



# Town of Barnard, Vermont

Chartered July 17, 1761

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

## SELECTBOARD MINUTES JANUARY 15, 2025

**Selectboard Members Present:** Rock Webster, Richard Lancaster, Robert Edmunds

**Meeting Attendees:** Kassie Hull, Nick Stone, Diane Rainey, Dylan Slack, Linda Treash, Zach Dayno, Susan Salter-Reynolds, Wes Henning, Stuart Hull, Gretchen Wilson, Margaret Edwards, Berna Donlon.

### Regular Meeting Agenda

1. **Call to Order** 7:00PM.

2. **Review/Approve Minutes of January 1, 2025.** Approved.

3. **Review Agenda.** Additions of 4(A), 6(B), and 7(B).

4. **Public Comments & Other Business.**

**A.** Richard received a call from Glen Dunning about plowing on Masterson. Nick confirmed that the town crew has plowed it the same way the past four years; moving forward they will not plow as far up the road.

5. **Old Business**

**A. 10050 Vt RTE 12 Buyout.** The expected timeframe for the closing is mid-February. Gretchen asked if the process could be expedited. The town does not have the funds to pay upfront and must wait for the FEMA advance.

**B. Old Firestation Promise to Lease.** Requests for changes to the draft lease are:

- i. BarnArts and the Library asked for clarification of the relationship between the library and firestation portions of the property.
- ii. BarnArts requested a 99-year lease term, as they will be making many capital improvements. The Selectboard is open to a longer lease, but not 99 years, and will consult the town attorney.
- iii. BarnArts wants to have the option to build a second level. The Selectboard agreed, as long as the height is within zoning limits.
- iv. As a next-door neighbor, the library is concerned about construction, noise, and this being a long-term project. Rock said that the lease is conditional on whether BarnArts can raise the funds they need to make improvements before they begin the project so that it does not turn into a piecemeal.
- v. BarnArts asked for the town to continue to plow the parking lot as it would remain a public parking space. Rock said the town will continue to plow but will not shovel any walkways.



# Town of Barnard, Vermont

Chartered July 17, 1761

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

- C. Planning Commission Ridgeline Review Overlay Hearing.** The Selectboard will hold a public hearing on March 19, 2025, and then put the final question to residents by Australian Ballot, probably in April or May.
- D. Employee Training.** Kassie will apply on the town's behalf for a VLCT PACIF John Lawe Scholarship for all town employees, volunteers, and public-facing representatives. The funds will be used for a group training in April 2025, from 6-8pm that will focus on ethics, legal implications of representing the municipality, abuse prevention, conflict resolution, and de-escalation techniques.
- E. Town Meeting Planning.**
- i. Open Meeting Law.** Town Meeting is an annual meeting of voters, not of a governing body (like the Selectboard), meaning that residents cannot vote remotely and there is no requirement to offer an electronic meeting platform. Town Meeting will run as usual and there will be no call-in option offered.
  - ii. Annual Report Quotes.** The Town will use Spaulding Press as the printer.
  - iii. Town Meeting Warning.** Kassie will draft the warning for review and signature at the budget meeting next week.
- F. FY26 Budget.** Diane shared that the FY24 Audit showed a municipal surplus and a highway deficit and the Selectboard discussed options for moving forward. In addition to the annual appropriation, Chief Stuart Hull requested an additional one-time appropriation of \$62,500 for the purchase of a new breathing air compressor, filling station and storage bottles for the Barnard Fire Department. The Selectboard voted to add the request as a special article on the warning.

## 6. New Business

- A. Certificate of Highway Mileage.** Reviewed, signed.
- B. Short-Term Rental Registry Ordinance Draft.** The Selectboard will review and discuss the draft at their first regular meeting after Town Meeting, March 19, 2025.

## 7. Town & Highway Operations/Orders. Orders and activities reviewed, signed.

- A. Town Garage Roof Quotes.** Reviewed quotes from Black Ox Roofing Inc., HP Roofing, and Iron Horse Standing Seam Roofing Co. Inc. Kassie will reach out to ask follow-up questions and the Selectboard will choose a roofer at the next meeting.
- B. Transfer Station Updates.**

- i.** Wes asked if the town crew could plow more of the area at the transfer station. Nick replied that the crew could plow closer to the building if all the items/stuff being stored outside were moved. Rock advised that all items were to be removed and a "dump store" can no longer be located outside.



# Town of Barnard, Vermont

Chartered July 17, 1761

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

- ii. Wes requested railings to be put on both sets of stairs that lead to his office. The Selectboard agreed to install railings and work on the steps.
- iii. The fee to drop off a propane tank at the transfer station is now \$3 for a small tank and \$9 for a large tank. This information will be posted on the website.

**C. 90-day employee review.** The Selectboard voted to enter executive session at 8:09PM for employee reviews and voted to exit executive session at 8:21PM. Dylan Slack is no longer in a probationary period and will continue as a full-time employee. Nick Stone was officially appointed as Road Foreman.

**D. Highway Crew Updates.**

- i. One cab chassis should be on its way soon. Nick has one quote for a tractor, waiting for two more. He will also look into an 8' scraper to use on the back.

**8. Adjourn at 9:20PM.**

Minutes prepared by Kassie Hull, Clerk of the meeting. All votes unanimous unless otherwise indicated. The next regular meeting is February 5, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall Offices.

Selectboard:

Rock Webster, Chair

Richard Lancaster

Robert Edmunds