

Village of Barton

Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Time: 5:30 PM-Earlier start due to PUC public hearing at 6:30 pm

Location: Barton Village Memorial Building – Back Office

Note: Meeting to be moved downstairs upon accessibility request. Please call 802-525-4747, Monday – Friday, 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM to request accommodations.

Attendance

- Gina Lyon – Trustee, Chair / Village Business Manager
 - Marilyn Prue – Trustee
 - Ellis Merchant – Trustee
 - Jacqueline Laurion – Clerk
 - Natalie Dalpe & Michael Pion – Residents Breezy Hill Road
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AGENDA

A. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chair Gina Lyon at 5:30 PM.

B. Changes to the Agenda

- Gina Lyon added: Item I – Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) under Action Items.
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C. Privilege of the Floor

- No public comments currently.
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ACTION ITEMS

D. Approval of Minutes – September 9, 2025

Motion by Gina Lyon to approve the minutes as presented.

Seconded by Marilyn Prue.

Motion passed.

E. Meeting Minutes Format

Jacqueline Laurion inquired whether the current meeting minute format was sufficient for public understanding. Trustees agreed the format, paired with recorded audio, was thorough.

Motion by Gina Lyon to allow the Clerk to present the minutes in the format she deems appropriate based on meeting content.

Seconded by Ellis Merchant.

Motion passed.

F. Bills and Warrants

Motion by Marilyn Prue to approve bills and warrants as presented.

Seconded by Ellis Merchant.

Motion passed.

G. Lien Approval – 1145 Evansville Road, Brownington

A lien in the amount of \$2,459.63 for outstanding electric fees was presented.

Note: Property is rented; legal ownership is tied to 1145 Evansville, but the physical service address is 1553 Evansville Road, and the outstanding electric bill belongs to 1553 Evansville Road.

Motion by Marilyn Prue to approve the lien.

Seconded by Ellis Merchant.

Motion carried.

H. 2026 Pageant Park Season

Gina Lyon provided updates on documents and rules for the 2026 camping season.

- Updates include clarifying that all children, including those with disabilities, must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.
 - Seasonal camping rate comparisons were made with three local campgrounds.
 - Concerns were raised by the 2025 caretakers regarding large campers not fitting the current sites for which they are contracted. Gina will consult Andy Sicard and develop a plan to request camper size on future seasonal contracts.
- Discussion tabled for a future meeting. No action taken.
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I. Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)

Gina Lyon updated the Board on the upcoming wastewater treatment plant upgrade project, which will require future bond vote approval. Barton Village was approved for funding in accordance with the SFY2026 CWSRF Project priority List. Upon receiving the Availability Letter, it was noticed that the Point of Contacts and Authorized Signers were inaccurate. Gina Lyon completed the Authorization Form to reflect the correct individuals listed below.

- Gina Lyon (Trustee Chair, Village Business Manager)
- Sheila Martin (Finance Manager)
- Nathan Therrien (Wastewater Manager)

Motion by Gina Lyon to update the CWSRF Authorization Form and appoint the above as authorized representatives to present the State of VT with any information, data, and documents of the noted project.

Seconded by Marilyn Prue.

Motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

J. Upcoming Joint Meeting – Tuesday, October 27, 2025

A joint meeting is scheduled with Orleans Village Trustees and Ken Nolan (VPPSA General Manager) to discuss:

- AMI Project – Advanced Metering Infrastructure.
- This meeting will also serve as the public meeting requirement for the AMI project to satisfy grant criteria.

- Power Supply Purchasing.
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K. Department Operations Updates

Office:

- Sheila Martin began full-time employment as Finance & HR Manager on 9/22/2025.
- NEMRC meeting held regarding potential financial and payroll system clean-up.

DPW (Public Works):

- Paving began on Lincoln Ave; a small hiccup on the Railroad flaggers needed for the project, but it was easily worked out.
- Ditching completed on Pageant Park Rd. and Eastern Ave.
- DuBois & King will be surveying the two FEMA Project culvert replacements on High Street and Lincoln Ave. within the next 2 weeks.
- Two summer temporary employees are to be released 10/10/2025, based on their offer of employment agreements. Gina Lyon, Shelia Martin, and Andrew Sicard to review budgets and DPW needs to determine next steps on a potential permanent hire.
- Pageant Park culvert requires re-engineering due to a Hydraulic Study. Gina Lyon is working with FEMA and VT VEM regarding a late DI for emergency work.
- Ongoing complaints of speeding vehicles and motorbikes in the Village. Residents are encouraged to report incidents directly to the Orleans County Sheriff's Office 802-525-3333. Gina Lyon is pending a future meeting with Sherriff Harlow to discuss the current issues.
- USDA Community and Resiliency Grant is being explored for the possibility of a Village truck replacement.
- Sicard Family Trust Lawsuit regarding Sunrise Ave. was completed when the Stipulation for Declaratory Judgment was signed by Attorneys of all parties and the Vermont Superior Court Judge on 9/18/2025. Any work on Upper Sunrise Ave or Sunrise Extension must be communicated timely in writing to all residents before work begins. Lower Sunrise Ave has been accepted by Barton Village per the Deed of Dedication and acceptance. Lower Sunrise Ave will be added to the Village's Road map in 2026.

Water Treatment:

- 3D imaging of water well conducted 9/24/2025.
- Ongoing efforts to blend surface and well water with the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Jeff Hoffer, and Tailwater Engineering.

Wastewater:

- Solar Bee to be installed in Lagoon #2 to aid in aeration.

Electric:

- Ongoing pole and AMI project work continues.
- New SmartHours Program has been kicked off for EV (Electric Vehicle) users.

Hydro Plant:

- Project progressing as scheduled:
 - Penstock #1: Complete.
 - Penstock #2: Demolition started.
 - Headgate installed.
 - Steel stair replacement and concrete work underway.
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L. Other Business /Privilege of the Floor (Reopened)

Due to time constraints and a late arrival, Natalie Dalpe and Michael Pion were unable to speak for long. They were invited to stay for the public hearing by the PUC, and the Trustees Meeting would be reopened to finish their conversation and discussion. They decided to return after the public hearing.

M. VT Public Utility Commission Hearing – 6:30 PM

At 6:30pm Gina Lyon Made a motion to adjourn.

Marilyn Prue seconded.

Motion passed.

Trustees attended the VT PUC Public Hearing via video conference regarding a 5.61% electric rate increase.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

N. Legal – 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(E)

- Not needed.

O. Personnel – 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3)

- Not needed.
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P. Second Meeting Call to Order

Gina Lyon called the second meeting to order at 7:41pm, solely to hear public comments regarding Water & Sewer General Bond Obligations related to Breezy Hill Road. Upon discussion with Natalie Dalpe and Michael Pion, Gina Lyon made a motion to adjourn at 8:04 PM.

Seconded by Marilyn Prue.

Motion carried.

Upcoming Meetings

- Regular Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 14, 2025
- Special Board Meeting w/Orleans Village Trustees: Monday, October 27, 2025
- Regular Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 28, 2025