



# Town of Barnard, Vermont

Chartered July 17, 1761

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

## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

7:00 PM

TOWN HALL DOWNSTAIRS

SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

**Present:** Rock Webster (Chair), Richard Lancaster (Vice Chair), Robert Edmunds

**ALSO PRESENT:** Kassie Hull, Steve Hamsch, Nick Stone

1. **Call to Order** at 7:00PM.
2. **Review Agenda – Addition of items 4B and 4C.**
3. **Public comments.**
  - A. Steve Hamsch requested that the Selectboard make a formal decision on the location of Cootey Farm Road. He recalled conversation from the discontinuance hearing that was not included in the meeting minutes and stated that the survey used at the hearing does not detail the used road. Richard Lancaster recused himself as a member of the Selectboard for this discussion but remained as a landowner. Richard submitted a letter requesting that official procedure be followed, and a hearing be held at a future date. The Selectboard will choose a site inspection and hearing date to begin the process.
  - B. The Selectboard received a resignation letter from Calee Simpson who will not be serving the remainder of her term on the Conservation Commission. The Selectboard thanks Calee for her service and commitment to the Town of Barnard.
  - C. **Review/Approve Minutes of September 4, 2024.** Minutes approved.
4. **Old Business**
  - A. **Applications for Road Crew Member/Foreman.** No formal applications have been received; Kassie will continue to advertise on the website, in the newspaper, and with VLCT. The Town is willing to hire an individual who is working toward a CDL.
  - B. **Open Bids.** Today was the deadline for the invitation for bids for the Lime Pond Road Slope Remediation Project and the Lakota Road Bridge Replacement Project.
    - i. **Lime Pond Road Slope Remediation Project** awarded to Waters Excavation Inc. The bids received were as follows:
      1. Avery Excavation Inc. \$376,290.00
      2. Barnard Excavation & Logging \$335,465.00
      3. Waters Excavation Inc. \$310,644.40
      4. Northwoods Excavating Inc. \$320,450.00

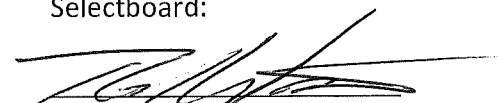
ii. **Lakota Road Bridge Replacement Project** awarded to Barnard Excavation & Logging. The bids received were as follows:

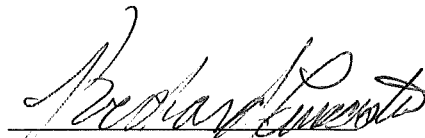
1. Waters Excavation Inc. \$382,360.00
2. Barnard Excavation & Logging \$317,820.00
3. Avery Excavation Inc. \$368,650.00


- C. Hydraulics Memo for Bridge 17, Culverts 396 & 255.** Reviewed. Forwarded to FEMA.
- D. Mascoma Bank Flood Damage Repair Loan.** Requested to keep it open/available.
- E. State of Vermont Structures Grant.** Reviewed. Per the authority given by the Selectboard, Kassie will sign and submit the Grant Agreement.
- F. Town Hall & Town Garage Energy Assessments, MERP Updates.** The eligibility requirements to apply for a Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP) competitive energy improvement grant changed, and applications are now open to all towns who completed a building assessment. The application deadline is Sept. 27, 2024, and the Town, with help from the Energy Committee, will apply for funding to upgrade the town offices (basement) lighting to “flat panel” LEDs and add ductless air source heat pumps to provide efficient heat, dehumidification, and air conditioning as needed.
- 5. Local Economic Impact Grant.** The VT legislature had \$6M to provide to towns impacted by floods in July 2023. Barnard will receive \$50k to be used toward anything flood-related that is not otherwise eligible for relief aid from other programs.
- 6. Error & Omission Letter from Barnard Assessor.** Signed and returned to Assessor.
- 7. 2025 Town Hall Rental Waiver Requests.** The Selectboard is reviewing the town hall rental policies. Requests will remain pending until that process is completed.
- 8. Green Books Subscription.** The Town is no longer receiving print updates to the Vermont Statutes Annotated (“green books”). Residents are encouraged to visit the state’s public law library housed in the VLGS campus library or find the Vermont Statutes online.
- 9. Town & Highway Operations**
- A. Updates.**
- i. The grader has been out of commission for three weeks. The issue was not the transmission as originally thought, should have it back soon.
  - ii. The crew has received complaints about bushes that are obstructing the view for drivers at the corner of Sayers Road and the Royalton Turnpike. A letter will be sent to the property owner to trim, or possibly remove, the bushes.
- 10. Review/Approve Town & Highway Orders.**
- 11. Other Business.**
- 12. Adjourn.** Meeting Adjourned at 8:43PM.

Minutes prepared by Kassie Hull, Clerk of the meeting. All votes unanimous unless otherwise indicated. The next regular meeting is October 2, 2024, at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall Offices.

Selectboard:

  
Rock Webster, Chair

  
Richard Lancaster, Vice Chair

  
Robert Edmunds