



Town of Barnard, Vermont

Chartered July 17, 1761

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

SELECTBOARD MINUTES MARCH 20, 2024

BARNARD EMAIL SERVICE:

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Present: Rock Webster (Chair), Richard Lancaster (Vice Chair), Bob Edmunds
Also Present: Rob Ramrath (Town Administrator), Delmar Balch (Highway Foreman), Susan McNulty, Sara Widness, Megan Fuerst, Dan Leavitt, Steve Hambsch

Regular Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order

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

2. Review Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

3. Public comments

Dan Leavitt presented a written plan for the formation of a Barnard Roads Committee. He emphasized the committee could: Gather community input regarding road conditions, Review and synthesize available information, Develop a menu of options for the Selectboard and Town to consider, and Identify possible funding sources. Further, Dan emphasized, "We believe a Roads Committee can significantly help to supplement, not supplant, the current system around road maintenance. Most importantly, this committee can help facilitate a community forum..." The plan was signed by: Dan Leavitt, Sara Widness, Megan Fuerst, Greyling Van Alstyne, Carin Park, Heather Surprenant and Kiley Boehler. The plan stated these names didn't necessarily represent the Road Committee membership, but a list of residents interested in getting the committee started. Rob interjected for the record that Marty Bell had sent him an email volunteering for the committee. The Selectboard voted to charter the committee, saying membership should be 6-8 people that diversely represent the Barnard community. Rob was asked to assist the committee with logistics. Dan said the committee would begin work and report back to the Selectboard at a future meeting. Rock emphasized that the Selectboard has ultimate authority and responsibility for decision-making for Barnard Roads.

4. Review/Approve Minutes March 6, 2024

(Vote to correct an error in Conservation Commission appointments and update FINAL minutes appropriately.)

The Selectboard voted to approve the attached revised list of appointed town officers attached to these minutes. The only change was to correct the omission of Colin Ruch from the Conservation Commission. Otherwise the minutes were approved without change.

5. Petition to Discontinue Cootey Road – Review

Richard Lancaster recused himself from participating on the topic as a Selectboard member, physically moving away from the table and indicating that he was addressing the topic as a citizen property owner. Richard presented the petition for the discontinuance of Cootey Rd. This petition was previously certified as valid by the Town Clerk. Richard offered remarks to explain the rationale for the discontinuance and indicated the support of his brother and sister for the

discontinuance. Steve Hamsch offered a letter to the Selectboard for the record, recapitulating his point of view on topics presented and decisions made at prior meetings addressing the topic. Steve discussed his opposition for the discontinuance of the road along with his supporting rationale. The Selectboard voted not to pursue the discontinuance of Cootey Rd. at this time. Richard Lancaster asked for permission to survey the road. The permission was not granted by the Selectboard. Richard asked if the Selectboard would consider waiving the insurance requirement if he presented a plan to relocate portions of the road. The Selectboard told Richard that when he was ready with the specifics of such a request, to return to the Selectboard and they would consider it. The Selectboard asked Richard and Steve to continue to work on the disagreement towards the objective of finding a solution satisfactory to all involved.

6. State Fiscal Year 2025 TA-60 – Review & Sign

This is a financial report made annually to the Vermont Agency of Transportation. The Selectboard approved and signed the report.

7. Old Business

A. Forester for Town Forest – Discuss

With the retirement of our current forester for the town forest, a replacement needs to be found. The Selectboard discussed various options and will be making contact to discuss the opportunity.

B. Library/Old Fire Station Wastewater/Well Permits – Review

The state has awarded permits for a potable well and a wastewater system for the old fire station. The Selectboard reviewed the plans. Susan McNulty of the library trustees asked a number of clarifying questions; various topics were discussed with the Selectboard.

8. Town & Highway Operations – Review

Delmar discussed that the new Ford F550 was out to have the body installed. He also reported that one of the Tri-axle dump trucks was out for repairs due to transmission issues. The Selectboard signed a letter to Tom Platner thanking him for his extraordinary contribution to the town over his many years of service. Rob asked Delmar to assist with mapping damage sites for the FEMA declared disaster for the December 18, 2023 flood event. Rob introduced a letter from Glenn Dunning thanking the road crew for their excellent service of Masterson Rd. over the recent mud events. Rob reviewed the progress of the engineering contracts for the Lakota Road bridge, the Lime Pond Rd bank slide, and the Lime Pond Road culvert replacement. Rob reported that he attended a site meeting with the engineer and the state stream water engineer at the Lakota Road bridge. He reported that contracts were in place except for the Lime Pond Rd culvert, and we hope to finalize that contract shortly. Rob reported on progress working with FEMA for reimbursement for activities associated with the July 2023 flooding. He reported that FEMA had made a number of new decisions which would hopefully improve progress. Rob reported that the consultants the town hired for the work were performing very well. Rob reported that the transfer station attendant said that the transfer station needed to be closed at 1:30 PM on March 30th as he had a time conflict. The Selectboard directed Rob to put out an announcement. The Selectboard approved the Town Clerk's Town Highway & Bridge Weight Restrictions Filing Form: this form was approved with Bridge 33 on Highway 46 (Nott Road) limiting weight to 6,000 lbs. Rob gave an update on ARPA spending against earmarked plans. Due to underspending or elimination of

spending on a few planned items, over \$100,000 is available to obligate. The Selectboard decided to obligate ARPA money to pay for the F550 body when that invoice comes in.

9. Review/Approve Town & Highway Orders for 3/12/2024, 3/19/24

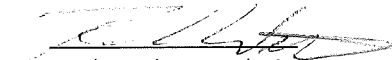
The Town & Highway Orders were approved.

10. Adjourn


The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Minutes prepared by Rob Ramrath, Town Administrator. All votes unanimous unless otherwise indicated. The next meeting is April 3, 2024, at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall Offices.

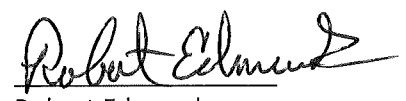
Selectboard:



Rock Webster, Chair



Richard Lancaster, Vice Chair



Robert Edmunds

TOWN OFFICERS APPOINTED

(1-year terms unless otherwise noted)

Conservation Commission: (3-year term)

Callee Simpson	2024	Kate Reeves (Platner Seat)	2024
Edythe Wright (Fredrickson Seat)	2024	Colin Ruch (Killam Seat)	2025
Douglas Blain	2024	Dean Edmunds	2025
Arlana Ruch	2026		

Development Review Board: (3-year term)

Doreen Hurley	2024	Kurt Lessard	2025
Edythe Wright	2024	Ellen Miles	2026
Teo Zagar	2025	Alternate: Greg Boulbol	2024
Alternate: Justin Park	2024	Alternate: Doug Blain	2024

East Ctr VT Telecomm. Dist. – delegate

- Alternate		Dan Leavitt	4/30/2024
- Alternate		Richard Lancaster	4/30/2024
		Patrick Kell	4/30/2024

E-911-Cordinator: Robert Ramrath 2024

Energy Committee: (3-year term)

Elizabeth Ferry	2024	3 vacancies
Karen Thorkilsen	2026	

Fire Wardens:

Scott Mills	2024
Rob Tracy	2024

Green up VT:

Helping Hands – Mary Blanton	2024
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Health Officer (3-year term)

Tom Morse	2024
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Librarian:

Margaret Edwards	2024
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Emergency Mgt Director/Coordinator:

Mike Manning	2024
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Ottaquechee Planning Commission:

Ed Jodice	2024
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Alternate: Steve Cota	2024
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Planning Commission: (3-year term)

Ed Jodice	2025	Steve Cota	2026
Carin Ewing	2024	Brooks Wright	2026
VACANT	2025	Greyling VanAlstyne	2024
Kate Reeves	2024		

Pound Keeper: Wes Hennig 2024

Recreation Committee:

Dean Edmunds	2024	Lucas Coogan	2024
Eben Farinas	2024	Drew Reeder	2024
Tammy Gerdes	2024	Matt Piper	2024
Michael Lackey	2024	Justin Park	2024

Road Foreman: Delmar Balch 2024

Service Officer:

Position repealed by Vt Legislature -- call 211

Solid Waste Supervisor:

Richard Lancaster	2024
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Solid Waste Attendant

Wes Hennig	2024
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State Police Advisory Bd

Mike Manning	2024
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State Police Liaison:

Mike Manning	2024
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Town Administrator:

Robert Ramrath	2024
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Town Hall Supervisor

Robert Ramrath	2024
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Transportation Advisory Comm.

VACANT	2024
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Tree Warden:

Richard Lancaster	2024
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White River Valley Ambulance:

Lynne Tracy	2024
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Zoning Administrator:

Robert Ramrath	2024
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Alternate: Tom Morse	2024
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