



Town of Barnard, Vermont

Chartered July 17, 1761

P.O. Box 274
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SELECTBOARD MINUTES - DRAFT OCTOBER 20, 2021

BARNARD EMAIL SERVICE:

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Present: Rock Webster, Bob Edmunds, Tim Johnson

Also Present: Rob Ramrath, Melissa Allen, Ian MacKenzie, Tim Parker, Rob Tracy, Geoff Martin.

1. Call to order –

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

2. Review Agenda

A. Snowmobile Club Business – Rob Tracy

Rob Tracy presented a formal VAST request to re-deck 'Jimmy's' bridge on T.H. 48.

Additionally, Rob requested to continue to groom the edge of North Rd on the Town Hall side between the Town Hall and the dam. This was done successfully last year with no issues. Both requests were approved.

B. Assessor Error & Omission Approval Request – Consider.

Via a letter, Barnard Assessor Ryan Silvestri presented a change in taxable value on parcel 03-0372 owned by All This LLC., due to the combining of two contiguous parcels per the State of Vermont Current Use Department and state statute. Ryan indicated this change in value structure caused a revision to the 2021 lodged Grand List and needs to be approved by this board. The Selectboard voted to accept the change.

C. Barnard Mtn Viewers TH Rental Waiver Request – Consider.

As a non-profit, the Town Hall Rental Waiver was approved for their annual poker run.

3. Public comments

There were no public comments.

4. Review/Approve Minutes of 10/6/2021.

The minutes were approved.

5. Royalton ATV Club Request - Ian MacKenzie – Consider.

Ian presented a conceptual plan to link the Royalton ATV trail system to the Stockbridge/Barnard trail system by gaining permissions from the Selectboard to allow ATV travel on various Class III and Class IV roads. As the plan was conceptual in nature with no specifics, there was no approval given. The Selectboard indicated they would be amenable to considering approvals in the future if Ian returns with specific requests.

6. Lakota Club Plowing Request – Consider.

Via a note from Preston Bristow, the Lakota Club requested that the town resume snow plowing all the way to the end of Lakota Road, instead of the present location of plowing termination at the Seth Dean Rd junction. The Selectboard noted that there was considerable upset in the past with damage to the Lakota Club grounds when turning around at the end of the road. The Selectboard indicated they would only be willing to approve plowing to the end of the road if a.) The Lakota Club provides Barnard an easement off the town road right-of-way to allow turn-around, and b.)

The Lakota Club provides a written document indemnifying Barnard from snowplow damage to grounds and landscaping.

7. Barnard Health Officer Appointment/Renewal – Consider.

The appointment of Tom Morse as Health Officer runs out on November 30, 2021. The Selectboard voted to reappoint Tom for another three-year term beginning December 1, 2021. The Selectboard appreciates Tom's service as Health Officer.

8. Intermunicipal Regional Energy Coordinator Weatherization Proposals – Consider.

Geoff Martin presented two proposals for weatherization upgrades to the Town Hall. Various aspects of each bid was considered including cost, availability, and approaches to the work. The Selectboard decided to award the project to Earthshare Construction. They directed Geoff to make some minor adjustments to the proposal, get a final bid and launch the project.

9. Highway Discontinuance/Reclassification Decisions 9/29/21 Hearing – Sign.

The decisions were signed. As a follow-up to the Alice's Turn Decision, the Selectboard directed that Highway Foreman Jeff Tracy and Town Administrator Rob Ramrath work together to define plow turn-around specifications with the Tickell's leading to the drafting and sign-off of an easement for snowplow turn-around purposes.

10. Smith Hill Road Maintenance Resolution – Consider.

Considering the Smith Hill Rd reclassification decision from Class 3 to Class 4, dated October 20, 2021, the Selectboard discussed the need to maintain reasonable access to Nye Cemetery and the properties along the road up to Davis Hill. In recognition of this need, the Selectboard approved the following resolution: "Between the dates of May 15th through October 1st, the Barnard Highway Department shall maintain the Class 4 section of Smith Hill Road for 1.21 miles in a westerly direction from the intersection with Alice's Turn to provide reasonable motor vehicle access. This section shall not be plowed or otherwise maintained in winter."

11. Old Business –

No old business was discussed.

12. Highway Operations – Review.

Rob Ramrath reviewed speed data from the radar speed signs on VT RT 12. The Selectboard requested that Jeff Tracy relocate the Stage Road radar sign closer to town for a better sight line as cars approach it. Rob reported that Jeff Tracy had seen a new chain across what he believed was the Class IV section of Masterson Rd with a 'Private Property' sign. The Selectboard directed Rob Ramrath to have the road surveyed to definitively establish the town's right-of-way before taking any steps regarding the chain. They also directed Rob to send a letter to abutters apprising them of the intention to survey the road.

13. Review/Approve Town & Highway Orders for 10/12/21, 10/19/21.

The Town & Highway Orders were approved.

14. Adjourn –

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Minutes prepared by Rob Ramrath, Town Administrator. All votes unanimous unless otherwise indicated. Next regular meeting November 3, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

Selectboard:

Rock Webster, Chair

Timothy Johnson

Robert Edmunds