

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA

December 20, 2011

- PILOT: Defibrillator replacement - early budget presentation 6:30 p.m.
1. Call to order. 7:00 p.m.
 2. Pledge of Allegiance.
 3. Consider approving the minutes from meeting on December 13, 2011.
 4. Announcements.
 5. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
 6. Public hearing for transfer of land - Hunt Road, Town Highway #126.
 7. Consider authorizing signing of deeds and documents to complete disposition of Hunt Road, Town Highway #126.
 8. Consider Regional Public Safety Committee request for appropriation and referendum.
 9. Consider letter of support for Barre City's "City Place."
 10. Consider adopting 5-Year Equipment Purchase Plan.
 11. Consider adopting 5-Year Paved Road Plan.
 12. Consider adopting Resolution #8-11 regarding lease financing.
 13. Consider approving Assessor's Errors & Omissions List #2.
 14. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
 15. Miscellaneous
 16. 'Round the Table.
 17. Executive Session: (contracts).
 18. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The December 20, 2011 the duly warned regular meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard was held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, Lower Websterville at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Jeffrey Blow, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Jeff Newton, William Wolfe, and Gregory Donahue.

Attendance for the regular meeting included: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Assistant Town Manager Shawn Benham, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, Paul McGinley, Allan Heath, George Malek, and Assessor Joseph Levesque (arrived 8:33 p.m.).

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

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.

MINUTES

On a motion by Newton, seconded by Donahue, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the minutes of December 13, 2011.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Town is searching for a Superintendent of Public Works. Look for our ads through the Times Argus, at the www.VLCT.org or vermontlocalroads.org websites.
- If you would like to be considered for a seat on next year's Budget Committee, please submit your name and contact information in writing (either email offices@barretown.org or mail to PO Box 124, Websterville, VT 05678). Letters of interest must be received by 4:00 p.m., Friday, December 30, 2011.
- Already thinking about the post-holiday cleanup? The Town will be collecting Christmas trees again in January. Leave your tree by the end of your driveway, and know it will be recycled at no cost to you. Check page 5 of the Town's fall newsletter for the pick-up schedule and additional details.

Selectboard Minutes of December 20, 2011 continued:

- Please note there will be no Selectboard meeting next Tuesday, December 27th. Enjoy the holidays, and we will see you in the new year!

GUESTS - None

PUBLIC HEARING - HUNT ROAD TRANSFER OF LAND

Background: Following the Town Charter process for sale (transfer) of Town property a Public Hearing is being held to hear comment. Hunt Road is being discontinued.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Donahue, the Selectboard voted unanimously to open the Hunt Road transfer of land public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

There were no public comments. Newton gave a brief background on the discontinuance.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Donahue, the Selectboard voted unanimously to close the public hearing at 7:06 p.m.

SIGN DEEDS TO COMPLETE DISPOSITION OF HUNT ROAD

Background: To complete the transfer of Hunt Road the Selectboard will need to authorize the preparation of documents which will transfer Hunt Road ownership to the two abutters: Madeline Gerhart, and Charles & Beverly Thygesen.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to authorize the Town Attorney and Town Manager to prepare and sign the necessary documents to transfer ownership of the former Hunt Road, Town Highway #126 to the two abutters: Madeline Gerhart and Charles & Beverly Thygesen.

REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE APPROPRIATION & REFERENDUM REQUEST

Background: The Regional Public Safety Committee is asking the Selectboard to include \$15,000 in the fiscal year 2012-2013 budget and call for a special meeting in March 2012 to ask voters if they support going forward with their study. The monies would be used to hire a consultant to work on the items in the Committee's Report #2, Key Areas of Exploration.

The Selectboard initiated a charter amendment which gives the Budget Committee authority to set the budget presented to the voters. \$15,000.00 is a lot of money for the Barre Town Budget Committee. This past year there were disputes on amounts as small as \$500, including cutting the Recreation Board's \$22,000 request for capital improvements to \$15,000. Even a few hundred dollars to maintain landscaping was removed.

The Selectboard is not required to take action Tuesday night. Some items to be considered for discussion include: How will this make things better for the people of Barre Town? What about local control, direct contact for the public?

Board member William Wolfe recused himself from the meeting.

Allan Heath and Paul McGinley gave a brief overview of what the \$15,000 would cover. Mitchell wondered why a referendum question on continuing the study was necessary. He noted that in 2000 the voters by a referendum question stated they were in favor of looking at ways to work cooperatively with other communities in an effort to save money.

Selectboard Minutes of December 20, 2011 continued:

The Town Attorney opinion presented to the Board confirmed the Selectboard could not solely decide to put a funding request into the proposed budget; it will have to go through the Budget Committee (5 Selectboard members plus 5 citizens) or be a separate article.

During discussion it was noted that if the Town were to hold a special election in March then the School District would not be required to pay any cost associated with the election as they would piggy back on the Town. Consensus is not to hold a special meeting at a cost of \$7,000 +/- to gauge public interest in whether or not to continue the study.

The Public Safety Committee members and Selectboard agreed the \$15,000 funding request would go through the Budget Committee and if approved the non-binding study question would be placed on the Annual Town Meeting ballot in May 2012.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR "CITY PLACE"

Background: Barre Area Development Executive Director is asking a letter of support for the construction of Barre "City Place" for the purpose of permanently housing state workers displaced due to Hurricane Irene.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Donahue, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt a motion authorizing a letter of support for the proposed City Place (located in Barre City) with the language the Town supports relocation of State offices in City Place, IF the State of Vermont decides not to repair and re-occupy the Waterbury complex.

5-YEAR EQUIPMENT PURCHASE PLAN

Background: This item is back on the agenda this week and is unchanged. Shop Foreman Mike Martel says the bobcat skid steer is in "sad shape." The DPW Superintendent stated it would be used more if it was kept at the DPW and trailered to the cemetery when needed, instead of vice-versa. The Town did bid out the purchase of a skid steer last year; the cost was about \$39,000. The Town staff is not asking for this to be added; but if it is, the staff wants a skid steer NOT a tractor.

Newton crunched some numbers for the Selectboard with regards to life cycle of pickup trucks (Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Shop Foreman, and Town Engineer). Benham also presented the repair costs for the pickup trucks. The consensus of the Board is reduce the replacement cycle of the pickup trucks in this plan to 5 years for the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent's vehicles (due to annual mileage, repair costs, and resale value) and the Shop Foreman and Engineer to 7 years. It was agreed that from this point forward all pickups will be 4-wheel drive. The Manager will make the necessary changes to the plan and bring it back to the Board for approval.

The skid steer replacement had been in a previous year budget for replacement. However, the Selectboard did not award a purchase due to the tractor versus skid steer controversy. Mitchell noted that initially our Bob Cat was purchased by the Cemetery for digging graves. Over the years the DPW and School have come to use it also. Wolfe stated he understood the Cemetery needs (wheel base width) in facilitate digging graves. Tractors have evolved greatly, to include many attachments and may not need to be trailered.

The consensus of the Selectboard is if the replacement is to be in the FY 2012-2013 budget then a pro and con list for a skid steer versus tractor should be presented to the Board prior to the budget review process. If it is going to be in a later budget then the pros/cons list can be presented at a later date.

ERRORS & OMISSIONS LIST #2

Background: The Assessor is requesting a change to the Grand List. It contains 5 items: 4 have value reductions and 1 no value change. The total reductions equal \$55,735.

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Donahue, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the Assessor's Errors & Omissions List #2 dated December 15, 2011 as presented.

5-YEAR PAVED ROAD PLAN

Background: A draft 5-Year Paved Road Plan was sent to the Board for review prior to the meeting. Some changes were made based upon the annual inspections completed by the DPW Superintendent, Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, and Town Engineer. Paving materials in the plan propose using the traditional hot mix, Nova Chip, cold mix and chip seal.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Wolfe, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt the 5-Year Paved Road Plan (Fiscal Year 2013 - 2017).

RESOLUTION #8-11 LEASE FINANCING

Background: Resolution #8-11 authorizes the necessary Town Officials (Clerk-Treasurer, Manager, Selectboard Chair, Town Attorney) to sign documents associated with the lease financing of 3 ambulances and one dump truck through Municipal Leasing Consultants.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adopt Resolution #8-11 with Municipal Leasing Consultants and authorize the necessary Town Officials to sign the documents associated with lease financing of 3 ambulances and one dump truck.

WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the December 20, 2011 accounts payable warrant.

MISCELLANEOUS

Happy Holidays from the management and staff of Barre Town.

ASSESSOR'S CONTRACT

On a motion by Wolfe, seconded by Newton, the Selectboard voted unanimously to enter into a contract with Assessor Joseph Levesque for the period September 1, 2011 through August 30, 2013.

'ROUND THE TABLE

Happy Holidays from the Barre Town Selectboard.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Donahue, the Selectboard voted unanimously to go into executive session at 8:55 p.m. to discuss real estate, legal, and personnel.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Donahue, the Selectboard voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 9:50 p.m.

Selectboard Minutes of December 20, 2011 continued:
ADJOURN

On a motion by Newton, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:50 p.m.

Donna Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard