BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA
June 27, 2017

Open House: Police Chief Stevens’ Retirement 6:00 p.m.
1. Call to order 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
5. Announcements
6. Consider adoption Resolution #4-17 congratulating and expressing appreciation to Police Chief Michael Stevens on his retirement.
7. Presentation of donations for Travis Mercy Skatepark.
8. Conversation with Recreation Board applicant.
9. Consider authorizing Ecosystem Restoration Grant application.
10. Authorize Town Manager to sign Quit Claim deed for old English School lot.
11. Review fifth section of proposed new personnel policy.
12. Receive guests: (for non-agenda items).
13. Miscellaneous a) fireworks permit for Andrew Woodhams, 14 Breer Road, July 2nd

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
June 27, 2017

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of June 27, 2017 was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, Lower Websterville at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Tom White, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Paul White, Bob Nelson and Rolland Tessier.

Attendance for the regular meeting included: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Manager Elaine Wang, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, Police Chief Michael Stevens, Sargent William Dodge, Sargent Paul Thayer, Officer Paula Russell, Officer, Kyle Laughlin, Officer Ben Hammond, Officer Damian Hook, Nicole Poulin, Joel Schwartz, Linda Mercy, Dave Rouleau, Brian Wilcock and guest, Doug Farnham, Terry Smith, William and Pearl Bugbee, Louise and Joe Coates, Jeff Blow, Lula Lavery, and Tina Thurston.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE THE AGENDA

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to approve the amended agenda as follows:

- Item 15: Miscellaneous - add 2 items for fireworks: an amendment to Thunder Road for July 3 display and Cedric Sanborn, July 4, 2017;
- Item 15: Add action item for a letter of support for Friends of the Winooski grant;
- Item 15: Add action item for the purchase of heating oil and diesel
- Move Item 13 so it can be heard following item 9.
Selectboard Minutes of June 27, 2017 continued:

MINUTES

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to approve the Selectboard Meeting Minutes of June 20, 2017 with the minor grammatical and spelling changes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Visit barretown.org to find departmental phone numbers, crime tip form, lawn waste site hours, timely announcements, recreation events, board and commission meeting calendar, agendas, minutes and more.

• Summer Road work season is upon us! The Department of Public Works has been getting town roads ready for milling and paving. The pavement milling contractor will start Monday July 17th, weather permitting. For the milling and paving schedule and whether your road will be affected, visit the Barre town website, Department tab, and click on Public Works. Or, look at your copy of the April newsletter on page 4.

• There will be a special Selectboard Meeting on Wednesday, July 5th, 2017 at 5:30 pm to set the property tax rate for fiscal year 2017-2018. The public is welcome to attend.

• The regular Selectboard meeting schedule in July and August will be every other week beginning July 11th. The every Tuesday schedule will resume in September.

• The Recreation Board will once again be holding their summer Ice Cream Socials. The next one will be Tuesday, July 11, 2017, 6:30 p.m. at the Trow Hill Playground. For more information see the Town website.

RESOLUTION #4-17 HONORING POLICE CHIEF MICHAEL STEVENS

Background: Police Chief, Michael Stevens, was hired as a part-time officer in July 1986, the year that both Madonna’s “True Blue” and Stevie Wonder’s “Go Home” were in the top 100 of the Billboard music charts. He became a full-time officer one month later, was promoted to Sergeant two years later, served as acting chief twice, and was hired as chief in September 1990. He is retiring June 30, 2017 after 31 years of service to Barre Town.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to adopt Town of Barre Vermont Resolution #4-17, A Resolution of the town of Barre, Vermont in Appreciation of Police Chief Michael Steven’s Service to the Town of Barre.”

Manager Rogers read the resolution (see minute attachment). Chief Stevens was presented the framed resolution, plaque, and card. Stories were exchanged and the Chief was thanked by those present.

TRAVIS MERCY SKATEPARK DONATIONS

Background: In February 2017, the Barre Town Thunder Chickens Snowmobile Club and the Mercy family held the fundraiser for the Travis Mercy Skatepark marking the 18th year. They organized a Poker run, lunch, and silent auction. Also raffled off was a handmade quilt by Linda Mercy’s mother. Proceeds are being presented to the Town at this meeting.

After this donation, the Club will have raised over $20,000 for the skatepark. These monies and the $3,000 in the 2017-2018 recreation budget will pay for a new apparatus at the skatepark.

Dave Rouleau and Linda Mercy were present. This year proceeds totaled $4,262.50. Last weekend a skateboard clinic was held with a record number of participants (23). All
Selectboard Minutes of June 27, 2017 continued:
received helmets and tee-shirts. This fundraising helps to pay for these free clinics. Photos of the event were distributed for viewing to the Board members.

Parker Construction is hoping to build the new ramp this season and things are progressing despite the rainy weather.

RECREATION BOARD APPOINTMENT

Background: Tracy Wright resigned from the Recreation Board to spend more time working on her camp in Maine. The term is to expire the end of May 2018. As is customary the vacancy was advertised via televised Selectboard meetings, Front Porch Forum, the website, with no closing date for applications. Brian Wilcock has applied for the vacancy and meet with the Selectboard at this meeting.

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to appoint Brian Wilcock to the Barre Town Recreation Board to fill the unexpired term of Tracy Wright, said term to expire on May 31, 2018.

BARRE AREA DEVELOPMENT PRESENTATION

Background: Joel Schwartz, Executive Director of the Barre Area Development Corp. is present to give the Board his quarterly report.

Discussion focused on the Economic Development Strategy Committee work, the need for messaging/branding our area, filling store fronts, and infrastructure. Media uses (including technology) and business incentives will be needed in the future.

GUESTS

Recreation Board Chair Doug Farnham, members Terry Smith and Dave Rouleau were present. They provided pictures and raised concerns with regards to the condition of the recreational facility noting that maintenance is not up to standard. Farnham stated he did some of the weed-whacking for a recent event as it appears to not have been done since the beginning of the mowing season. Requests had been made for the moving picnic tables for the skatepark clinic (not completed) and the recent trenching restoration work has not been completed. There seems to be some confusion with regards to which department is responsible.

Rogers noted that the staff is down one person and the vacancy is filled as of last Monday. The rainy weather and short staffing has made it difficult to keep up with the mowing and trimming. He has already contacted the contracted mowing company for estimates to do some additional work.

Further discussion on the need to add personnel considering our growing recreation facilities around town should be discussed prior to budget season next year.

Mitchell also noted, even though it is not a Town responsibility, that the scenic vista at Wells Lamson Quarry (off Websterville Road) is a mess. He was hoping the Recreation Board might contact Rock of Ages to see if they could organize something to get things repaired and cleaned up.

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION GRANT APPLICATION

Background: Hydroseeders have become a more commonly used tool in recent years for revegetating disturbed ground after construction and roadway maintenance. The equipment grinds up mulch product finely and mixes it with water, seed, fertilizer and other soil amendments, and allows efficient application of the mixture. Seed established
Selectboard Minutes of June 27, 2017 continued:

better due to the fineness of the mulch, evenness of exposure to water and nutrients. And evenness of ground coverage.

The DPW Superintendent has made a case for this equipment to the FY 17-18 budget committee which approved it. There is enough money in the budget for a jet agitation hydroseeder at $3,500. He has since spoken to more vendors and several municipalities with experience using jet models and the consensus is that models with mechanical agitators are better - they mix much faster, and will take a variety of mulch products. Jet types can create a paper mache-like result, not good for revegetation. One vendor's quote for the mechanical agitation model we are most interested in was $8,523, plus $1,050 for shipping (total cost $9,573), though we would put the purchase out for bid per the town purchasing policy.

Hydroseeders are eligible for Ecosystem Grants from the Agency of Natural Resources. The grant application is due July 5th, so this is the last Selectboard meeting before the deadline. The grant requirements are as follows:

- 50% match, which we can meet between the budget allocation for the hydroseeder, labor, equipment charges, and mulch products costs (i.e. the quote above will not require changes to the budget);
- Letters of support: CVRPC, Friends of Winooski River, and the Winooski Conservation District have all agreed to provide letters of support;
- A minimum 10-year operations and maintenance plan for the equipment. The vendor recommended a maintenance schedule including tank reconditioning and mechanicals replacement that they said should result in a 30-year service life, so a 10-year commitment is reasonable;
- An ANR employee affiliated with the grant program recommended that a set-aside contingency fund to replace the hydroseeder would probably help our case.

The Board was provided with a draft letter of support and a copy of the grant application which will have some minor changes.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to authorize the submittal of an Ecosystem Restoration Grant application for a hydroseeder and to sign the letter of support/commitment.

OLD ENGLISH SCHOOL LOT QUIT CLAIM DEED

Background: The Selectboard, at the recommendation of the Town Attorney released several Old English School lots during their meetings on September 2, 2014 and July 14, 2015. The documents were to release property owners from outdated "rent" obligations to a beneficiary, an English School, that no longer exists. Those deeds have since been disputed by First American Title Insurance. The Selectboard is being asked to authorize the Town Manager to sign a separate quit claim deed conveying and releasing the Town's interest in an English School Lot to Edward and Annette Brooks.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Nelson, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Town Manager to sign a Quit Claim deed for Edward and Annette Brooks for the purpose of releasing the Town's interest in collecting taxes on the Old English School lot.

PERSONNEL POLICY

Background: The Selectboard has been reviewing sections of a new proposed personnel policy the past few meetings. Continuation will begin with Section 27 - Administration. Most information is quite standard.

Much of the conversation focused on the need to segregate harassment versus sexual harassment and the procedure process.
WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to approve the weekly accounts payable warrant for June 27, 2017. Nelson recused himself due to an employer conflict.

MISCELLANEOUS

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Bob Nelson, the Selectboard voted to approve and authorize the Town Clerk to sign a firework permit with the standard conditions for Andrew Woodhams, 14 Breer Road, to hold an event on July 2, 2017. The motion passed with Paul White voting no.

Motion discussion focused on the policy of submitting an application 15 days before an event. The Board was informed the reason for accepting less than the 15 days is public safety – ensuring the first responders are aware of the event and notifying the abutters. The Public Safety Departments would rather have something permitted when the attempt was made to comply than to have an illegal display. Policy should be revisited soon.

On a motion by Paul White, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted to amend the Fireworks Permit of Thunder Road Speedbowl, #F-17-05-147B to change the fireworks class from 1.3G to 1.4G (smaller) and the discharge area from the gravel pit to the infield of the race track.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to approve and authorize the Town Clerk to sign a firework permit with the standard conditions for Cedric Sanborn, 106 Lyman Road, to hold a display on July 4, 2017 with reluctance because of the late application date. Paul White and Tom White voted no.

HEATING OIL AND DIESEL FUEL CONTRACTS

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted unanimously to award the 17-18 heating oil contract to Champlain Valley Plumbing and Heating for their price of $1.75 per gallon and the diesel fuel contract to Dennis Burke for their bid price of $1.875.

LETTER OF SUPPORT - FRIENDS OF THE WINOOSKI

Background: Two years ago the Friends of the Winooski River received a grant to study erosion at the Town/City Line, Pouilot Avenue. The Town asked for the study to be expanded to include our DPW garage, Maintenance Facility, and the School. This study is complete. The next step is to prepare advance plans for a storm water design. The organization is now seeking another grant to pay for the design plans.

Manager Rogers stated the Friends of the Winooski is asking for a letter of support for the grant request. Should the Town support this grant there is no financial commitment and we are not obligated to construct. Basically, the plans would call for a cistern at the truck garage and shop.

On a motion by Nelson, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize a letter of support for the Friends of the Winooski River for their grant noted above.

ROUND THE TABLE

Paul White – He noted the Town receive a fine from Mine Safety in the amount of $116.00 and inquired what the violation was. Rogers stated a stockpile near the last berm in the new area had eroded due to the taking of material.
EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard found that premature general knowledge would put the Town at a substantial disadvantage.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Paul White, the Selectboard voted to go into executive session at 9:45 p.m. to discuss legal matters.

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Bob Nelson Selectboard voted to come out of executive session at 10:32 p.m.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Bob Nelson, seconded by Jack Mitchell, the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 10:32 p.m.

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Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer  Selectboard Chair

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Barre Town Selectboard

See next page for Resolution.
TOWN OF BARRE, VERMONT
RESOLUTION #4 - 17

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF BARRE, VERMONT
IN APPRECIATION OF POLICE CHIEF MICHAEL STEVENS’ SERVICE TO THE TOWN OF BARRE

WHEREAS, Chief Stevens attentively served Barre Town as a member of the Police Department for 31 years, including 27 years as Police Chief, one and a half years as Sergeant, and two years as a Patrol Officer; and

WHEREAS, Chief Stevens grew up in the Barre area, worked in police, corrections, and security agencies around the state and the country, and returned with a breadth and depth of perspective that benefited the town; and

WHEREAS, Chief Stevens has led the department for more than half the number of years that Barre Town has operated a police department, and through a changing environment necessitating an increase from a force of four to seven; and

WHEREAS, Chief Stevens’ visionary leadership has resulted in the Barre Town Police Department developing a new K9 unit and becoming among the first in the state to adopt use of body cameras; and

WHEREAS, Chief Stevens’ skill in managing for multiple priorities simultaneously has resulted in a department with excellent public standing, up-to-date and reliable equipment including firearms, vehicles, and a consistent budget from year to year; and

WHEREAS, Chief Stevens has earned innumerable thanks from citizens, community leaders, and members of other law enforcement agencies for his excellent work and that of his department; and

WHEREAS, Chief Stevens’ extensive service to the community at large has included Signal Corp. in the United States Army, Security in the Air National Guard, representation of Vermont law enforcement on the State Emergency Response Commission, chairing the Local Emergency Planning Committee for Washington County, President of the Barre Kiwanis Club, Director on the Board of Washington County Youth Service Bureau, and member of the American Legion; and

WHEREAS, Chief Stevens has served the high purpose of improving public welfare his entire adult life; and

WHEREAS, Chief Stevens’ legacy of service, commitment, and professionalism has left a lasting imprint on Barre Town, Central Vermont and the entire state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Barre Town Selectboard does hereby convey its deepest gratitude to Chief Stevens for 31 years of distinguished service to the Barre Town Police Department and the citizens of Barre, and honors him on the occasion of his retirement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a complete copy of this Resolution be included in the Selectboard meeting minutes.

RESOLVED at Websterville, Barre Town, Vermont this 27th day of June, 2017.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD
/s/ Tom White
/s/ W. John "Jack" Mitchell
/s/ Paul White
/s/ Rolland Tessier
/s/ Bob Nelson

ATTEST: Donna J. Kelly, Town Clerk-Treasurer