway. Unfortunately, the town did not receive the state grant applied for in October to have sufficient funds to construct the project. We plan to apply again in the next round.

For more information on these sidewalk projects, contact Elaine Wang, Assistant Town Manager, at 477-1356.

Peloquin Rd Culvert: This 100-foot culvert on Peloquin Road at Holden Road will be upgraded this summer. The town released a request for proposals in April to either reconstruct or slipline (strengthen) it; the town will decide on the approach to use after reviewing the proposals. A state grant will contribute up to \$175,000 and the balance will be paid for with Town funds. For more information, contact Harry Hinrichsen, Town Engineer, at 479-2595.

Rt. 14/Sterling Hill Rd./Bridge St.: This challenging intersection improvement project has made some progress in the last few months. Negotiations with affected property owners, and stormwater permit application review, should start in late spring.

Rt. 63 paving: This state project to repave Rt. 63 from I-89 to Rt. 14 is scheduled for mid-April to end of July.

Logging: Logging in the town forest has come to an end for this winter season. The logger, George deNagy, was selected after competitive bidding in the fall of 2015. The contract was for logging areas north and south of Littlejohn Road. During the mild winter of 2015-2016 deNagy finished logging the area north of the road. This winter he finished about one half of the area south of Littlejohn. The town's consulting forester, Jeff Smith, advises the town should receive more than \$2,100 in stumpage fees for the 2017 harvesting. Smith also wrote he is "pleased with the quality of the work in the woods. The job was done carefully and thoughtfully...". Trails in the Littlejohn - Donahue quadrant of the forest should be open when dried out in May.

Websterville Fire District: On February 22 residents of the Websterville Fire District (WFD) voted 51 - 1 in favor of merging their fire district with the Town of Barre. Next legislative session (January 2018) a bill will be introduced to merge the WFD with the Town of Barre essentially consolidating the two water systems.

(Continued on page 6)



(Cont'd: Project Updates)

Before then, the WFD will complete a major water line replacement. The fire district plans to construct about 2,900' of new 8" PVC water line starting at its pump house (corner of Violette St. and Church Hill Rd.) going down Church Hill to Gregoire St. and then down Gregoire to Websterville Rd. Service lines will be replaced from the new 8" water line to the curb stop for each home. The vintage 1930s 6" cast iron water pipe will be removed. A temporary waterline will be laid down Church Hill and Gregoire. The temporary line will be above ground except where it crosses streets and driveways.

The contractor also will provide and install an emergency power generator and upgrade the electrical panel in the pump house. According to Ken Bisceglia of Weston and Sampson Engineering, the fire district's consulting engineers, the district is waiting for the state's review and approval of the construction plans before going to bid. Bisceglia hopes the construction project will be out to bid in April. He anticipates construction will start in June or July. The project should be completed before winter shuts down work for the season.

East Barre Intersection: There is no big picture progress to report on the state Rt. 110/Mill St./Bianchi St. intersection project.

Rt. 14/Quarry Street Intersection: The next phase of this project is set to start in May. VT Agency of Transportation (AOT) awarded the project contract to BUR Construction from New Hampshire. The contract is for widening the corridor on the south side (right going up) of Quarry Street from Rt. 14 to a point near the railroad crossing. BUR will remove trees and stumps and cut the banks back. Utility poles will be moved back afterwards. Project duration is about 3 months. This is the second phase of the total project. In the first phase houses along the south side were removed. In the third phase the intersection will be re-built with turning lanes, traffic signals and drainage improvements. Barre Town is involved because the upper limit of the project area crosses into Barre Town. The project funding includes 2% local share, of which Barre Town is paying 15% or about .3% of total project expenses.

*By Elaine Wang, Assistant Town Manager and
Carl Rogers, Town Manager*

News from Millstone Trails

As we turn the corner to our summer mountain biking and hiking season, we have several events coming up:

April 23: Will be our first trail maintenance day. We'll be cleaning up from winter logging, and hope to see lots of you then. No experience or tools required; meet at the 44 Brook Street garage at 9:00 am.

April 29: Will be our kick off party. Please join us down at the Barre Elks Club, 7:30 - 11:00 pm.

Expecting opening day for mountain biking is mid - May.

For more details on any of these events, please see millstonetrails.com.

By Beth Mueller, Board & Communication Comm. Member

New EMS Work Schedule

On May 1st Barre Town EMS, will begin a 9-month trial of a new employee schedule that was negotiated during the last union contract. This new schedule will not change how and when Barre Town EMS ambulances are staffed. All ambulances will continue to be staffed at the Paramedic level and all stations will be staffed for the same number of hours. The new schedule is an attempt by the Union and Town to limit the excessive amount of extra shifts the full-time staff work.



The new schedule allows for Per Diem employees to cover one 24 hour Saturday and one 24 hour Sunday shift. This model guarantees there is a full-time crew on every day of the week but at the same time takes some of the pressure off the full-time staff from working excessive number of hours. This will help with employee safety as well as avoiding burnout.

To cover this new schedule there has been extensive efforts to find and hire quality EMT, AEMT, and Paramedic providers. Thus far, there has been 6 new employees hired (4 Paramedic's and 2 EMT's) with 6 more in the interview process.

During the trial period, the Town and Union will evaluate the effect of the new schedule. This schedule will be made permanent if it is proven to be both cost effective and has no negative impact on the service the Barre Town EMS provides.

By Chris LaMonda, EMS Director

School to Town Property Transfer

The recreation facilities (the town's main park) near the town school (BTMES) are on land owned by the school. The facilities were developed and constructed by the town. For years the selectboard, recreation board and BTMES board have had an agreement about the school's use, and maintenance and operation by the town.



Last summer during the Act 46 consolidation planning and discussions, it was pointed out the recreation land and facilities would become property of the single school board for Barre Town and Barre City. It was suggested the school transfer the property to the town. A purchase sale agreement was signed in early November. The survey and subdivision plan was completed over the winter. Per the plan, the school will retain 20 acres around the building, parking lot, playgrounds and 4 +/- acres of woods behind the playground. That extra acreage will help ensure that if the school wants to expand in the future it will not exceed the maximum lot coverage in the zoning by law. The subdivision is on the DRB's April 12 meeting agenda for approval.

The BTMES will continue to enjoy priority user status when the recreation board schedules users of recreation fields.

By Carl Rogers, Town Manager



Application for Board, Commission or Committee

Please print:

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

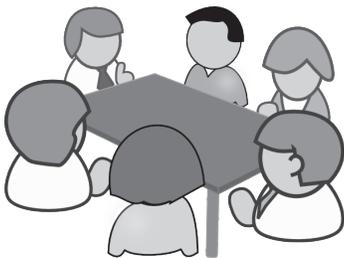
Phone: (H) _____ (C) _____ (W) _____

I am interested in being a member of:

<u>Board, Commission</u>	<u>Meeting Night</u>	<u>#Positions Due</u>	<u>Members Total</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery Commission	4th Wednesday	1	5
<input type="checkbox"/> Development Review Board	2nd Wednesday	3	7
<input type="checkbox"/> DRB Alternate members	2nd Wednesday	2	
<input type="checkbox"/> Housing Advisory Committee	as needed	1	5
<input type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission	3rd Wednesday	2	7
<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation Board	1st Monday	2	7
<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Safety Advisory Comm.	4th Wednesday	1	5



May is transition month for Barre Town government. The annual election of officers, including Selectboard members, (see article on page 2) is held the second Tuesday. The next week the Selectboard elects its chair and vice-chair, decides its meeting schedule and appoints certain town officers (usually town staff). The last Tuesday of May the board appoints volunteer, citizen members to the various boards, commissions and committees (BCCs).



All BCCs meet in the evenings in the Municipal Building. A staff member is assigned to each. Meeting material (agenda, minutes, agenda item information) is sent to the members before the meeting. Except for the Cemetery Commission, staff prepares the agenda and writes the minutes. Occasionally training opportunities are available. The Town will pay registration fees. BCC members will learn much about their area of responsibility and have an impact on town services or life in Barre Town, e.g. Planning Commission and solar farms, or Recreation Board and recreation programs. Learn more about the BCCs by visiting the town website (www.barretown.org) and clicking on Boards and Commissions. A description of each BCC, past agendas and minutes are available. Another option for more information is calling the town manager's office at 479-9331.

If you would like to be considered for one of the BCC seats listed above cut out the quick application form and mail to the Town Manager's Office, P.O. Box 116, Websterville, VT 05678 or drop it off at the Municipal Building. Another way to apply is to submit a letter of interest. A sample letter of interest (LOI) is available on the website at www.barretown.org/Pages/boards/interest.pdf. The LOI would be mailed to the same address listed above. ***Applications are due by noon on Friday, May 26, 2017.***

The Selectboard also is seeking candidates for the deputy health officer position. This position pays \$400 per year to respond to calls when the health officer is not available. Typically the health officer might receive 10-12 calls per year. A seat, reserved for a South Barre resident, on the Phoenix House Community Work Group (committee) is open. Anyone interested in either of these positions, please contact the Town Manager's Office.

By Carl Rogers, Town Manager

Development Review Board – *By Emily Marineau, Planning & Zoning (M. Nicholson, M. Reaves, C. Sanborn, C. Thygesen, S. Driscoll, G. Richards, J. Valsangiacomo, J. Fecteau, J. Hameline)*

January 2017: No meeting.

February 2017: Approve boundary line adjustment for Jeff Blow and Don Ennis regarding property located behind 26 Highland Crofts.

March 2017: Approved One Bridge St., LLC for site plan to construct 4 commercial storage units located on So. Barre Rd.; approved One Bridge St., LLC for site plan review for filling of land in excess of 800 cubic yards on So. Barre Road.

Planning Commission – *By Emily Marineau, Planning & Zoning (C. Sanborn, C. Thygesen, C. Violette, D. Bordo, C. Duke, J. Hameline, G. Clain)*

January 2017: No meeting.

February 2017: Considered request by Russell and Melissa Brown to change the zoning of their 21-acre parcel from low density to high density.

March 2017: After review of Russell and Melissa Browns request to change their zoning of a 21-acre parcel of land the board decided not to move forward with this request at this time.

Traffic Safety Advisory Committee - *By Harry Hinrichsen, Town Engineer (C. Liese, D. Newhall, J. Blow, W. Kirby, V. Vallerand)*

January 2017: Held 3 Public Hearings regarding speed limit changes for; Cutler Corner Rd. (from 35 mph to 40 mph) Osborne Rd.(from 40 mph to 35 mph), and Morrison Rd.(from 40 mph to 35 or 30 mph); worked on developing a line striping policy for Class 2 & 3 roads; considered recommendation for upgrading Class 2 & 3 roads on Line Striping Contract list.

February 2017: Continued working on speed limit changes/recommendations for Cutler Corner Rd., Osborne Rd. and Morrison Rd.; made recommendation to Selectboard on Line Striping Policy; passed resolution expressing thanks to Chief Michael Stevens for his years of service to traffic safety and to all in the Town.

March 2017: No meeting.
