



Town of Barnard, Vermont

Chartered July 17, 1761

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

SELECTBOARD MINUTES - DRAFT JULY 21, 2021

BARNARD EMAIL SERVICE:

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Present: Rock Webster, Bob Edmunds, Tim Johnson

Also Present: Rob Ramrath, Jeff Tracy, Steve Cinami, Linda Treash, Ryan Silvestri.

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

2. Review Agenda

A. Village Scoping Study Update.

Selectboard Assistant Rob Ramrath briefed the Selectboard on progress to date with the study. The Selectboard will be attending the next public meeting. Follow-up activity for the study will be placed on future Selectboard meeting agendas. The Selectboard & Highway Foreman Jeff Tracy granted permission to use town cones to conduct studies for various island/traffic concepts in the village area.

B. Killington Mutual Aid Thank You Letter – FYI.

The town of Killington sent a letter of thanks to the Barnard Fire Department thanking them for mutual aid assistance with a recent forest fire.

C. Selectboard Assistant Unavailable for August 4, 2021 Meeting – Discuss.

Rob will warn the meeting and Tim will forward notes for subsequent publication of minutes by Rob the following weekend.

3. Public comments

There were no public comments.

4. Review/Approve Minutes of 7/7/2021.

The minutes were approved.

5. Old Business –

A. Radar sign update – Discuss specific North/Stage Rd sign locations and feature programming.

The signs are programmed. Brackets are missing on two signs and requests have been placed for replacement. Jeff & Rob recommended locations for the two town road signs: On the southern edge of the cemetery for North Rd southbound; In the area of 6146 Stage Rd for traffic towards the village. The locations were approved by the Selectboard. Installation of the signs will begin next week. The trailer-based radar sign will be relocated to E. Barnard.

B. Confirm Process to Appeal Assessor Decisions – Discuss.

This topic was incorrect due to a clerical error. The Assessor appeal process is as usual via the Board of Civil Authority. The topic discussed was to confirm the process to appeal Homestead penalties. Homestead penalty appeals go to the Board of Abatement as usual.

The Town Clerk requested clarification on this topic as late filing penalties have been reinstated after being waived during the COVID-19 crisis.

C. Town Hall Energy Efficiency RFP – Discuss.

There were no responses to the RFP. Contractors cited availability issues and resistance to municipal RFP processes as the reason for the lack of interest. The Municipal Region Energy Coordinator, Geoff Martin will reconnect with trusted contractors on a lighter-weight basis, simply requesting a bid and not a formal RFP response.

6. Summer Youth Theater and fall Town Hall use request – Linda Treash.

The Selectboard agreed to Linda’s plans for Town Hall use in the coming months.

7. Request to run large site truck again on Old Mt. Hunger Rd – Steve Cinami Letter.

Steve was granted permission to run his large dump truck (like quarry-style trucks) on the same route as previously used on Old Mt. Hunger and Mt. Hunger roads. Steve is to place signage and pick up any rocks dropped in the roadways. Permission was limited to one month starting immediately, with the Selectboard requiring Steve to seek permission for an extension if necessary.

8. FY 22 Town Employee Wages - Discuss.

The Selectboard reviewed wages for town employees.

9. State Transfer Station Inspection – Discuss.

Rob reviewed a violation letter for unlocked gates. The gates have been locked and evidence provided to the state.

10. Highway Operations – Review.

Jeff received approval to pre-purchase hard pack in bulk as a savings to the town. Rob inquired if the area of Green Mtn Power tree removal on E. Barnard Rd would be improved. Jeff said he was pursuing grant money that would pay for the area to be improved. The Selectboard voted to move forward with processes to make the following town highway changes:

- Reclassify the .33 mile Class 3 portion of Angel Rd, TH 50 to Class 4.
- Discontinue the .3 mile Class 3 portion of Amsden Rd, TH 27.
- Reclassify the .2 mile Class 3 portion of Alice’s Turn Rd, TH 44 to Class 4.
- Reclassify the Class 3 portion of Smith Hill Rd TH 26 from Alice’s Turn Rd to the present Class 3/4 transition to Class 4.

Rob will begin the planning, warning and hearing process.

11. Review/Approve Town & Highway Orders for 7/13/2021, 7/20/21.

The Town & Highway Orders were approved.

12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Minutes prepared by Rob Ramrath, Assistant to the Selectboard. All votes unanimous unless otherwise indicated. Next regular meeting August 4, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

Selectboard:

Rock Webster, Chair

Timothy Johnson

Robert Edmunds