

**Barton Village, Inc.**  
**Regular Trustees Meeting**

Monday, November 13, 2023

6:00pm

Barton Village Memorial Hall

**Agenda**

- A. Call to Order
- B. Changes to the Agenda/Additions or Deletions
- C. Privilege of the Floor

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- D. Minutes from Regular Board of Trustees Meeting October 23, 2023
- E. 2023 Vermont Transco Subscription Agreement
- F. USDA Community Facilities Grant Application - Authorized Representative

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- G. NEKO Activities Update and Building Use Request
- H. FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for Property Buyout
- I. Wastewater Operations Update
- J. Trucks Update
- K. Salt/Sand Shed Update
- L. Flood Updates
- M. Management/Staff Report

**OTHER ITEMS:**

- N. Other Business

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:**

- O. Executive Session - Legal Action: 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a) (1)(E)
- P. Executive Session - Personnel: 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3)

- Q. Adjourn

**Upcoming Meetings:**

**Regular Board Meeting: November 27, 2023**

**Regular Board Meeting: December 11, 2023**

**Barton Village, Inc.**  
**Regular Trustees Meeting**

Monday, October 23, 2023

6:00pm

Barton Village Memorial Hall

Attendance: Marilyn Prue (Trustee), Ellis Merchant (Trustee), Vera LaPorte (Business Manager),  
Ed Barber (Newport Daily Express), and David Billado

**Agenda**

- A. **Call to Order** – Marilyn Prue called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
- B. **Changes to the Agenda/Additions or Deletions** – Lien added and named Action Item G1.
- C. **Privilege of the Floor** – None.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- D. **Minutes from Regular Board of Trustees Meeting October 9, 2023** – After review, Marilyn Prue made a motion to approve as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved.
- E. **Minutes from Special Board of Trustees Meeting October 18, 2023** – After review, Marilyn Prue made a motion to approve as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved.
- F. **Financial Reports for period ending September 30, 2023** – See Agenda backup online for full financial reporting. It was noted by Marilyn Prue that the electric department was doing particularly well, partly because of customer prepayments (new service and broadband applications). After review, Marilyn Prue made a motion to accept the financial reports for the period ending 09/30/2023 as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved.
- G. **2023-2024 Interlocal Winter Maintenance Agreement** – The Interlocal Winter Maintenance Agreement between Barton Village and the Town of Barton is ready for signature. Marilyn Prue made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved.
  - 1. **Lien** – 111 Prospect Street in Barton Village is reportedly for sale. The overdue electric and water/sewer balances (\$1,805.33 and \$309.54, respectively) were previously turned over to Treasurer Shelia Martin for collections, which is why it was not liened before. Marilyn Prue made a motion to approve the lien as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- H. **Softball Field Usage Liability** – Concern has been expressed that unattended children playing at the softball field behind Kinney Drugs may injure themselves and open the Village to potential liability. Vera LaPorte noted that she had submitted a question regarding liability to VLCT but had not yet received an answer. There was discussion regarding possible “own risk” signage or

the creation of a parks and rec user policy. Discussion will resume pending the answer from VLCT.

- I. **Wastewater Operations Update** – The State is satisfied with Vera LaPorte’s response to the Notice of Alleged Violation (NOAV) received by the Village. A progress meeting with the State and engineering firm (Aldrich & Elliott) is scheduled for 10/30/2023 to discuss the preliminary engineering report required for WWTF infrastructure upgrades. Ellis Merchant enquired about the status of the daily testing. Vera LaPorte reported that all testing is being performed as required and that Jeremiah Borsoi (WWTF) is doing an excellent job.
- J. **Winter Maintenance Update** – The VTrans Agreement and Interlocal Agreement are approved for the 2023-2024 season.
- K. **Salt/Sand Shed Update** – Work on the temporary salt/sand shed was paused due to rain and was originally on target to be completed by 10/27/2023. Completion has been further delayed due to the State’s presence in the Village to assist with removal of flood debris (see below).
- L. **Flood Updates** – Vera LaPorte, Andy Sicard (DPW) and Jeremiah Borsoi have been working with the State since August to schedule vactoring and jetting of manholes and wastewater lines within the Village. The State and their vendor will finally be performing this work 10/24/2023-10/27/2023. Areas affected will be Lincoln Avenue, Church Street, Elm Street and Glover Road. The Village website will be updated to reflect areas affected as they are identified.
- M. **Management/Staff Report** – A running list of closed and updated items can be located on the Village website 10/23/2023 agenda. Ditching has been completed on Duck Pond and paving on Eastern/16 has commenced. Paving on Duck Pond is to begin this week. Ellis Merchant enquired about the status of purchasing a new truck for the Village. A truck has not yet been found that satisfies the Village’s needs.

**OTHER ITEMS:**

- N. **Other Business** – Ellis Merchant provided an update on the new electric line extension on Kinsey Road and reported that despite a few initial hiccups it is progressing well.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:**

- O. **Executive Session** - Legal Action: 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(1)(E)
- P. **Executive Session** - Personnel: 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3)

Marilyn Prue made a motion to enter executive session at 6:25pm for the purpose of discussing potential litigation as allowed under 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(1)(E) and to further discuss personnel as allowed under 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3). Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved.

The Board came out of executive session at 7:00pm.

Ellis Merchant made a motion to accept the proposal presented by Absolute Spill Response, LLC for testing of materials ahead of disposal in the amount of \$3,960.00. Marilyn Prue seconded. All approved.

No action was taken related to the personnel discussion allowed under 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3).

Q. **Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

**Regular Board Meeting: November 13, 2023**

**Regular Board Meeting: November 27, 2023**

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**Regina Lyon, Board of Trustees Chair**

**Barton Village, Inc.**  
PO Box 519  
Barton, Vermont 05822  
(802) 525-4747

**Memorandum**

To: Barton Village Board of Trustees  
From: Crystal Carrier  
Date: November 13, 2023  
Subject: Vt Transco Purchase  
Agenda: Agenda Item "E"

Vermont Transco, LLC ("Transco"), Vermont's Transmission company often issues an equity call when it needs to raise funds for capital projects. Transco's goal is to maintain a specific debt to equity ratio to maximize the return received by ISO-NE (Transco receives the majority of its revenue from ISO-NE). Per Vt Transco's Operating Agreement, Transco only issues equity to the Vermont Distribution utilities. Barton's share of this equity call is a total of 8,017 member units, valued at \$80,170. The average rate of return paid by Transco on these purchases is 12.51%. It is advantageous for distribution utilities to purchase the member units that are offered to them as it maintains the utility's load share of Transco investments and reduces the overall cost of transmission to the utility.

In an effort to assist VPPSA members with these purchases, Transco's operating agreement was amended to allow VPPSA members to "assign" the units that are offered to the utility, to VPPSA. VPPSA then purchases the units for the benefit of the utility, receives the distribution (return from Transco), pays any related debt service and returns any remaining return to the distribution utility via a credit on the utility's power supply settlement invoice. Assigning the units to VPPSA, allows the utility to avoid the administrative burden of making the purchase directly and yet the utility continues to receive all the benefit of the Transco ownership.

The subscription agreement from Vt. Transco is attached for your review.

**Proposed Motion:**

Motion to assign the Vt Transco units as offered to Barton Village per the Subscription Agreement, to VPPSA, including the units offered under the transmission cost share in the amount of \$80,170 and any units that may be offered as unsubscribed.

**SUBSCRIPTION PAGE**  
**VERMONT TRANSCO LLC**

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**SUBSCRIBER SIGNATURE PAGE**

Subscriber, desiring to purchase Units to be issued by the Company with the rights, preferences and privileges described in the Operating Agreement of the Company, hereby: (a) agrees to all of the terms of the Subscription Agreement of the Company and agrees to be bound by the items and provisions thereof; and (b) represents and warrants that the information set forth above is true, correct and complete.

Barton Village, Inc.  
Name of Subscriber

**Transmission Cost Share Units**

**PLEASE SEE EXHIBIT “A” FOR THE NUMBER OF UNITS AVAILABLE FOR SUBSCRIPTION**

3,527	Class A Units	X	\$10.00	=	\$35,270
4,490	Class B Units	X	\$10.00	=	\$44,900
			<b>Total</b>		<b>\$80,170</b>

**A SIGNED COPY OF THIS AGREEMENT MUST BE RETURNED BY ALL SUBSCRIBERS ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2023 AND PAYMENT FOR THE UNITS SUBSCRIBED MUST BE MADE ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 26, 2023 UNLESS THE SUBSCRIBER ELECTS TO EXTEND THE CLOSING DATE AS PROVIDED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.**

**\*\* Tax exempt subscribers may elect to purchase up to 56% of the total amount subscribed for in Class B Units. For example, if a tax exempt subscriber elected to subscribe for 10,000 Units, it may purchase 4,400 Class A Units and 5,600 Class B Units.**

**Oversubscription**

Each subscriber who subscribes for Units has right to purchase Units that are offered to other potential subscribers and not accepted as more particularly set forth in the Operating Agreement (“Unsubscribed Units”). Please indicate your desire to subscribe for Unsubscribed Units by checking the box and completing the information below, if applicable.

Barton Village Inc.
Name of Subscriber

**2023 Equity Offering – Unsubscribed Units (Transmission Costs Share)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Transmission Costs Share

\_\_\_ As many Unsubscribed Units as are available.

\_\_\_\_\_ Up to \$ \_\_\_\_\_ of Unsubscribed Units (indicate maximum dollar amount of Unsubscribed Units for which you are willing to subscribe).

\_\_\_\_\_ Assign Unsubscribed Units to VPPSA.

**NOTICE TO EXTEND CLOSING DATE**

Pursuant to Section 3.3© of the Amended and Restated Operating Agreement of Vermont Transco dated September 2018, as amended, the undersigned desires to extend the closing on the Units it has elected to purchase under Section 3.3(b) or the reoffered units pursuant to Section 3.3(i) to not more than three (3) years beyond the Closing Date (the “Extension Date”).

Subscriber acknowledges and agrees that Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc., the Manager of Vermont Transco may accept or reject the request to extend the closing to the Extension Date.

**[Please sign below only if request to extend the closing is desired]**

**SUBSCRIBER**

<b>By:</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Title:</b>	



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Subscription Agreement has been executed by Subscriber and by the Company on the respective dates set forth below.

_____	_____
Date	Signature of Subscriber
_____	VILLAGE OF BARTON, Inc.
Tax Identification No. (If Applicable)	Printed Name
_____	PO Box 519
Telephone No.	Street
_____	Barton, Vermont 05822
E mail address	City State Zip

Subscription Accepted by:

**VERMONT TRANSCO LLC**

By: Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc., its Manager

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Duly Authorized Agent

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Subscription rights assigned to the Vermont Public Power Supply Authority.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Authorized Representative**  
Barton Village, Inc.

**Barton Village, Inc.**  
PO Box 519  
Barton, Vermont 05822  
(802) 525-4747

**Memorandum**

To: Barton Village Board of Trustees  
From: Vera LaPorte  
Date: November 13, 2023  
Subject: USDA Community Facilities Grant Application – Authorized Representative  
Agenda: Agenda Item “F”

The USDA grant application for the permanent salt/sand shed project is due in December and requires the name and signature of an authorized representative. This authorization will be submitted with the application and a copy must be kept on file at the Village office.

**Proposed Motion:** Motion to authorize Vera LaPorte (Business Manager) as representative for the USDA Community Facilities Grant application.

**Barton Village, Inc.**  
PO Box 519  
Barton, Vermont 05822  
(802) 525-4747

**APPOINTMENT OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE  
USDA COMMUNITY FACILITIES GRANT APPLICATION**

The Barton Village Board of Trustees, as legislative body of the applicant, hereby authorize Vera LaPorte to act as an authorized representative of the applicant for the purpose of furnishing to the United States Department of Agriculture such information, data and documents pertaining to the above noted project as may be required and otherwise to act as the authorized representative of the applicant in connection with the project.

Contact information for authorized representative:

Name: Vera LaPorte  
Title: Business Manager  
Address: PO Box 519, Barton, VT 05822  
Email: [businessmanager@bartonvt.com](mailto:businessmanager@bartonvt.com)  
Phone: 802-525-4747

Signed by the Barton Village Board of Trustees on 11/13/2023.

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Regina Lyon, Board of Trustees Chair

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Marilyn Prue

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Ellis Merchant

**APPLICATION FOR  
FEDERAL ASSISTANCE**

Version 7/03

<b>1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION:</b> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction		<b>2. DATE SUBMITTED</b>	Applicant Identifier
Pre-application <input type="checkbox"/> Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Construction		<b>3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE</b>	State Application Identifier
		<b>4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY</b>	Federal Identifier

**5. APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Legal Name:		<b>Organizational Unit:</b>	
Organizational DUNS:		Department:	
<b>Address:</b>		Division:	
Street:		<b>Name and telephone number of person to be contacted on matters involving this application (give area code)</b>	
City:		Prefix:	First Name:
County:		Middle Name	
State: Zip Code		Last Name	
Country:		Suffix:	
		Email:	

<b>6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN):</b> □□-□□□□□□□□	Phone Number (give area code)	Fax Number (give area code)
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<b>8. TYPE OF APPLICATION:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Revision If Revision, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es) (See back of form for description of letters.) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)	<b>7. TYPE OF APPLICANT:</b> (See back of form for Application Types) Other (specify)
<b>9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY:</b>	

<b>10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER:</b> TITLE (Name of Program):    □□-□□□□	<b>11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT:</b>
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<b>12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):</b>
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<b>13. PROPOSED PROJECT</b> Start Date:    Ending Date:	<b>14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF:</b> a. Applicant    b. Project
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<b>15. ESTIMATED FUNDING:</b>	<b>16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?</b>
a. Federal    \$    .00	a. Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS FOR REVIEW ON DATE:
b. Applicant    \$    .00	b. No. <input type="checkbox"/> PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E. O. 12372
c. State    \$    .00	<input type="checkbox"/> OR PROGRAM HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED BY STATE FOR REVIEW
d. Local    \$    .00	<b>17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?</b>
e. Other    \$    .00	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes If "Yes" attach an explanation. <input type="checkbox"/> No
f. Program Income    \$    .00	
g. TOTAL    \$    .00	

**18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION/PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT. THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.**

<b>a. Authorized Representative</b>		
Prefix	First Name	Middle Name
Last Name		Suffix
b. Title		c. Telephone Number (give area code)
d. Signature of Authorized Representative		e. Date Signed

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SF-424

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 45 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0043), Washington, DC 20503.

**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.**

This is a standard form used by applicants as a required face sheet for pre-applications and applications submitted for Federal assistance. It will be used by Federal agencies to obtain applicant certification that States which have established a review and comment procedure in response to Executive Order 12372 and have selected the program to be included in their process, have been given an opportunity to review the applicant's submission.

Item:	Entry:	Item:	Entry:																
1.	Select Type of Submission.	11.	Enter a brief descriptive title of the project. If more than one program is involved, you should append an explanation on a separate sheet. If appropriate (e.g., construction or real property projects), attach a map showing project location. For preapplications, use a separate sheet to provide a summary description of this project.																
2.	Date application submitted to Federal agency (or State if applicable) and applicant's control number (if applicable).	12.	List only the largest political entities affected (e.g., State, counties, cities).																
3.	State use only (if applicable).	13.	Enter the proposed start date and end date of the project.																
4.	Enter Date Received by Federal Agency Federal identifier number: If this application is a continuation or revision to an existing award, enter the present Federal Identifier number. If for a new project, leave blank.	14.	List the applicant's Congressional District and any District(s) affected by the program or project																
5.	Enter legal name of applicant, name of primary organizational unit (including division, if applicable), which will undertake the assistance activity, enter the organization's DUNS number (received from Dun and Bradstreet), enter the complete address of the applicant (including country), and name, telephone number, e-mail and fax of the person to contact on matters related to this application.	15.	Amount requested or to be contributed during the first funding/budget period by each contributor. Value of in kind contributions should be included on appropriate lines as applicable. If the action will result in a dollar change to an existing award, indicate only the amount of the change. For decreases, enclose the amounts in parentheses. If both basic and supplemental amounts are included, show breakdown on an attached sheet. For multiple program funding, use totals and show breakdown using same categories as item 15.																
6.	Enter Employer Identification Number (EIN) as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service.	16.	Applicants should contact the State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for Federal Executive Order 12372 to determine whether the application is subject to the State intergovernmental review process.																
7.	Select the appropriate letter in the space provided. <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">A. State</td> <td style="width: 50%;">I. State Controlled Institution of Higher Learning</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B. County</td> <td>J. Private University</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C. Municipal</td> <td>K. Indian Tribe</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D. Township</td> <td>L. Individual</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E. Interstate</td> <td>M. Profit Organization</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F. Intermunicipal</td> <td>N. Other (Specify)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G. Special District</td> <td>O. Not for Profit Organization</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H. Independent School District</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	A. State	I. State Controlled Institution of Higher Learning	B. County	J. Private University	C. Municipal	K. Indian Tribe	D. Township	L. Individual	E. Interstate	M. Profit Organization	F. Intermunicipal	N. Other (Specify)	G. Special District	O. Not for Profit Organization	H. Independent School District		17.	This question applies to the applicant organization, not the person who signs as the authorized representative. Categories of debt include delinquent audit disallowances, loans and taxes.
A. State	I. State Controlled Institution of Higher Learning																		
B. County	J. Private University																		
C. Municipal	K. Indian Tribe																		
D. Township	L. Individual																		
E. Interstate	M. Profit Organization																		
F. Intermunicipal	N. Other (Specify)																		
G. Special District	O. Not for Profit Organization																		
H. Independent School District																			
8.	Select the type from the following list: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "New" means a new assistance award.</li> <li>• "Continuation" means an extension for an additional funding/budget period for a project with a projected completion date.</li> <li>• "Revision" means any change in the Federal Government's financial obligation or contingent liability from an existing obligation. If a revision enter the appropriate letter: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">A. Increase Award</td> <td style="width: 50%;">B. Decrease Award</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C. Increase Duration</td> <td>D. Decrease Duration</td> </tr> </table> </li> </ul>	A. Increase Award	B. Decrease Award	C. Increase Duration	D. Decrease Duration	18.	To be signed by the authorized representative of the applicant. A copy of the governing body's authorization for you to sign this application as official representative must be on file in the applicant's office. (Certain Federal agencies may require that this authorization be submitted as part of the application.)												
A. Increase Award	B. Decrease Award																		
C. Increase Duration	D. Decrease Duration																		
9.	Name of Federal agency from which assistance is being requested with this application.																		
10.	Use the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number and title of the program under which assistance is requested.																		

**Barton Village, Inc.**  
PO Box 519  
Barton, Vermont 05822  
(802) 525-4747

**Memorandum**

To: Barton Village Board of Trustees  
From: Vera LaPorte  
Date: November 13, 2023  
Subject: NEKO Activities Update and Building Use Request  
Agenda: Agenda Item "G"

Meghan Wayland from NEK Organizing will present the Board with an update on their community activities and proposed usage of the Barton Memorial Building.

**Proposed Motion:** None.

BARTON MEMORIAL BUILDING OFFICE USE PROPOSAL  
NEKO

Purpose:

To request, update, and clarify NEKO's agreement for use of the office space with Village leadership.

Current agreement:

Location: Barton Memorial Building, downstairs office

Hours: noon-3 PM, Tuesdays, Thursdays

Months: unknown?

Proposed expanded agreement:

Location: Barton Memorial Building, downstairs office

Hours: noon-3 PM, Tuesdays, Thursdays

Months: November, December, January

Request:

To station a FEMA Individual Assistance coordinator in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon-3pm for the next 3 months.

Description

NEKO currently has office hours every Tuesday and Thursday from noon-3pm in conjunction with the Barton Senior Meal Site. Both are located in the basement of the Barton Municipal Building, former site of the DRC. FEMA reached out to see if they could station an Individual Assistance Coordinator in the space during our office hours to help people with flood-related paperwork, especially appeals. NEKO has continued to support flood victims with case management and paperwork at the office. An average of 3 people each week access those services currently. We expect those numbers to increase due to the creation of a long-term recovery group in the Kingdom. Having a FEMA IA professional there to answer questions will better meet people's needs. FEMA has toured the space and met key volunteers.

Request:

To remove many flood-related supplies and convert the office into an expanded foodshelf.

Description:

In recent meetings both Patsy and Vermont FoodBank staff have said food shelf usage is up 30%. In a meeting with the FoodBank, we heard people are looking for more household items, in addition to food. NEKO would like to convert our flood relief supplies to prioritize household items, diapers, and personal hygiene supplies. We would also like to distribute emergency grocery vouchers and gas cards out of this space. Roughly 5 people access the space to use this resource each week. We have all the named supplies secured and funded.

Request:

To share the office space for private conversations, legal aid, and mental health support.

Description:

Patsy has said people sometimes need to have a private place to talk with someone. Often, people need a place to come and talk through finance, legal, flood stress. Roughly all of the people who use the space for other purposes are also in need of this type of connection. NEKO will coordinate with FEMA to ensure that the space can be flexibly used for the benefit of all community members.

#### SUMMARY

A need for the use of the office space is being expressed by many people, NEKO is trying to coordinate and meet those needs and is requesting a 3-month extension of use for the stated purposes.

NEKO can offer the following support:

1. Communication with village leaders
2. Continued collaboration with other stated users
3. Connecting flood survivors and other community members to this resource and spreading the word through various communication channels (i.e. posters, flyers, newspapers, newsletters, facebook, etc.)



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PO Box 519  
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(802) 525-4747

## **Memorandum**

To: Barton Village Board of Trustees  
From: Vera LaPorte  
Date: November 13, 2023  
Subject: FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for Property Buyout  
Agenda: Agenda Item "H"

Barton Village has been approached by the State of Vermont on behalf of a Village resident wishing to participate in FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The purpose of this program is to buy flood-prone properties and demolish the structures on them to create "green space" that can mitigate floodwaters in future flooding events. The properties will be purchased at full market value, ultimately paid for by FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (75%) and VT State's Flood Resilient Communities Fund (25%)

If the Village agrees to participate in the buyout program, the Village must apply for a buyout grant with the State and use the grant funds to hire an appraiser, conduct a title search, develop closing documents, purchase the property, and contract for all demolition work. The Village will then own and maintain the property as open green space.

Things to consider:

- Will need to develop or be in the process of developing a FEMA-approved Local Hazard Mitigation Plan prior to grant application
- Loss of tax revenue and electric/water/sewer fees
- Usage and maintenance of green space (cannot build permanent structures but garden/footpath/etc. are possibilities)
- Program process can take up to two years
- Grant application deadline is July 2024

**Proposed Motion:** None.

**Barton Village, Inc.**  
PO Box 519  
Barton, Vermont 05822  
(802) 525-4747

**Memorandum**

To: Barton Village Board of Trustees  
From: Vera LaPorte  
Date: November 13, 2023  
Subject: Wastewater Operations Update  
Agenda: Agenda Item "I"

As the Board is aware, there was a meeting on 10/30/2023 to discuss the progress of the preliminary engineering report (PER) for the WWTF infrastructure upgrade project. The meeting was attended by Vera LaPorte, Jeremiah Borsoi, Mike Mainer (Aldrich & Elliott), John Merrifield (VT) and Lynette Claudon (VT). The purpose of the meeting was primarily to review the existing conditions of the WWTF, fact-check operating data, and consider the preliminary design criteria and alternatives.

This meeting is the first of several (30% complete), with the second to be held in late December/early January (60%), and the third to be held with the Trustees in early 2024 (90%) to present recommendations.

The WWTF is currently operating satisfactorily and all testing/reporting is conducted on schedule.

**Proposed Motion:** None.

**Barton Village, Inc.**  
PO Box 519  
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(802) 525-4747

**Memorandum**

To: Barton Village Board of Trustees  
From: Vera LaPorte  
Date: November 13, 2023  
Subject: Trucks Update  
Agenda: Agenda Item "J"

DPW Foreman Andy Sicard is currently following lines of inquiry regarding two trucks that could potentially fit the Village's needs.

**Proposed Motion:** None.

**Barton Village, Inc.**  
PO Box 519  
Barton, Vermont 05822  
(802) 525-4747

**Memorandum**

To: Barton Village Board of Trustees  
From: Vera LaPorte  
Date: November 13, 2023  
Subject: Salt/Sand Shed Update  
Agenda: Agenda Item "K"

The temporary salt/sand shed is complete.

The USDA application for the permanent salt/sand shed will be complete pending the representative authorization and due in December.

VHB has given the Village permission to retrieve the salt stored at the old site on High Street. DPW Foreman Andy Sicard will move it to the temporary shed the week of November 13, 2023.

**Proposed Motion:** None.

**Barton Village, Inc.**  
PO Box 519  
Barton, Vermont 05822  
(802) 525-4747

**Memorandum**

To: Barton Village Board of Trustees  
From: Vera LaPorte  
Date: November 13, 2023  
Subject: Flood Updates  
Agenda: Agenda Item "L"

As the Board is aware the State was scheduled to perform vactoring and jetting of the storm drains and sewer lines at various locations around the Village the week of October 23, 2023. The work was successful and these lines are now clear of flood debris and flowing properly. It did, however, reveal that the sewer line on Glover Road is in a very bad state and is in need of repair (most likely due to the flooding) and could be responsible for the additional hydraulic loading at the WWTF. It has been added to the FEMA Disaster Inventory and we are currently awaiting an estimate from AES Northeast to provide FEMA with a ballpark figure.

FEMA has already filed on the Village's behalf for several completed projects and funds should be made available soon.

**Proposed Motion:** None.

## **Barton Village, Inc.**

PO Box 519  
Barton, Vermont 05822  
(802) 525-4747

### **Memorandum**

To: Barton Village Board of Trustees  
From: Vera LaPorte  
Date: November 13, 2023  
Subject: Management/Staff Reports; Upcoming Items  
Agenda: **Item "M"**

#### **Personnel:**

- Advertisement for the Chief Wastewater Operator position began 09/15/2023
- Two candidates have been interviewed for the DPW Utility Worker position and a recommendation will be made

#### **Office Equipment/Computers:**

- *Mailing Machine/Postage* – The lease on the mailing/postage machine expired in 2020. Since that time, the village has paid the lease on a month-to-month basis. The current machine will soon become noncompliant with US postal requirements. I will be bringing options for replacing this machine to the Board in the near future
- The WWTF is in need of a new computer and VPPSA will provide a quote

#### **Village**

##### Sidewalks

LEMP – Local Emergency Management Plan has been completed, approved by the Board and filed with NVDA.

#### **Highway Department**

##### Current Projects:

- Pageant Park Road Ditching/Culvert Issue – Complete, using Municipal Grant in Aid Funding (deadline extended to 09/30/2024 due to flood)
- Eastern Ave/Route 16
- Flooding – Duck Pond Road, Vigario Lane, Pleasant Lane - Complete
- Plowing Contracts – VTrans contract and interlocal agreement with Town of Barton approved
- Paving
  - Andy to obtain paving estimate for West Street North
- Salt/Sand Shed Project

- Project Engineer, Tyler Billingsley East Engineering working with Andy and USDA
- Construction/Funding Options
- Ballfields
  - May need to consider signage or policy regarding injury/liability – Signage will not protect the Village from possible action due to injury

### **Wastewater Department**

#### Pending Projects:

- Follow-up on Sewer Ordinance Violations has begun – most have cooperated and are in compliance
- Wastewater Infrastructure Improvements
  - Aldrich & Elliot – Agreement Approved June 12. First progress meeting with Michael Mainer/VT State on 10/30/2023. First progress meeting went well, next meeting is end of Dec/beginning of Jan 2024
  - VT Dept of Environmental Conservation State Revolving Loan Programs funding application completed and approved June 12, loan documents received 10/04/2023 and approved by BOT on 10/16/2023. First payment application submitted 11/02/2023 and accepted 11/03/2023
  - Randy Bean working on sewer ordinance and expects it will be finished by end of 2023
- VT Department of Environmental Conservation Inspection Report Response
  - Initial response provided by Tim
  - Vera working on the details per NOAV letter received 10/02/2023. NOAV response is complete and VT State is happy for now
- Insurance/FEMA recovery for flood damage – DI submitted and FEMA PDMG working on payment for completed projects
- Glover Agreement – Asked Aldrich & Elliott to research in tandem with the Village's rates, Mike Mainer to address at progress meeting on 10/30/2023. Mike Mainer agreed to perform a holistic rate study of Barton Village and Glover rates
- Review Current Wastewater User Fees – See above
- Notice of Alleged Violation letter from ANR received 10/02/2023 – Most directives already addressed and remaining to be encompassed in WTF upgrade project. NOAV response complete

### **Water Department**

- May Pond Land Research
- Lucas working with Crystal on State of Vermont Revolving Loan Application for capital projects
- Review Current Water User Fees

## **Hydro Plant**

### Pending Projects:

- Removal of Fuel Tank
- Penstock – major upgrade will require financing (village vote and PUC approval)
- 

## **Electric:**

### Rate Case

- Surcharge was implemented in May
- May require partial refund if full rate not granted by PUC
- Public Hearing Held May 11<sup>th</sup>
- VPPSA/staff responded to two rounds of discovery questions from Vermont Public Service Department
- VPPSA to file Rebuttal Testimony August 11<sup>th</sup>
- Pretty much “done,” awaiting official response

### IRP [Integrated Resource Plan]

- VPPSA Filed on 03/05/2023
- Public input/comments (due 06/02/23)
- VPPSA/staff responded to PSD Discovery questions July 17<sup>th</sup>

### High Street Site Investigation & Remediation

- Meeting held on March 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Site Investigation provided by VHB 01/26/2022
- Supplemental Investigation Work Plan provided by VHB 07/12/2022
- First testing occurred on May 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, Additional testing approx. June 8<sup>th</sup>, reports expected late summer
- Contract balance - \$75k (not expended)
- Project Update expected 07/24/2023
- Sampling completed 10/29/2023 and VHB currently compiling data as it comes in

### AMI – VPPSA Project – determine participation

## **Misc Items:**

- Furnace Replacement –Nadeau’s completed 08/30/2023
- Website – Vera working on it when she can
- Audit – RFP went out on July 17<sup>th</sup> with responses due August 30<sup>th</sup>. Only one response, accepted by BOT 09/25/2023