



# Town of Barnard, Vermont

Chartered July 17, 1761

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## SELECTBOARD MINUTES - DRAFT JUNE 16, 2021

### BARNARD EMAIL SERVICE:

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**Present:** Rock Webster, Bob Edmunds, Tim Johnson

**Also Present:** Rob Ramrath, Jeff Tracy, Geoff Martin, Glenn Dunning, Monica Dunning.

### 1. Call to order -

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM.

### 2. Review Agenda -

There were no changes to the agenda.

### 3. Public comments –

There were no public comments.

### 4. Review/Approve Minutes of 6/2/2021 -

The minutes were approved.

### 5. Old Business –

#### A. Gate on Masterson Rd. – Discussion with Glenn Dunning -

Per the last Selectboard meeting, a demand letter was sent to Glenn Dunning and others demanding the removal of the gate. Glenn reviewed the history associated with the gate, asserting that the gate had been there over 30 years with the permission of the Selectboard including a modification of the Class IV status to allow the installation of a gate. He presented a letter from Selectman Tom Morse in support. Glenn acknowledged that the sign on the gate reading ‘Private Property, please do not park in front of gate’ may lead potential users to believe they could not use the road. Glenn said the primary purpose of the sign was to avoid cars/trucks blocking them in their camp. Glenn also acknowledged that the gate was meant to be a deterrent to break-in. The Selectboard approved the gate remaining, with the current sign removed, unlocked at all times, with a replacement sign: “Class IV Town Highway. Do Not Block Gate.” Highway Foreman Jeff Tracy will procure and install the sign.

#### B. Radar sign update – 2014 speed study will be allowed for permit application –

Selectboard Assistant Rob Ramrath shared that the state will accept a speed study conducted in 2014 on VT Rt 12 which showed 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds over the required level to justify a radar sign. The study was prerequisite to applying for a permit to install the signs on Rt 12. The permit application has been submitted to the state and we are now awaiting the State’s approval. Rob reminded all four signs (VT 12 N/S, Stage Rd, North Rd) were ordered several weeks ago and should arrive shortly.

### 6. Intermunicipal Regional Energy Coordinator – Update and consider Selectboard Assistant to e-sign contract renewal -

IREC Geoff Martin reviewed energy savings progress for Barnard. He also reviewed plans for submitting an RFP for the Energy Savings work to be done on the Town Hall. The Selectboard approved Geoff to release the RFP. The Selectboard previously authorized \$10,000. for this work. The Selectboard authorized Rob to electronically sign the new IREC agreement as their representative.

**7. Annual Financial Plan Town Highways TA-60 – Consider for signature –**

The TA-60 Annual Financial Plan is a standard annual document that must be submitted to the state as prerequisite to grant awards. The Selectboard signed the document.

**8. Audit Engagement Letter – Consider for signature –**

The Pace & Hawley LLC engagement letter was signed for the FY2021 audit.

**9. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) \$97,046 award over two years – Discuss spending plan –**

Various spending options were reviewed including broadband, cell signal expansion, and road erosion maintenance. Rob discussed how the Revenue Loss option was viable by the way the U.S. Treasury calculates loss. Loss coverage can be spent on any normal services the town provides, thereby effectively expanding spending opportunities for the town. The Selectboard agreed to table discussing how to spend the funds while awaiting resolution of the Loss approach and the arrival of the funds.

**10. Structures Grants State Approval – FYI –**

Rob Ramrath reviewed the 'Recommended to Approve' letters from the state for grants for the TH47 Bridge #30 and Broad Brook Rd Culvert Erosion projects. The Selectboard will work with Highway Foreman Jeff Tracy on RFPs while awaiting final approval from the state.

**11. 2022 Grants-In-Aid Letter of Intent to Participate – Consider for Signature –**

The letter was signed by the Selectboard.

**12. Highway Operations – Review –**

Highway Foreman Jeff Tracy committed to replacing the S. Perry Road sign on VT Rt 12 and cleaning the spray-painted Lakota Rd sign as well. The RFP for Diesel was discussed. The Selectboard asked Jeff to get a third quote.

**13. Review/Approve Town & Highway Orders for 6/8/2021, 6/15/2021.**

The Town & Highway Orders were approved.

**14. Adjourn –**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Minutes prepared by Rob Ramrath, Assistant to the Selectboard. All votes unanimous unless otherwise indicated. Next regular meeting July 7, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

Selectboard:

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Rock Webster, Chair

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Timothy Johnson

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Robert Edmunds