

Barton Village, Inc.
Regular Trustees Meeting

Monday, August 26, 2024
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 the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting August 12, 2024
- E. Minutes from the Emergency Board of Trustees Meeting August 16,2024
- F. Bills and Warrants
- G. Rental Agreements/Electric PILOT
- H. Coin Drop Application
- I. SQRP Results and Penalty
- J. Lien Release

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- K. Hydro Facility Project Update
- L. Flood Update
- M. Department Operations Updates

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:

Special Informational Hearing: 09/09/2024 (before Regular Board Meeting)

Regular Board Meeting: 09/09/2024

Special Village Meeting: 09/20/2024

Regular Board Meeting: 09/22/2024

Barton Village, Inc.
Regular Trustees Meeting

Monday, August 12, 2024

6:00pm

Barton Village Memorial Hall

Attendance: Gina Lyon (Chair), Marilyn Prue (Trustee), Ellis Merchant (Trustee), Vera LaPorte (Business Manager), Denis Fortin (Hydro Facility Manager), Crystal Carrier (VPPSA), Sam Douglass, David Billado

Agenda

Full agenda with additional details can be found at <https://bartonvt.com/agenda-minutes/>

Audio recording of the meeting can be found for 30 days following the official approval of these minutes at the next Regular Board of Trustees Meeting on August 26, 2024 at

<https://bartonvt.com/agenda-minutes/>

- A. **Call to Order** – Gina Lyon called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.
- B. **Changes to the Agenda/Additions or Deletions** – Crystal Carrier requested that Item M – Hydro Facility Project Update be moved to the beginning of the meeting, ahead of Action Items. Gina Lyon made a motion to move Item M – Hydro Facility Project Update be moved to the beginning of the meeting, ahead of Action Items. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved and the motion carried.
- C. **Privilege of the Floor** – State Senate hopeful [Sam Douglass](#) (R - Orleans District) addressed the Board and answered questions regarding his policies and positions, most notably affordable housing, affordable heating, gun control, and crime. The State primary is August 13, 2024.

ACTION ITEMS:

- D. **Minutes from the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting July 22, 2024** – Gina Lyon made a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting July 22, 2024 as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved and the motion carried.
- E. **Bills and Warrants** – Gina Lyon made a motion to continue working through the Bills and Warrants and approve them by the end of the meeting. Marilyn Prue seconded. All approved and the motion carried.
- F. **2023 Audited and Internal Financial Reports** – Crystal Carrier explained that the inclusion of the Internal Financial Report was intended to show the Board the differences between how the auditors formatted their report versus what she typically presented to the Board. The biggest differences were in how they calculated pensions and depreciation of governmental funds, but other than the significant shortfalls in the Water and Wastewater Departments, she was satisfied

with the outcome. Marilyn Prue asked why the auditors booked the FEMA receivables for CY 2023 when the Village had not yet received the funds. Crystal Carrier explained that because Business Manager Vera LaPorte had signed and submitted the Damage Description & Dimensions document for the 2023 flood, the auditors insisted that it must be booked for CY 2023 despite the funds not yet being obligated by FEMA. Crystal Carrier disagreed with their decision because it artificially inflated the amount of money the Village had in 2023, but the auditors had final say. Marilyn Prue brought up the working capital ratios for the various departments and explained that a “good” ratio (dividing current total assets by current total liabilities) would be 1.5 to 2 or higher, and that all the Village departments with the exception of the Wastewater Department had a “good” ratio. Gina Lyon made a motion to approve the 2023 Audited and Internal Financial Reports as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved and the motion carried.

- G. **Monthly Financial Reports for Period Ending 06/30/2024** – Discussion included with Monthly Financial Reports for Period Ending 07/31/2024 because July 2024’s financials also reflect June 2024.
- H. **Monthly Financial Reports for Period Ending 07/31/2024** – Crystal Carrier explained that while the Village Department currently had plenty of cash, it was operating at a loss of approximately \$18,000 because taxes for 2024 had not yet been collected. Pageant Park was performing particularly well. The Highway Department was also operating at a loss due to tax collection and the FEMA funds not yet being obligated. She explained that most municipalities borrow against taxes with a Tax Anticipation Note to help bridge the gap, but that Barton Village has not yet needed to. The Electric Department was doing very well and despite the Water and Wastewater Departments operating at a loss for the last few years, they were currently stable. Crystal Carrier noted that labor for the Water Department was overbudget, mainly due to overtime and doubletime associated with weekend testing, but that should reduce as the Wastewater Department employees perform the water testing alongside the wastewater testing. Overall, through July 2024 the Village was maintaining its budgets. Gina Lyon made a motion to accept the Monthly Financial Reports for Periods Ending 06/30/2024 and 07/31/2024 as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved and the motion carried.
- I. **Vermont Trappers Association Annual Rendezvous** – The Board of Trustees received a request from the Vermont Trappers Association to waive the Firearms Ordinance for the purpose of discharging firearms at their Annual Rendezvous held at the Orleans County Fairgrounds on September 21, 2024 and September 22, 2024. The Board has historically approved their request. Marilyn Prue made a motion to approve the Vermont Trappers Association’s request to waive the Firearms Ordinance for the purpose of discharging firearms at their Annual Rendezvous held at the Orleans County Fairgrounds on September 21, 2024 and September 22, 2024. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved and the motion carried.
- J. **Water Department Purchase: Chlorine Analyzer** – The water plant’s chlorine analyzer has not worked properly for several weeks (not flood-related), and Water Plant Operator Lucas DiMauro has had no remote control or data monitoring other than daily testing. Replacement parts and a service technician have been unsuccessful and a new chlorine analyzer should be purchased. The chlorine analyzer sourced will cost \$9,674.75 and includes installation. Gina Lyon made a

motion to approve the purchase of the new chlorine analyzer in the amount of \$9,674.75 to be paid for with the Water Department Capital Reserve Fund as presented. Marilyn Prue seconded. All approved and the motion carried.

K. **El Dorado Billing Software** – Crystal Currier and Vera LaPorte recommend moving utility billing from the software that is currently used (NEMRC – New England Municipal Resource Center) for customization, ease of use, and efficiency. VPPSA had been seeking new utility billing software for several of its members for quite some time because of NEMRC’s limitations. El Dorado would automate several processes, including online bill payment, autopayment, and paperless billing as well as providing an online portal for customers to be able to download their bills and start/stop service, which are features customers have been requesting. The total cost of implementation would be \$21,030, with \$17,700 to be paid for by the Electric Department, \$1,665 by the Water Department, and \$1,665 by the Wastewater Department. After discussion, Gina Lyon made a motion to approve the purchase of the El Dorado Billing software in the amount of \$21,030. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved and the motion carried.

L. **2024 Tax Assessments** – The 2024 tax assessments as approved by Barton Village voters at the Annual Meeting on 03/12/2024 (Village, Water, and Wastewater) and the Second Annual Meeting on 04/30/2024 (Highway) to be raised by Tax Collector Shelia Martin are as follows:

- Village – Tax Rate .1682 (Grand List \$431,715.50 – raise \$72,578)
- Highway – Tax Rate .8297 (Grand List \$431,715.50 – raise \$358,180)
- Wastewater – Tax Rate .1312 (Grand List \$499,622.00 – raise \$65,540)
- Water – Tax Rate .1308 (Grand List \$526,252.00 – raise \$68,804)
 - TOTAL TAX RATE 1.2599

Gina Lyon made a motion to approve the taxes to be collected as approved by Barton Village voters at the Annual Meeting on 03/12/2024 and the Second Annual Meeting on 04/30/2024 as presented. Marilyn Prue seconded. All approved and the motion carried. Marilyn Prue made a motion to approve the 2024 tax rates as approved by Barton Village voters at the Annual Meeting on 03/12/2024 and the Second Annual Meeting on 04/30/2024 as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved and the motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

M. **Hydro Facility Project Update** – The Board discussed the coordination of the upcoming informational meeting on the Hydro Facility Project. It was decided that the meeting would be held in the hall versus the theater, and that presentation handouts as well as a simple informational one-sheet including a history of electric rate increases would be available.

Marilyn Prue and Gina Lyon asked Hydro Facility Operator Denis Fortin for clarification on the cost to decommission the facility if the voters did not agree to financing the repairs and upgrades. Denis Fortin explained that the facility’s Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license was valid until at least 2043 and that the facility would have no value without the license. His recommendation would be not to decommission the facility but to make it temporarily inactive, which would still require supervision and labor, as well as the employment of a firm to work with FERC. Crystal Currier asked what it would take to decommission the facility if necessary, and Denis Fortin explained that the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR)

would have to be involved and that all the structures, including the dams, would have to be removed, which had the potential to cost millions of dollars.

Ellis Merchant asked how much the electric rates would increase if the repairs and upgrades did not happen. Crystal Carrier estimated that there would be a 12.4% rate increase over a 20-year period by purchasing power to make up for the hydro facility's generation loss, which did not include any decommissioning costs. She also estimated that rates would increase by 7-11% with the repairs, but there was room for variability with the rising costs of construction (increasing the rate) and eliminating some of the project components required by grant funding, which the Village did not receive (reducing the rate). Crystal Carrier advised that it would be less expensive to proceed with the project than to buy replacement power.

Gina Lyon stated that she could envision some voters asking to sell the facility rather than make the repairs but noted that they couldn't expect "top dollar" for a rundown facility. She predicted that anyone interested in the purchase of the facility would request that the repairs be made ahead of the sale or expect to buy it for very little. Ellis Merchant asked what to do with the proceeds if the facility was sold. Could the money be given to the Village taxpayers? Crystal Carrier explained that while that was possible, the need for buying replacement power would still exist and that given the pressure that the State is putting on increased electrification, rates would continue to rise. She further explained that the Public Utility Commission (PUC) had been involved in utility sales in the past, and that they could dictate what the Village would be able to do with the proceeds if the hydro facility were to be sold.

Gina Lyon suggested hosting an open house at the hydro facility for the purpose of showcasing the repairs/upgrades required and answering questions since only Ed Barber from the Newport Daily Express attended the Village facility tour on 06/26/2024. She then stated that the question she had been hearing the most was about why rate-payers who lived outside the Village were not permitted to vote. Crystal Carrier explained that she was certain it was statutory, but that she'd find the actual State statute to be sure. After a brief discussion the Board agreed to host an open house at the hydro facility on Saturday, August 24, 2024 from 9am to 11am and to include the statutory language, once found, on the one-sheet to be available at the informational meeting on August 26, 2024. Gina Lyon also suggested drafting a letter to the editor about the project to be submitted to the Chronicle along with the open house invitation.

Discussion then turned to the availability of absentee ballots and the process required. The Board was unsure of the process and when the absentee ballots should be made available and directed Vera LaPorte to confirm the details with Town Clerk Kristin Atwood.

- N. **Tariff Rider** – The draft tariff rider for Large Commercial Nonprofit Intermittent Service is ready for review. Highlights include:
- Considered an 18-month pilot program and will be reviewed at the end of the term for efficacy
 - Customer's monthly peak load does not exceed 15% of their total annual peak load for at least six (6) months of the year

- Remove the remand ratchet in exchange for a higher demand charge per kWh (\$13.81 to \$18.00)
- Eligible customers must commit to participating in efficiency measure/programs and meet annually with Barton Village to review business prospects
- Will go into effect November 1, 2024

Gina Lyon stated that she liked the tariff rider and that it made sense. She asked about next steps, and Vera LaPorte explained that after the pilot period ended there would be a separate process with the PUC to make it a permanent tariff. Gina Lyon directed Vera LaPorte to send the tariff rider to Art LaPlante and Lori Wells after the meeting.

- O. **Flood Update** – See ongoing list of items at <https://bartonvt.com/agenda-minutes/>
- P. **Department Operations Updates** – See ongoing list of items at <https://bartonvt.com/agenda-minutes/>

OTHER ITEMS:

- Q. **Other Business** – Gina Lyon updated the Board on the Memphremegog Watershed Project. The project is moving forward and will hopefully completed this year.

Gina Lyon asked about applications for the HR/Financial Lead position. Vera LaPorte confirmed that the Village had received several and that she and Crystal Currier had narrowed it down to three that were particularly qualified. Gina Lyon requested that Marilyn Prue assist in the interview process and she agreed. She requested that the three resumes be sent to the rest of the Board.

Gina Lyon asked about scheduling a meeting with the folks from UCONN-TAB regarding brownfields. Vera LaPorte confirmed their availability in September and Gina Lyon suggested the regular meeting on September 23, 2024.

Gina Lyon inquired about following up with the Junky Yard Ordinance letters. Vera LaPorte informed her that now that the flood damage is mostly under control she can return to it.

Gina Lyon made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purposes of discussing Legal Action: 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(1)(E) and Personnel: 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3). Marilyn Prue seconded. All approved and the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:

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

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:00pm with no action taken. Gina Lyon made a motion to adjourn. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved and the motion carried.

- T. **Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 10:00pm.

Upcoming Meetings:

Special Board Meeting: August 21, 2024

Special Informational Hearing: August 26, 2024 (before Regular Board Meeting)

Regular Board Meeting: August 26, 2024

Special Meeting (Hydro Project Voting): August 28, 2024

Regina Lyon, Board of Trustees Chair

Barton Village, Inc.
Special Trustees Meeting

Friday, August 16, 2024

9:00am

Barton Village Office

Attendance: Gina Lyon (Chair), Marilyn Prue (Trustee), Ellis Merchant (Trustee),
Vera LaPorte (Business Manager)

Agenda

Audio recording of the meeting can be found for 30 days following the official approval of these minutes at the next Regular Board of Trustees Meeting on August 26, 2024 at

<https://bartonvt.com/agenda-minutes/>

- A. **Call to Order** – Gina Lyon called the meeting to order at 9:05am.
- B. **Changes to the Agenda/Additions or Deletions** – Gina Lyon stated that she would like to publish a notice in the Chronicle outlining the changes to the scheduling that the Trustees were about to discuss, and why.
- C. **Privilege of the Floor** – None.

ACTION ITEMS:

- D. **Warning for rescheduling of Special Meeting for Hydroelectric Facility informational Meeting and Bond Vote** – Gina Lyon stated that she had received a phone call on 08/14/2024 from Village Clerk Shelia Martin informing her that the Village was unable to proceed with the Hydro Facility Bond Vote on 08/28/2024 due to missing the statutory 20-day lead time on making absentee ballots available to voters at the Town Clerk’s Office. A miscommunication between Business Manager Vera LaPorte and Town Clerk Kristin Atwood had occurred, rendering the process invalid. Gina Lyon spoke to Shelia Martin and Kristin Atwood and confirmed the new schedule as follows:
 - 08/24/2024 – Hydro Facility open house from 9:00am-11:00am
 - 08/30/2024 – Absentee ballots available at Town Clerk’s Office
 - 09/09/2024 – Hydro Facility informational hearing at 6:00pm (before the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting) in the Barton Memorial Building Hall
 - 09/20/2024 – Hydro Facility bond vote from 10:00am-7:00am in the Barton Memorial Building Hall

Gina Lyon explained that rewarning the special meeting in the 08/21/2024 edition of the Chronicle would place the special meeting date of 09/20/2024 within the statutory requirement

of 30-40 days' notice. She then read aloud the notice that she wanted published alongside the new warning in the Chronicle:

"Due to unforeseen circumstances, we must re-warn the informational meeting and vote for the Hydroelectric Facility Project. The new schedule is as follows:

- 1. Open house with tour at the Hydroelectric Facility on August 24th from 9:00am to 11:00am. We encourage all to attend to see the current state of the facility, what and why things must be done.*
- 2. Absentee ballots will be available starting August 30th. Please contact the Barton Town Clerk's Office for these.*
- 3. The informational meeting will now be held on September 9th at 6:00pm in the downstairs Hall of the Barton Memorial Building.*
- 4. Voting will now be held on September 20th from 10:00am to 7:00pm in the downstairs Hall of the Barton Memorial Building.*

We apologize for the change of dates and thank you for your understanding. We are available for any questions or concerns at our regularly scheduled monthly meetings, which take place every second and fourth Monday starting at 6:00pm in the downstairs Hall of the Barton Memorial Building. We encourage and welcome all to attend.

Thank you,

*/S/ Regina Lyon, Trustee Board Chair
/S/ Marilyn Prue, Trustee
/S/ Ellis Merchant, Trustee"*

The Board of Trustees reviewed the updated Resolution for Hydroelectric Upgrades and Related Financing, Special Meeting Warning, and Official Ballot documents with the new dates and revised language. The project description and requested amount of \$3M remained unchanged, but general obligation bonds were added as a method of financing at Crystal Currier's suggestion, as well as verbiage describing the terms of the bonds. Vera LaPorte explained that she added the exact same language changes to all three documents so that there would be no more confusion.

Marilyn Prue asked whether they should host an additional informational meeting ahead of the bond vote in case more questions arose after the informational hearing on 09/09/2024. Gina Lyon agreed that it could be useful and discussed dates. The Board instructed Vera LaPorte to warn a special meeting for 09/19/2024 for this purpose. Ellis Merchant stated that he hoped folks would attend.

Discussion then turned to the inclusion of a one-sheet flyer to be handed out at the informational hearing that detailed what voting for or against the hydro upgrades and repairs would mean in simple terms. Marilyn Prue suggested adding how the electric rates would

change if they were forced to buy additional power versus proceeding with the project. Gina Lyon volunteered to write the one-sheet flyer and include the discussed information.

Gina Lyon made a motion to accept and approve the Resolution, Special Meeting Warning, and Official Ballot for the hydroelectric upgrades and related financing. Ellis Merchant seconded. All approved and the motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS:

- E. **Other Business** – None.

- F. **Adjourn** – Gina Lyon made a motion to adjourn. Marilyn Prue seconded. All approved and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:34am.

Upcoming Meetings:

Regular Board Meeting: August 26, 2024

Special Informational Hearing: September 9, 2024 (before the Regular Board Meeting)

Regular Board Meeting: September 9, 2024

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 Currier
Date: August 26, 2024
Subject: Rental Agreements/Electric PILOT
Agenda: Agenda Item "G"

Historically the BOT has approved the Electric PILOT and department rental agreements on an annual basis. The existing rental agreements and Electric PILOT were effective for CY2023. The documents have been updated for CY2024 with two minor changes:

- The dollar values were updated slightly based on number of customers for each department.
- The term was updated to keep the agreements in effect until the Board determines the rates are no longer appropriate. This maintains the agreements in effect and will not require the Board to approve them each year.

Proposed Motion: Motion to approve the agreements for Electric PILOT, Electric Rent, Highway Rent, Water Rent, Wastewater Rent as presented.

PILOT AGREEMENT

This agreement by and between **BARTON VILLAGE, INC (BVI) and BARTON ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT (BED)** contract and agree as follows:

Effective Date: 1/1/2024

Termination Date: Determined by Board of Trustees

Summary:

1. **BED agrees to pay BVI general fund the sum of \$13,125.00 as a “Payment in Lieu of Taxes” (PILOT).** The PILOT is collected as a payment for the infrastructure of utility poles and equipment constructed within Barton Village. These facilities include approximately 1.2 miles of 46kV transmission main (jointly owned by Orleans Electric), voltage stepdown facilities and approximately 10-12 miles of distribution lines throughout the Village on BED poles or poles jointly owned by other utility companies. These poles serve Barton Village customers but they also provide the network for service to other customers beyond the Village limits.

Basis of Payment:

The basis for the pilot are as follows:

- a. PILOT: If the electrical transmission and distribution property was owned by a private entity, the entity would be taxed at non-residential rates. These facilities are a benefit to all BED customers, especially the 46kV transmission line and underbuilt 12kV line which was reconstructed in 2011-2014.

Term: BED shall make one payment annually to BVI on or before the date which taxes are due.

This agreement shall remain in effect until the Board determines the current rate is longer appropriate. If an adjustment is needed, the Board shall provide a specific methodology or justification for the change.

Dated at Barton, Vermont this ____ day of _____, 2024.

Barton Village Trustees

Regina Lyon

Marilyn Prue

Ellis Merchant

RENTAL AGREEMENT

This agreement by and between **BARTON VILLAGE, INC (BVI)** and **BARTON ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT (BED)** contract and agree as follows:

Effective Date: 1/1/2024

Termination Date: Determined by the Board of Trustees

Summary:

1. **BED agrees to pay BVI general fund the sum of \$9,540 (\$795/month) for rent of the Office and Garage space in the Municipal Building located at 17 Village square.**

Descriptions of the space are as follows:

- a. The Office is approximately 1,120 square feet (14' x 80'). The office includes a conference/break room, a manager's office, two bathrooms, a filing/copier room and administrative office space for two clerks and a book-keeper along with customer counter space, entry and multiple storage closets. This space is also shared with BVI General, 71% of the office space is used by BED.
- b. The garage is approximately 1,200 square feet (46'x26'). This space is currently not being used by BED.
- c. BVI shall supply electricity, emergency power, telephone, internet, fax, heat, water, sewer, plowing, cleaning services and property insurance.

2. **BED agrees to pay BVI general fund the sum of \$20,664 (\$1,722/month) for the rent of Garage space at 107 Municipal Lane.** Descriptions of the space are as follows:

- a. The 107 Municipal Lane property is a 2.15 acre +/- area within a chain link fenced area.
- b. The site includes an area for highway sand/salt, parking, pole storage, transformer and wire storage and fueling.
- c. The building is a 2940 square foot (42'x 70') maintenance garage with office, inventory storage mezzanine (42'x12') and parking bays. BED utilizes approximately 50% of the building space.
- d. BED and BVHD shall equally share in the cost of heat, electricity, emergency power, telephone, water, sewer, plowing and property insurance.

Term: BED shall make **Annual Payments** to BVI. Payments shall be made on or by **July 15th of each year.**

This agreement shall remain in effect until the Board determines the current rates are no longer appropriate. If an adjustment is needed, the Board shall provide a specific methodology or justification for the change.

Dated at Barton, Vermont this ____ day of _____, 2024.

Barton Village Trustees

Regina Lyon

Marilyn Prue

Ellis Merchant

RENTAL AGREEMENT

This agreement by and between **BARTON VILLAGE, INC (BVI) and BARTON VILLAGE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT (BVHD)** contract and agree as follows:

Effective Date: 1/1/2024

Termination Date: Determined by the Board of Trustees

Summary:

1. **BVHD agrees to pay BVI general fund the sum of \$912.00 (\$76/month) for rent of Office and Garage space in the Municipal Building located at 17 Village square.** Descriptions of the spaces are as follows:
 - a. The Office is approximately 1,100 square feet (14' x 80'). The office includes a conference/break room, a manager's office, two bathrooms, a filing/copier room and administrative office space for two clerks and a book-keeper along with customer counter space, entry and multiple storage closets. This space is also shared with Barton Electric, Barton Village Water Department and Barton Village Wastewater Department. BVHD uses 6.8% of this space.
 - b. The garage is approximately 1,200 square feet (46'x26'). BVHD does not currently use this space.
 - c. BVI shall supply electricity, emergency power, telephone, internet, fax, heat, water, sewer, plowing, cleaning services and property insurance.

2. **BVHD agrees to pay BVI general fund the sum of \$20,664 (\$1,722/month) for the rent of Garage space at 107 Municipal Lane.** Descriptions of the space are as follows:
 - a. The 107 Municipal Lane property is a 2.15 acre +/- area within a chain link fenced area.
 - b. The site includes an area for highway sand/salt, parking, pole storage, transformer and wire storage and fueling.
 - c. The building is a 2940 square foot (42'x 70') maintenance garage with office, inventory storage mezzanine (42'x12') and parking bays. BVHD utilizes approximately 50% of the building space.
 - d. BED and BVHD shall equally share in the cost of heat, electricity, emergency power, telephone, water, sewer, plowing and property insurance.

Term: BVHD shall make **Annual Payments** to BVI. Payments shall be made on or by **July 15th of each year.**

This agreement shall remain in effect until the Board determines the current rates are no longer appropriate. If an adjustment is needed, the Board shall provide a specific methodology or justification for the change.

Dated at Barton, Vermont this ____ day of _____, 2024.

Barton Village Trustees

Regina Lyon

Marilyn Prue

Ellis Merchant

RENTAL AGREEMENT

This agreement by and between **BARTON VILLAGE, INC (BVI) and BARTON WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT (BWWD)** contract and agree as follows:

Effective Date: 1/1/2024

Termination Date: Determined by the Board of Trustees

Summary:

1. **BWWD agrees to pay BVI general fund the sum of \$1,476 (\$123**
2. **/month) for rent of Office space in the Municipal Building located at 17 Village square.** Description of the space is as follows:
 - a. The Office is approximately 1,120 square feet (14' x 80'). The office includes a conference/break room, a manager's office, two bathrooms, a filing/copier room and administrative office space for two clerks and a book-keeper along with customer counter space, entry and multiple storage closets. The BWWD uses a minority share of the office labor for billing, accounting and service work. The office space is also shared with BVI General, and Barton Electric Department. BWWD uses approximately 10.9% of this space.
 - b. BVI shall supply electricity, emergency power, telephone, internet, heat, water, sewer, plowing, cleaning services and property insurance.

Term: BWWD shall make **Annual Payments** to BVI. Payments shall be made on or by **July 15th of each year.**

This agreement shall remain in effect until the Board determines the current rates are no longer appropriate. If an adjustment is needed, the Board shall provide a specific methodology or justification for the change.

Dated at Barton, Vermont this ____ day of _____, 2024.

Barton Village Trustees

Regina Lyon

Marilyn Prue

Ellis Merchant

RENTAL AGREEMENT

This agreement by and between **BARTON VILLAGE, INC (BVI) and BARTON WATER DEPARTMENT (BWD)** contract and agree as follows:

Effective Date: 1/1/2024

Termination Date: Determined by the Board of Trustees

Summary:

1. **BWD agrees to pay BVI general fund the sum of \$1,524 (\$127/month) for rent of Office space in the Municipal Building located at 17 Village square.** Descriptions of the space are as follows:
 - a. The Office is approximately 1,120 square feet (14' x 80'). The office includes a conference/break room, a manager's office, two bathrooms, a filing/copier room and administrative office space for two clerks and a book-keeper along with customer counter space, entry and multiple storage closets. The BWD uses a minority share of the office labor for billing, accounting and service work. The office space is also shared with BVI General, and Barton Electric Department. BWD uses 11.3% of this space.
 - b. BVI shall supply electricity, emergency power, telephone, internet, heat, water, sewer, plowing, cleaning services and property insurance.

Term: BWD shall make **Annual Payments** to BVI. Payments shall be made on or by **July 15th of each year**..

This agreement shall remain in effect until the Board determines the current rates are no longer appropriate. If an adjustment is needed, the Board shall provide a specific methodology or justification for the change.

Dated at Barton, Vermont this ____ day of _____, 2024.

Barton Village Trustees

Regina Lyon

Marilyn Prue

Ellis Merchant

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

Memorandum

To: Barton Village Board of Trustees
From: Vera LaPorte
Date: August 26, 2024
Subject: Coin Drop Application
Agenda: Agenda Item "H"

The Board has received a coin drop application from the Orleans Fireman's Association for August 31, 2024.

The application is attached for Board review and approval.

Proposed Motion: Motion to approve the Orleans Fireman's Association coin drop application for August 31, 2024 as presented.

COIN-DROP APPLICATION

Village of Barton, Vermont

Coin Drops are to be approved by the Board of Trustees. Trustees meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. All requests must be in by Friday morning prior to the meeting to be properly warned on the Agenda.

Name of Organization: Orleans Firemans Association

Address of Organization: 102 Main Street

Orleans Vermont 05860

Contact Information:
Responsible Individual: Justin Peart

Phone: 802-673-4089

Email: adpt23@gmail.com

Requested Coin Drop Information:

Date: 8-31-24 Alt (Rain Day): rain or shine

Hours: 6 AM - 6 PM

Location: church street - by Barton graded school

ON BEHALF OF THE REQUESTING ORGANIZATION, I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING COIN-DROPS. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE RULES COULD RESULT IN THE FORFEITURE OF THE ORGANIZATIONS OPPORTUNITY TO CONDUCT FUTURE COIN-DROPS IN BARTON VILLAGE.

Justin Peart
Signature of Responsible Individual

8-9-24
Date

Trustee Review Date: _____
Approved: YES / NO
Signed: _____
Comments: _____
Date insurance information receive: _____

Memorandum

To: Barton Village Trustees
From: Crystal Carrier
Date: 08/26/2024
Subject: Agenda "I": SQRP (Service Quality & Reliability Plan) & Related Penalty

Electric utilities are required to file a Service Quality and Reliability Plan ("SQRP") with the Vermont Public Utilities Commission. The plan identifies certain standards that the utility must report each quarter. VPPSA prepares this report for Barton Electric, submits it to the PUC each quarter and on an annual basis, calculates any penalties that may occur as a result of not meeting the standards as outlined in the plan.

I have attached a copy of the annual report that VPPSA filed on May 14, 2024. You will see that some standards were not met and therefore a penalty resulted. Per Barton's SQRP, penalties are paid in the form of "community service projects". The utility must communicate the results of the report to its ratepayers and how the penalty was allocated.

The purpose of this memo is:

- 1) to provide the Board with the filing of the SQRP report and the results of that report
 - a. a penalty of \$1,880 was assessed due to missed SAIFI and CAIDI targets
- 2) request that the Village Board of Trustees determine how the SQRP dollars will be spent (a community service activity)

Once a decision regarding item #2 is determined, the notification to the customers can be developed and sent via bill stuffer as required by the PUC.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Thank you.

May 14, 2024

Via ePUC

Ms. Holly Anderson, Clerk
Public Utility Commission
112 State Street, 4th floor
Montpelier, VT 05620-2701

re: Calculation of Service Quality Compensation Owed to Customers for the period ended Q4 2023

Dear Ms. Anderson:

Enclosed please find the above-referenced calculation for Barton Village, Inc. Electric Department, in accordance with the requirements of their Service Quality and Reliability Performance Monitoring, and Reporting Plan ("Service Quality Plan").

The service quality performance results will be communicated to Barton's customers in the form of a bill stuffer.

Thank you for the Commission's consideration in this matter. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectfully,



Amanda Simard, Sr. Analyst
Vermont Public Power Supply Authority
P.O. Box 126, 5195 Waterbury-Stowe Rd.
Waterbury Center, VT 05677
(802) 882-8505
asimard@vppsa.com

CC: Barton Village, Inc. Electric Department
Vermont Public Service Department

**Attachment B: Barton Village, Inc. Electric Department
Service Quality Compensation Cap and Points
Annual Data for the Period ended Q4 2023**

Maximum annual service quality compensation

<u>Dollars at risk*</u>	<u>Based on 2023 Revenue</u>	<u>Avg cost/point (150 pt cap)</u>
.1% of total revenue	\$ 3,133	\$ 21

Allocation of points between plan components

		<u>Maximum Points</u>	<u>Actual Points</u>
Reliability	60%	90	97
All other points based measures	40%	60	0
		150	97

Negative points carried over from previous year, if applicable per Section V,9 of SQRP 0

Adjusted allocation of points between plan components

		<u>Maximum Points</u>	<u>Adjusted Points</u>
Reliability, adjusted for applicable negative points	60%	90	97
All other points based measures, adjusted for applicable negative points	40%	60	0
Total		150	97

Sliding point scale

Max at risk for reliability	\$ 1,879.88
Max at risk for all other points based measures	\$ 1,253.26
	\$ 3,133

RELIABILITY CALCULATION

<u>Point ranges</u>	<u>Pts in range</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>Per point</u>	<u>Actual Compensation Points</u>	<u>Actual Compensation Dollars</u>
71 to 90	20	2.188	\$ 46	20	\$ 914
46 to 70	25	1.000	\$ 21	25	\$ 522
21 to 45	25	0.850	\$ 18	25	\$ 444
0 to 20	20	0.000	\$ -	20	\$ -
Total	90			90.00	\$ 1,880

OTHER MEASURES CALCULATION

<u>Point ranges</u>	<u>Pts in range</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>Per point</u>	<u>Actual Compensation Points</u>	<u>Actual Compensation Dollars</u>
45 to 60	15	1.350	\$ 28	\$ -	\$ -
31 to 45	15	1.000	\$ 21	\$ -	\$ -
16 to 30	15	0.900	\$ 19	\$ -	\$ -
0 to 15	15	0.750	\$ 16	\$ -	\$ -
Total	60			\$ -	\$ -

Total Compensation Dollars assessed:	\$ 1,880
2023 Dollars paid for SQRP Service Guarantees	\$ -
Total Compensation Dollars to be paid:	\$ 1,880

* Maximum dollars at risk shall be calculated each year. Dollar amounts in this chart are based upon 2023 revenue.

Municipal Utility Service Quality & Reliability Plan Reporting Form											Reporting utility: Barton Village, Inc. Electric Department											10%	
REPORT PERIOD: Annual Q1 2023 through Q4 2023																							
Includ	Performance area	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Current Quarter	Prior Quarter	2nd Quarter Prior	3rd Quarter Prior	Annual Rolling Average	Baseline	Ref		% Difference	Points	10% better than baseline Target	Negative Points to carry over to next year							
1a	Call answer performance Number of calls where consumer complains to DPS that the utility cannot be reached	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<=1	1 III.1	met	0%	0.00	<= 0.900%	yes	5						
2a	Percent of bills not rendered within 7 days of monthly billing cycle																						
A	Bills not rendered within 7 days of scheduled billing cycle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0														
B	Total bills scheduled to be rendered	1,864	2,161	2,214	6,239	5,941	5,910	5,920	24,010														
C	(A/B)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	<=1.00%													
2b	Bills found inaccurate																						
A	Number of bills determined to be inaccurate	0	1	0	1	1	2	3	7														
B	Total number of bills rendered	1,864	2,161	2,214	6,239	5,941	5,910	5,920	24,010														
C	(A/B)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.00%	0.03%	0.05%	0.03%	<=1.00%													
2c	Payment posting complaints																						
A	Number of customers complaining about payment posting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0														
B	Total number of customers	1,864	2,161	2,214	6,239	5,941	5,910	5,920	24,010														
C	(A/B)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	<=.05%													
3a	Meters not read																						
A	Number of meters not read	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0														
B	Numbers of meters scheduled to be read	1,864	2,161	2,214	6,239	5,941	5,910	5,920	24,010														
C	(A/B)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	<=10.0%	10%	III.3	met	0%	0.00	<= 9.00%	yes	5					
4a	Percent of customer requested work not completed by promised delivery date																						
A	Number of jobs not completed on or by promised date less exclusions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0														
B	Total jobs promised completed	8	9	2	19	35	30	6	90														
C	(A/B)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	<=5%													
4b	Average delay after missed delivery date																						
A	Total number of delay days	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0														
B	Total number of delayed jobs in reporting month	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0														
C	(A/B)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	<=5.0													
5	Rate of complaint to DPS																						
A	Total number of escalations to DPS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0														
B	Total number of customers	1,864	2,161	2,214	6,239	5,941	5,910	5,920	24,010														
C	(A/B)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	<=0.07%	0.07%	III.5	met	0%	0.00	<= 0.06%	yes	5					
6a	Lost time incidents (report annually in January) Total incidents that cause injury to an employee, occur while employee is working for utility and result in missed work beyond day of injury VOSHA Accident Log									0													
6b	Lost time severity (reported annually in January) Cumulative number of work days missed by utility employees in calendar year as a result of injuries sustained while performing work for utility VOSHA Accident Log									0													
7a	System average interruption frequency (reported annually in January) SAIFI as defined in PSB Rule 4.901									2.9													
7b	Customer average interruption duration (reported annually in January) CAIDI as defined in PSB Rule 4.901									3.4													
7c	Worst performing areas: Attach worst performing areas analysis (reported annually in January)																						
2019 Dollars paid for SQRP Service Guarantees																							
Service guarantees											Total Service Quality Compensation Points					Negative points to carry over to next year							
List service guarantees provided by utility and indicate number of times each guarantee was provided to customers during the month and quarter																97							
Guarantee		Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Current Quarter	Prior Quarter	2nd Quarter Prior	3rd Quarter Prior			Reliability Component					97							
											Other Points Component					0							
* Maximum dollars at risk shall be calculated each year. Dollar amounts in this chart are based upon 2017 revenue.																							
Meter work- 2 business days of promised delivery date																							
Delay Days- 5 business days of promised delivery date																							

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

Memorandum

To: Barton Village Board of Trustees
From: Vera LaPorte
Date: August 26, 2024
Subject: Lien Release
Agenda: Agenda Item "J"

On January 8, 2024 a lien was placed on 3535 Pepin Road in Brownington for unpaid electric services totaling \$3,549.42. The property has recently been sold and Barton Village has been paid in full. The new owner has requested a lien discharge.

Proposed Motion: Motion to approve filing a lien discharge for 3535 Pepin Road in Brownington as presented.

BARTON VILLAGE, INC.
DISCHARGE OF LIEN FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC SERVICES

Brownington Town Clerk
622 Schoolhouse Road
Brownington, VT 05860

To whom this may concern:

KNOW ALL PERSONS that Barton Village, Inc. of Barton, Vermont being holder of Liens against Debra Chamberland, property owner of 3535 Pepin Road in Brownington, Vermont Recorded in Book 67 Page 427 of Lien Records hereby Discharge said lien pursuant to Act 295, Section 2 of By-Laws of Barton Village, Inc.

Dated on August 26th, 2024 at Barton, Vermont.

BARTON VILLAGE TRUSTEES:

Regina Lyon

Marilyn Prue

Ellis Merchant

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

Memorandum

To: Barton Village Board of Trustees
From: Vera LaPorte
Date: August 26, 2024
Subject: Hydro Project Update
Agenda: Agenda Item "K"

At the emergency Board of Trustees meeting on 08/16/2024, the new schedule of events was determined as follows:

- 08/16/2024 – BOT approved and signed the new Resolution for Hydroelectric Upgrades & Related Financing, Special Meeting Warning, and Official ballot with updated dates and language
- 08/24/2024 – Hydro facility open house from 9:00am to 11:00am
- 08/30/2024 – Absentee ballot available at Town Clerk's Office
- 09/09/2024 – Hydro facility informational meeting (before the Regular Board of Trustees Meeting)
- 09/19/2024 – Additional informational meeting (if more questions arise)
- 09/20/2024 – Bond vote via Australian ballot from 10:00am to 7:00pm in the BMB Hall

Other actions taken:

- 08/23/2024 – Hydro facility open house warned as special meeting with the unplanned attendance of additional Trustee
- Hydro facility presentation updated with new dates

Proposed Motion: None.

Huge Perron family reunion in Glover

Saturday, August 3, was the date of the annual reunion of the descendants of Ernest and Maria Perron on Shadow Lake Farm on Perron Hill in Glover. This year was extra special, marking the one hundredth anniversary of the immigration of Ernest and Maria Perron and their first child, Marcel, from St. Paul de Chester, Quebec, to Glover, where they raised 15 more children and lived the rest of their lives.

On Saturday, over 135 descendants gathered at the home farm, coming from all over Vermont and New England, and from points afar: California, Colorado, France, Georgia, Missouri, and Texas. The day was filled with food, hayrides, music, sugarhouse tours, sharing memories, and catching up. At twilight, the barn doors became a drive-in screen for the premiere showing of a photo slide show looking back over the 100 years, set to a soundtrack of songs that cousins from Missouri have written about the Perron family and farm. — from Joan Alexander



Over 135 descendants of Ernest and Maria Perron gathered at the family farm on Shadow Lake Farm in Glover on August 3, to celebrate the milestone of one hundred years since their immigration. The day ended with a spectacular fireworks display. Photo courtesy of Pam Perron

WARNING BARTON VILLAGE, INC. SPECIAL MEETING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2024

The legal voters of Barton Village, Inc. are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Barton Village Memorial Building in the Village of Barton on Friday, September 20, 2024, between the hours of 10:00 a.m., at which time the polls will open, and 7:00 p.m., at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian Ballot upon the following Article of Business:

Article 1: To see if the Village will vote to authorize the Board of Trustees to pledge the credit of the Village through the issuance of both short and long-term revenue and/or general obligation notes and/or bonds, in one or more series, in an amount not to exceed Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) for the purpose of making improvements to the Barton Village Hydroelectric Facility estimated to cost Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000).

The legal voters and residents of Barton Village, Inc. are further warned and notified that an informational meeting will be held at the Barton Memorial Building in the Village of Barton on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of explaining the subject proposed, Hydroelectric Facility improvements and the financing thereof. While only the legal voters of Barton Village, Inc. are permitted to vote on said Article, all Barton Electric customers are invited to attend the informational meeting.

The legal voters of Barton Village, Inc. are further notified that voter qualification, registration, and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Section 1303 of Title 24, and in Chapters 43, 51, and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Adopted and approved at special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Barton held on August 16, 2024. Received for record and recorded in the records of Barton Village, Inc. on August 19, 2024.

/S/ Regina Lyon, Trustee
/S/ Marilyn Prue, Trustee
/S/ Ellis Merchant, Trustee

Attest:
/S/ Shelia Martin, Barton Village Clerk

STATE OF VERMONT
SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION
ORLEANS UNIT DOCKET NO.: #PR-24-05377
IN RE: THE ESTATE OF: Lawrence R. Judd Sr.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the creditors of the estate of Lawrence R. Judd Sr., late of Holland, VT. I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the publication of this notice. **The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.**

Dated: August 17, 2024
Name of Publication: *the Chronicle*
Publication Date: August 21, 2024
Address of Court: Vermont Superior Court Probate Division
Orleans Unit
247 Main Street
Newport, VT 05855

Executor/Administrator:
Lawrence R. Judd Jr.
350 Stagecoach Lane
Derby, VT 05829
802-673-5488
djudd@live.com

VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION
ORLEANS UNIT PROBATE DIVISION
247 Main Street CASE NO.: 13576-7-85 Ospr
Newport, VT 05855
802-334-3305 / www.vermontjudiciary.org

NOTICE OF HEARING AND ORDER FOR PUBLICATION
pa RE: Niles, Perley S. Trust Estate of

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

The following petition/motion, Motion to Allow Account, has been filed in the Probate Division of the Superior Court: July 15, 2024.

A hearing on the petition/motion will be held at: 3:00 PM on September 19, 2024 at the above-named court.

If no one appears at the hearing to object, the relief requested may be granted. If you wish to receive notice of future events in this proceeding, you must notify the Court by filing a Notice of Appearance form that can be found on the Vermont Judiciary website.

It is hereby ORDERED that the notice of hearing as set forth in the Order be published in the Barton *Chronicle*, a newspaper of general circulation in Orleans County.

Publication date: August 21, 2024.

Electronically signed on 7/24/2024 9:22 AM pursuant to V.R.E.F. 9(d)

Angela M. Ross
Probate Judge

By: Kimberly Lovegrove, Probate Register

Any individual with a disability requiring assistance accessing the services, programs, and/or activities at the courthouse should contact the Clerk's office at the above address for further assistance.

Barton Village, Inc.
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Lawrence and Donna Cincotta are petitioning the Barton Village Board of Trustees for discontinuance of the portion of the Class 3 town highway known as Washington Terrace (TH 422) that crosses their property in Barton Village located at 37 Lincoln Avenue. Pursuant to 19 V.S.A. § 709, the Board of Trustees is hereby giving notice that they will examine the premises and receive testimony from any interested person(s) on August 21, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at 37 Lincoln Avenue in Barton Village. Additional information can be obtained at the Barton Village Office.

BARTON VILLAGE, INC.
HYDROELECTRIC FACILITY
OPEN HOUSE

Barton Village invites all Barton Electric ratepayers to an open house tour of its Hydroelectric Facility in West Charleston:

DATE: Saturday, August 24, 2024
TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
PLACE: 250 Great Falls Road, West Charleston, VT

The Barton Village Hydroelectric Facility, FERC Project No. 7725-000, is located on the Clyde River in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. It has been providing clean, renewable energy for the customers of Barton Electric for more than 100 years. Both turbines at the generating plant can produce a combined maximum output of 1.25MW under ideal river flow conditions, amounting to roughly half of Barton's peak load.

Please join us for the opportunity to learn more about this historic and essential part of Barton Village's facilities.

Jazz benefit in Brownington

The Old Stone House Museum and historic village in Brownington will present “An Evening of Jazz” on August 25 from 4 to 7 p.m. — a benefit concert to conserve and restore important Orleans County historical objects, including the nineteenth century oil portraits of Derby Pioneers Timothy and Phebe (Stoddard) Hinman, as well as an important Uncle Tom’s Cabin grand advertisement (75” x 82”) that was discovered behind a wall in the old East Side Restaurant in Newport.

An Evening of Jazz features String of Sheeps, combining the classical artistry of cellist Melissa Perley with the jazz and folk influenced writing of saxophonist and ukulele player Tom Frink. String of Sheeps believes in tightly arranged, simple writing with brief flourishes of improvisation.

The concert will be held at the Brownington Village Congregational Church in the Brownington historic district. Following the performance, attendees will be welcome across the street at the historic Samuel Read Hall House, where a catered reception featuring Jasper Hill Cheese, Eden Wine and Ciders, as well as Joan’s Rhubarb Punch and a variety of appetizers, canapes, and hors d’oeuvres. Pianist Mark Violette will entertain on the William Bourne Square Grand Piano during the reception.

Learn more at www.oldstonehousemuseum.org/event/an-evening-of-jazz-benefit-concert/. Early bird tickets are \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members, and are \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members after August 21. — from the Old Stone House Museum

“Pie a la mode” benefit in Craftsbury

On Thursday, August 22, Craftsbury Community Care Center will host “Pie a La Mode,” bringing community together for fun, gratitude, and music. All are invited to sway to the tunes of local music legends What Four, while enjoying ice cream and the company of neighbors.

This year the care center adds a pie auction, with fan-favorite Justin Lander leading the festivities. If anyone has ever seen Justin auction a pie, they know we’re in for a rip-roaring good time.

The social starts at 6 p.m., with the pie auction beginning at 7 p.m. sharp. The address is 1784 East Craftsbury Road. After this summer’s (and last year’s) repeat flooding, the CCCC is all ready for pie and fun.

This is the care center’s second annual ice cream social and all proceeds benefit CCCC operations and activities. Questions? Care to donate a pie? Contact any board member, or email director Kim Roberge at kroberge@craftsburycarecenter.org. — from Craftsbury Community Care Center

STATE OF VERMONT
 SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION
 ORLEANS UNIT DOCKET NO.: # 23-PR-07845
 IN RE: THE ESTATE OF: Leslie Lucas

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the creditors of the estate of Leslie Lucas, late of Beebe Plain. I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the publication of this notice. **The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.**

Dated: August 14, 2024
 Name of Publication: *the Chronicle*
 Publication Date: August 21, 2024

Address of Court: Vermont Superior Court Probate Division
 Orleans Unit
 247 Main Street
 Newport, VT 05855

Executor/Administrator:
 Nathan Lucier
 P.O. Box 387
 Beebe Plain, VT 05823
 802-595-1031
ramirezortizfan2433@yahoo.com

STATE OF VERMONT
 SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL DIVISION
 ORLEANS UNIT DOCKET NO: 23-CV-02748

1900 CAPITAL TRUST II, BY US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS CERTIFICATE TRUSTEE
 PLAINTIFF
 VS.
 CHASITY COTE F/K/A CHASITY FARNSWORTH; RONALD COTE; BLANCHARD OIL COMPANY AND OCCUPANTS RESIDING AT 2667 ROUTE 58 E, TOWNSHIP OF IRASBURG, VT 05860
 DEFENDANT(S)

NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Chasity Cote and Ronald Cote, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc, dated July 13, 2006, and recorded in Book 57, at Page 206, of the Town of Irasburg Land Records, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by Assignment of Mortgage recorded in Book 85, Page 43, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at September 18, 2024 at 01:00 PM at 2667 Route 58 E, Township Of Irasburg, VT 05860 all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To Wit:
 Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Chasity Farnsworth and Ronald Cote by deed of Allen Rexford and Alice Rexford dated April 26, 1999 and recorded April 29, 1999 in Book 43, at Page 262 of the Town of Irasburg Land Records and further described therein.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

The public sale may be adjourned one or more times for a total time not exceeding 30 days, without further court order, and without publication or service of a new notice of sale, by announcement of the new sale date to those present at each adjournment or by posting notice of the adjournment in a conspicuous place at the location of the sale.

Terms of Sale: \$10,000.00 to be paid in cash or by certified check by the purchaser at the time of sale, with the balance due at closing. The sale is subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

The Mortgagor is entitled to redeem the premises at any time prior to the sale by paying the full amount due under the mortgage, including the costs and expenses of the sale.

Other terms to be announced at sale.

1900 CAPITAL TRUST II, BY US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS CERTIFICATE TRUSTEE
 Caryn L. Connolly, Esq.
 BROCK & SCOTT, PLLC
 23 Messenger Street
 2nd Floor
 Plainville, MA 02762
VT_Noticesofhearing@brockandscott.com

STATE OF VERMONT
 SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL DIVISION
 ORLEANS UNIT DOCKET NO: 22-CV-02633

PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC
 PLAINTIFF
 VS.
 THOMAS M. KOSMATKO A/K/A TOM KOSMATKO AND OCCUPANTS RESIDING AT 72 NASON TER, NORTH TROY, VT 05859
 DEFENDANT(S)

NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Thomas M Kosmatko, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Mortgage Research Center, LLC dba Veterans United Home Loans, dated November 22, 2019, and recorded in Book 88, at Page 499, of the Town of Troy Land Records, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by Assignment of Mortgage recorded in Book 93, Page 554, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at September 18, 2024 at 12:00 PM at 72 Nason Ter, North Troy, VT 05859 all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To Wit:
 Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Tom Kosmatko by Warranty Deed of Susan J. Brassett dated November 22, 2019 and recorded December 2, 2019 in Book 88, at Page 495 of the Town of Troy Land Records and further described therein.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

The public sale may be adjourned one or more times for a total time not exceeding 30 days, without further court order, and without publication or service of a new notice of sale, by announcement of the new sale date to those present at each adjournment or by posting notice of the adjournment in a conspicuous place at the location of the sale.

Terms of Sale: \$10,000.00 to be paid in cash or by certified check by the purchaser at the time of sale, with the balance due at closing. The sale is subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

The Mortgagor is entitled to redeem the premises at any time prior to the sale by paying the full amount due under the mortgage, including the costs and expenses of the sale.

Other terms to be announced at sale.

PennyMac Loan Services, LLC
 Caryn L. Connolly, Esq.
 BROCK & SCOTT, PLLC
 23 Messenger Street 2nd Floor Plainville, MA 02762
VT_Noticesofhearing@brockandscott.com

NOTICE
BARTON VILLAGE, INC.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we must re-warn the informational meeting and vote for the Hydroelectric Facility Project. The new schedule is as follows:

1. Open house with tour at the Hydroelectric Facility on August 24th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. We encourage all to attend to see the current state of the facility, what and why things must be done.
2. Absentee ballots will be available starting August 30th. Please contact the Barton Town Clerk’s Office for these.
3. The informational meeting will now be held on September 9th at 6:00 p.m. in the downstairs hall of the Barton Memorial Building.
4. Voting will now be held on September 20th from 10:00am to 7:00pm in the downstairs hall of the Barton Memorial Building.

We apologize for the change of dates and thank you for your understanding. We are available for any questions or concerns at our regularly scheduled monthly meetings, which take place every second and fourth Monday starting at 6:00 p.m. in the downstairs Hall of the Barton Memorial Building. We encourage and welcome all to attend.

Thank you,
 /S/ Regina Lyon, Trustee Board Chair
 /S/ Marilyn Prue, Trustee
 /S/ Ellis Merchant, Trustee

Barton Village, Inc. Special Village Meeting [Informational Hearing]

Purpose: *To discuss the Barton Village Hydro Facility Upgrades, Cost and Financing*

Informational Hearing:
Barton Memorial Building
Monday, September 9, 2024
6:00 PM



Australian Ballot Vote:
Friday, September 20, 2024
Barton Memorial Building
Polls Open 10:00 am – 7:00 pm

Barton Village Hydro Facility General Information

Location: On the Clyde River in West Charleston, Vermont

FERC License: 7725-000-Vermont Expires 10/01/2043

Turbine# 1: Constructed and placed in service in 1930, rebuilt in 2008

Turbine #2: Constructed and placed in service in 1948, rebuilt in 2009

Hydro Unit #1 Nameplate Rating – 700 (KW)

Hydro Unit #2 Nameplate Rating – 600 (KW)

Existing Headgate and Supporting Structures – dated 1895 and manually operated

Penstock: Three Components:

1. Downstream of the intake structure is 665 feet of 7-foot nominal diameter welded steel penstock installed in 1941.

This portion of the penstock was replaced in 1991.

At this point the penstock bifurcates into two penstocks. **Original facility installed in early 1940's.**

2. Penstock #1 is comprised of a 5-foot 6-inch diameter welded steel penstock feeding Unit No. 1

This portion of the penstock was replaced in 1974 (approximately).

3. Penstock #2 is comprised of a 5-foot 9-inch diameter welded and riveted steel penstock feeding Unit No. 2

Penstocks and Saddles were inspected by Dubois & King June 27, 2022 and March 5, 2024

Per D&K report dated 10/14/2022

Penstock #1 – Overall in satisfactory condition with estimated remaining life of approximately 20 years.

Penstock #2 - Exterior and saddles in poor condition – experiencing accelerated deterioration and **at the end of its useful life**

Barton Village Hydro Facility Generation

Over the last ten years, the hydro facility has produced approximately 21%-38% of Barton's annual resource requirements.

Year	Hydro Gen [kwh]	BVI Load [kwh]	Hydro % of Total
2023	6,339,699	16,712,625	38%
2022	5,293,771	16,693,486	32%
2021	4,109,156	16,303,830	25%
2020	5,135,569	16,152,540	32%
2019	4,118,764	15,573,781	26%
2018	3,371,743	15,972,877	21%
2017	4,025,485	15,774,211	26%
2016	4,091,374	16,133,833	25%
2015	4,330,701	16,324,834	27%
2014	3,411,541	16,394,177	21%
2013	4,061,110	16,532,570	25%

Barton Village Hydro Facility Financial Considerations

Project Components and Cost:

Unit #2 Penstock	\$ 1,219,244
1895 Headgates & Support Structure	\$ 699,205
Penstock Valve	\$ 47,669
Recloser, Transformer, Containment	\$ 432,833
Standby Generator	\$ 75,000
Engineering	\$ 260,995
Direct Labor/Benefits	\$ 15,840
Consultants	\$ 30,200
Legal	\$ 36,000
Permitting	\$ 105,000
Total	\$2,921,986

Vermont Bond Bank Project Financing

Rate: 3.95% (as of 04/17/2024)
 Amount Financed: \$3 Million
 Total Cost: \$4,484,254
 Term: 20 years

Estimated
 Rate
 Impact =
 7-11%

OR

Vermont Public Power Supply Authority

Power Supply Estimate (cost to
 replace loss of hydro production
 over 20-year period)
 \$7,925,411
 Average Annual: \$396,271

Estimated
 Rate
 Impact =
 12.4%

This only reflects the estimated impact of replacing the power required.
 If the facility were to cease operations, there would be decommissioning
 costs that are not reflected in this number.

Barton Village Hydro Facility Project Components – Unit #2 Penstock

Existing Penstock and saddles are deteriorated, pitted with holes, leaking and at risk of full failure.

Alternative #1: Carbon Fiber Reinforced Polymer Liner (CFRP) – layers of unidirectional CFRP fabric bonded together with epoxy resin. Reinforce exiting penstock with CFRP and replace the existing concrete saddles and thrust blocks.

Estimated lifespan is 50 years.

Estimated Construction Cost: \$2,023,350

Alternative #2 [**RECOMMENDED**]: New Steel Penstock – Demolish the existing penstock and saddles, replace the penstock with a 5/16-inch thick rolled ASTM A36 steel plate penstock and replace the existing saddles with new reinforced concrete saddles and thrust blocks.

Estimated lifespan is 80 years.

Estimated Construction Cost: \$1,219,244



Barton Village Hydro Facility Project Components – 1895 Headgate

- Existing Headgate is dated 1895.
- Existing structure is deteriorated and no longer functional.
- Significant safety hazard.
- Replaces existing timber headgates and steel support structure with new steel headgates and support structure.
- New structure operated with electric actuators.



Barton Village Hydro Facility

Project Components – Unit #2 Penstock Gate Valve



- Includes installing an electric motor and operator to replace the existing manual operator at the Unit #2 gate valve, using the existing gate valve support frame.
- Replaces aged equipment and allows for electronic monitoring and operation (off-site).

Barton Village Hydro Facility

Project Components – Transformer, Containment, Recloser



- Replaces the existing (old) transformers with identical size/capacity.
- Adds containment area for environmental concerns and safety.
- Adds recloser on distribution system, protecting the hydro facility and the remaining distribution customers in the event of faults.

Barton Village Hydro Facility Project Components – Standby Generator

- Facility currently has no generator and cannot generate in the event of power failure.
- Borrowed equipment is used to keep equipment from freezing during power outages.
- Installation of standby generator prevents equipment damage and enables continued operations during outages.

Barton Village Hydro Facility

Additional Information

- Special Village Meeting: Monday, September 9, 2024 6:00pm at Barton Memorial Building
- Australian Ballot Voting: Friday, September 20, 2024
 - Barton Memorial Building
 - Polls open 10:00am – 7:00pm
 - Ballots available in advance at the Village Office and/or Town Clerk's Office

For more information call:

Vera LaPorte, Barton Village Business Manager: (802) 525-4747

Denis Fortin, Barton Village Hydro Manager: (802) 323-3352

Crystal Carrier, VPPSA Member Support Advisor: (802) 882-8501

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

Memorandum

To: Barton Village Board of Trustees
From: Vera LaPorte
Date: August 26, 2024
Subject: Flood Update
Agenda: Item "L"

FEMA DR-4810 declared on 08/20/2024. Vera LaPorte attended a virtual public assistance applicant briefing with Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) on 08/23/2024.

Bruce Melendy with Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) and members of STANTEC Engineering staff will be in the Village on 08/27/2024 to inspect culverts damaged by the 07/10/2024 storm. Special attention will be given to the concrete aqueduct along Lincoln Avenue.

DPW

- **Lincoln Avenue**
 - Currently looking into provenance of the aqueduct. It may have been installed as a response to a storm in 1883, but so far no records have been found.
- **Ball Field**
 - The ball field needs significant repair. DPW Utility Worker Garrett Heath has begun backfilling the washed out area and general cleanup.
- **High Street/St. Paul's Cemetery Access Road**
 - Eric Pope from VTrans inspected the High Street culvert and determined that it was undersized compared to the width of the stream. This will be addressed by FEMA Hazard Mitigation now that the disaster has been declared.
- **Pageant Park Road Culvert**
 - The culvert will be replaced when the seasonal campers have vacated.

No other updates at this time.

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: August 26, 2024
Subject: Department Operations Updates
Agenda: Agenda Item "M"

Electric Department

- After-hours on-call answering service – Will switch to Specialty Answering Service.
- Tariff rider draft has been reviewed by both the Board of Trustees and the OCFA Board. Steve Farman from VPPSA is currently drafting supporting testimony and will submit to the Public Utility Commission (PUC) once done.
- Hydro plant informational meeting is rescheduled to 09/09/2024 with the Australian ballot vote on 09/20/2024.
- Vera LaPorte to attend meeting on 09/11/2024 with fellow VPPSA members John Morley of Orleans Village and Jonathan Elwell of Lyndonville Electric to address some issues that all three utilities share, including tree-trimming, on-call service, and radio communications.

Wastewater Department

- Main lift station cleanout occurred on 08/22/2024 and went well.
- Mike Mainer with Aldritch & Elliott is digging more deeply into the Glover agreement. He will compile a list of thoughts and questions and attend a future meeting.
- Wastewater Facility Operator Nate Therrien is reviewing the new sewer ordinance and will provide his feedback at the regular Board meeting on 09/23/2024.
- The wastewater treatment facility continues to operate well and all reporting deadlines are being met.

Water Department

- The Vermont Bond Bank/ARPA Funds tier 1 applications for flood damage are currently being accepted. Tier 2 applications for age related defects will be accepted sometime in the fall.
- The new chlorine analyzer was installed on 08/14/2024 and is working well.

- The water treatment facility continues to operate well and all reporting deadlines are being met.

Highway Department

- Paving continues between flood recovery projects.
- Salt/sand shed – Barton Village has been awarded an additional \$138,900 in grant funding from the USDA Community Facility REAP Grant, bringing the total to \$231,900. An additional \$77,300 needs to be funded to complete the project.
- See Flood update for additional information.

Village Department

- School crossing signs – DPW Foreman Andrew Sicard needs to adjust the position of the signs/poles already in place and will do so once he returns from vacation on 08/28/2024.
- The Village received \$20,000 of the promised \$80,000 flood recovery funds from the FY24 Budget Adjustment Act. No news on when the rest can be expected.
- The BOT inspected Washington Terrace (TH422) on 08/21/2024 as part of the process of discontinuing the road. A report will be issued on their findings.
- The VT-ALERT contact survey was included in the 08/13/2024 water/sewer billing. The Office has received a handful of completed surveys every day since. Vera LaPorte and Gina Lyon will update the system weekly.
- Vera LaPorte will be attending an ordinance drafting class on 08/29/2024.
- Junky Yard Ordinance Violation follow-up letters sent. 155 High Street and 377 Park Street are still in violation as of 08/23/2024.
- UCONN-TAB presentation confirmed for 09/23/2024 meeting.
- See Flood update for additional information.

Proposed Motion: None.

August 23, 2024

Regina Lyon, Board Chair
Barton Village, Inc.

Sent via email to: ginalyonbvt@gmail.com

Re: \$138,900 Community Facility REAP Grant
FY24 Salt and Sand Shed

Dear Regina:

Congratulations! This letter is your official notification that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) funding noted above has been approved. We are pleased to assist with the funding for this project.

USDA funding is subject to the conditions stated in our Letter of Conditions dated August 15, 2024. An executed copy of Form 1940-1, *Request for Obligation of Funds*, is enclosed for your records.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Dianne Drown of our St Johnsbury Office at (802) 424-3159. The Area Office will be contacting you regarding the next steps in the process.

Sincerely,

Sarah Waring
State Director NH/VT
Rural Development
United States Department of Agriculture
Office: (802) 828-6066 | Cell: (802) 233-8497