

## **Barton Village, Inc.**

Regular Trustees Meeting

Monday, May 22, 2023

6:00 pm

Barton Village Memorial Hall

### **MINUTES**

Attendance: Gina Lyon (Chair), Ellis Merchant, Marilyn Prue, Crystal Currier, David Billado, Ed Helm (Greater Barton Arts), Ed Barber (Newport Daily News), Mary Anne Royer, Rich Royer, Justin Peart, Lucas DiMauro

- A. **Call to Order** - 6:05pm
- B. **Changes to the Agenda/Additions or Deletions** – Trustee Prue requested to add a coin drop application from Orleans Fireman’s Association to Agenda Item E.
- C. **Privilege of the Floor:**
  - a. Rich Royer and Maryann Royer were present and introduced themselves. They are organizing the village-wide yard sale that is happening on June 24<sup>th</sup> (this is the 25<sup>th</sup> year!). Maryann mentioned that the coin drop for the Glover Barton Senior Meals Group is also occurring on the same day.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

- D. **Minutes from Regular Board of Trustees Meeting May 8, 2023** – Trustee Merchant motioned to approve the minutes from the meeting on 05/08/2023. The motion was seconded by Trustee Lyon. Motion approved.
- E. **Coin Drop Applications** – The Village received three coin drop applications: 1) Lake Region Boys Varsity Soccer 07/15/23, 2) Glover Barton Senior Meals Group 06/24/23 and 3) Orleans Fireman’s Association 05/27/23.

Trustee Prue mentioned that we should remind the applicants that those participating must be at least 16 years of age.

Trustee Merchant made a motion to approve the three coin drop applications: 1) Lake Region Boys Varsity Soccer 07/15/23, 2) Glover Barton Senior Meals Group 06/24/23 and 3) Orleans Fireman’s Association 05/27/23. Motion seconded by Trustee Prue. Motion approved. Crystal Currier will contact the organizers to remind them of the need for insurance information and other rules around coin drops such as approval by Andy Sicard.

- F. **Hydro DG Building Power Removal/Reconfiguration** – At the BOT meeting held on May 8<sup>th</sup>, Barton’s hydro operator was present to introduce himself and discuss items of concern at the hydro facility. A significant concern is the diesel generating building and the power configuration at that location. This current electric setup needs to be removed and reconfigured to meet the hydro generator needs. Quotes for this work have been difficult to obtain. One quote from MEI at a cost of \$11,800 has been received and Denis recommends that the village move ahead with the work due to safety concerns.

Trustee Merchant requested that Denis obtain a second estimate for the work if possible.

Trustee Prue made a motion to request that Denis try to obtain a second estimate and approve the project at a cost not to exceed \$11,800 and requested Denis work with the vendor to get the power infrastructure removed and reconfigured as needed. Seconded by Trustee Merchant. Motion approved.

- G. **Wastewater Fencing and Fire Alarm** – Tim Dagesse, Barton’s wastewater facility operator has presented quotes for two projects: 1) Perimeter Fencing with a Sliding entrance gate and 2) Repair to the existing Fire Alarm System.

**Fencing/Gate:** The existing fencing is inadequate to meet proper security standards as required under the wastewater permit and two estimates to install fencing and a sliding entrance gate were presented – one from Round Hill Security and one from Lafayette Highway Specifications (Lafayette estimate handed out at meeting). The Lafayette proposal was significantly higher than the Round Hill estimate. The recommendation is to accept and move forward with the estimate from Round Hill Security.

Fire Alarm – The existing fire alarm system at the facility does not work. This was mentioned in a recent loss control facility assessment conducted by VLCT (insurance provider) and the recent inspection report from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation on April 5, 2023. In the latter report, this issue was documented as a required “corrective” action. Since the alarm is listed in the VLCT report, it qualifies as a reimbursable cost from the VLCT grant program. Barton has submitted for this grant opportunity and a portion of the funding can be applied to this project. An estimate from Gene’s Electric to repair the alarm system and conduct an infrared test is attached for your consideration.

Trustee Merchant made motions to: 1) accept the proposal from Round Hill Fence & Security, Inc. at a cost not to exceed \$10,300 and request that Tim work with Round Hill to get the fencing installed (unless a more economical proposal is received from an alternate vendor); 2) approve the estimate from Gene’s electric for the alarm system repairs and request that Tim work with Gene’s to get the alarm system repaired and 3) to use ARPA funds as necessary to facilitate the two purchases (net of the VLCT grant). The motion was seconded by Trustee Lyon. The motion was approved.

- H. **Water Facility Generator and Related Upgrades** – Lucas DiMauro, Barton’s Water System Operator is working on obtaining a backup generator that will operate the plant in the event of a power failure. Two things need to be considered prior to the purchase and installation of a generator. An estimate from D&D Electric to install frequency drives on the backwash motors and pumps is attached for your consideration. This installation will reduce the startup amperage on the backwash pump and motors, increasing the lifespan of the equipment and reducing the impact on the generator. A second estimate from Barton Electric to upgrade the existing service at the facility is attached for your consideration. This upgrade/reconfiguration is required to allow operation of a backup generator. Given lead times on materials it is not expected this upgrade will be completed until late summer. Staff recommends moving forward with the two estimates and work as presented.

In addition to the two items above, the mechanical seals need to be replaced and Lucas has requested the cost of these be approved as well. The cost of replacing the mechanical seals is approximately \$6,200.

Trustee Lyon made a motion to move forward with the installation of the variable frequency drives on the backwash motors/pumps, the electric service upgrade and replacement of the mechanical seals; based on estimates received (understanding that the cost may be in excess of the estimate) and to use ARPA funds to facilitate the purchases. Motion seconded by Trustee Merchant. Motion approved.

Lucas also mentioned that he is looking for estimates for the backup generator. He has one quote and will look for additional quotes for the Board's consideration.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- I. **Meet Lucas- Water Facility Manager for the Village of Barton** - Lucas DiMauro, Barton's Water System Facility Operator was present to introduced himself and discuss projects/maintenance items at the facility. In addition to the two projects listed in agenda item H above, Lucas updated the Board on several projects/maintenance items at the facility, including:  
  
Valve/Filter replacement, excavation work in the driveway, silt dredging at May Pond and Reservoir, compliance of new lead and copper guidelines, cyanotoxin monitoring, and May Pond property concerns.  
  
There was a short discussion on the cyanotoxin monitoring, which is a voluntary testing program. Barton's operator recommends that we move ahead with the testing and the Board concurred with his recommendation.
- J. **Barton Village Stormwater Project.** Chair Lyon provided a brief report on her meeting with the representatives from the Memphremagog Watershed Association. They are proposing a program that will filter the water/rain runoff so that the sediment is caught prior to reaching the river. They will dig up the road (Church Street) near the library and church, lay a three-inch pipe underground and install a tank that will catch the sediment. The association is looking to the Village to give the Association an easement since the pipe and tank would be located on village property. The Memphremagog watershed association is expected to attend a future Board meeting (maybe June/July timeframe) to explain the project to the full Board.
- K. **Financial Review.** Crystal Carrier provided a brief review of the financial reports. The largest areas of concern are cash flows for the Electric and Wastewater departments. The rate increase will be added as a surcharge to electric bills this month and Crystal is completing FEMA paperwork (Storm Elliott) so both of those will help. There are many needed projects and the Village/Board will need to determine how to fund them.
- L. **Management /Staff Report.** Crystal Carrier reviewed the information in the written report. Specific items that included:
  - **Temp/Seasonal Hires** -Three (3) temp/seasonal hires completed.
  - **Salt/Sand Shed** – need to find new engineer for project.

- **Wastewater Blowoff Pit** – still waiting on parts. Stainless enclosure is being constructed by NEVTEC at lower cost than Peak Motor & Pump.
- **Hydro** – voltage regulator still inoperable but repairs in progress.
- **Electric** – rate case ongoing, High Street testing underway.

**OTHER ITEMS:**

M. **Other Business.** - None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:** - None

**Adjourned @ 9:10 pm**

**Next Regular Meeting: June 12, 2023**

**Special Meeting: June 5, 2023**

**Submitted by Regina (Gina) Lyon, Board chair.**

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**Attested by Shelia Martin, Village Clerk**