



Town of Barnard, Vermont

Chartered July 17, 1761

P.O. Box 274
Barnard, Vermont 05031
(802) 234-9211

SELECTBOARD MINUTES FEBRUARY 18, 2026

PRE-TOWN MEETING & REGULAR MEETING ATTENDEES

Selectboard Members Present: Rock Webster, Richard Lancaster, Kurt Lessard.

Also Present: Kassie Hull, Michael Lackey, Gina Lancaster, Rob Ramrath, Diane Rainey, Nick Stone, Michael Beardsley, Steve Cota, Steve Hamsch (on telephone).

PRE-TOWN MEETING

1. **Call to Order** at 7:00PM.
2. **Public Comments & Discussion.** Michael Lackey confirmed that the Selectboard received the Recreation Committee's official FY27 budget request. He asked about the procedure to reduce the number of voting members on the committee so it's easier to get a quorum at each meeting. Kurt wondered if the terms should be staggered. Rock stated that the Selectboard will discuss and make this decision at the March 4th mtg.
3. **Adjourn** at 7:08PM.

REGULAR MEETING

4. **Call to Order** at 7:09PM.
5. **Review/Approve Minutes from February 4, 2026.** Approved.
6. **Review Agenda.** No changes.
7. **Public Comments & Other Business.**
 - A. Gina Lancaster stated that Steve Johnson finished the repair work on Cootey Road and asked if there would be any further discussion about Cootey Road. Rock stated that it was not on the agenda.
8. **New Business.**
 - A. **Request to park car at TH during mud season.** A resident on East Barnard Road drives a 2WD Prius and asked to park in the town hall lot overnight, if needed, during mud season. Rock stated that they can park in the back corner with the understanding that if there is a snowstorm it must be moved to plow.
 - B. **Apparel Impact clothing drop-off bin at Transfer Station.** Apparel Impact is a textile recovery and reuse company. All clothing, sheets/towels, footwear, and accessories are accepted. The town can sign up to host a bin at the transfer station at no cost. Apparel Impact maintains and services the bin. Discussion about where to put one. Kassie will ask for dimensions/size options.
 - C. **FYI – Patty Hasson is not running for another term as Auditor.** There are now two auditor positions that need to be filled at town meeting. Tom Morse will speak to the meeting about the work and requirements of the position. Discussion about how the town can vote to eliminate the office of local auditor if there isn't enough interest because we have an external audit every year.



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9. Old Business.

A. Wildwood Lane Sign. Discussion about e-911 requirements generally. Nick stated that he would order the road sign and install it when he is able.

B. Adoption Vote re: Planning Commission's proposal to expand commercial zoning district in the Stage Road/Twin Farms area. Steve Cota said the Planning Commission started reviewing this in July 2025 and held regular monthly meetings and the required hearings. There were few questions at the initial meeting and no additional comments until Steve Hamsch asked for clarification at the Selectboard hearing. The Planning Commission discussed his questions at their meeting the following week and provided written responses because Steve Hamsch did not attend. Steve Cota asked the Selectboard to approve the proposal because if there is an objection, residents can submit a petition to request a town vote. Kurt made the motion to vote on the question. Richard seconded the motion. The vote to adopt the proposal was unanimous. The changes will become effective on March 11, 2026, unless a petition is filed with the Town Clerk by Tuesday, March 10, 2026.

10. Town & Highway Orders. Reviewed and approved.

A. Grants & Compliance Paperwork

i. Town Road & Bridge Standards. The Vermont ANR and AOT jointly updated the standards. The major changes apply to Drainage Crossings.

ii. FEMA. The town will be receiving \$16,022.61 as the State's ERAF share.

B. Town Property Maintenance

i. Meeting at Transfer Station to discuss trash cover. The Selectboard will meet with Brooks Wright at 8AM on February 25, 2026.

C. Road Foreman Updates.

i. Reviewed two quotes for pickup truck trade-in. Discussed off-road package and ordering in fleet color. Voted to trade-in with G-Stone because the quote was lower, and their service department is larger.

ii. Test pits were dug for the Bridge 33 engineering.

iii. Discussion about road posting. Kassie will begin the procedure.

D. Town Meeting Planning. BarnArts will set up the stage on March 1. The rest of the hall will be set up starting at 8AM on March 2. Audio will be tested.

11. Adjourn at 7:58PM.

Minutes prepared by Kassie Hull, Clerk. All votes unanimous unless otherwise noted. The next regular meeting is Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at 7PM at the Town Offices.

Selectboard:


Rock Webster, Chair


Richard Lancaster


Kurt Lessard