

Village of Barton

Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Time: 6PM

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

- Regina(Gina) Lyon – Trustee, Chair / Village Business Manager
 - Marilyn Prue – Trustee
 - Ellis Merchant – Trustee
 - Shelia Martin – Finance Manager
 - Bret Thayer
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AGENDA

A. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chair Gina Lyon at 6:03 PM.

B. Changes to the Agenda

- Gina Lyon added: Item M. and N.
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C. Privilege of the Floor

- Bret Thayer discussed the 250th Anniversary of the United States on 07.04.26 and suggested business planning and involvement in the parade.
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OTHER ITEMS

D. UCONN TAB Presentation re: High Street

Wayne from UCONN Tab gave a presentation/overview of the High Street project. He spoke about the potential use of the property after cleanup.

Gina stated she is still waiting to hear back from the potential buyer and that she was advised by NVDA that they did not feel that the dog breeding business/storage may qualify for grant funding.

Gina will follow up.

E. Bret Thayer Presentation re: Brick Kingdom Trail Project

Bret Thayer gave a brief update on the Brick Kingdom Trail Project for the Crystal Lake Historical Society. He stated this year they increased their membership and visitors.

Bret stated during the 2023/2024 flood the pedestrian bridge was destroyed and needs to be rebuilt. He stated Phase 1 will cost approximately \$75,000 – \$126,000 and Phase 2 will be \$20,000 to \$50,000. They are hoping to make an outdoor classroom and park area.

They will be applying for a grant but need a letter from the Village stating the Village supports the project.

The Trustees agreed to write a letter of support and Gina will complete as soon as possible.

ACTION ITEMS

F. Approval of Minutes – September 23, 2025

Motion by Gina Lyon to approve the minutes as presented.

Seconded by Marilyn Prue.

Motion passed.

G. Bills and Warrants

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

Seconded by Ellis Merchant.

Motion passed.

H. Financial Reports

Motion to approve August 2025 Financial Reports as presented was made by Marilyn Prue.

Seconded by Gina Lyon.

Motion carried.

I. Water Treatment Facility Generator Bids

Gina Lyon provided information on the three bids. This project has already been budgeted for. John Morley has met with all three contractors, so the bids were equal in work.

Marilyn Prue stated all three businesses who bid (D&D Electric, Brook Field Service & Bob's Electric were all reputable businesses, and it was apples to apples in the equipment.

Gina made a motion to have Brook Field be granted the work.

Marilyn Prue seconded this.

Motion passed.

Gina stated she would let the bidders know and would follow up with John Morley.

Gina will also verify if a zoning permit is needed for this project.

J. Uncollectable Delinquent Bad Debt Electric Accounts

Shelia Martin updated that currently there are three accounts she requested to be written off, as all attempts have been made to locate the consumer with no success. The amount is approximately \$890.00.

Motion by Marilyn Prue to write off the debts.

Seconded by Gina Lyon.

Motion passed.

K. 2026 Pageant Park Season

Gina stated she has worked with Andy Sicard about concerns around the park and they will be eliminating one seasonal RV camping lot and one tent spot. The following increases were requested:

Seasonal rate from \$2200.00 to \$2400.00 with a \$400.00 deposit required.

Tents – from \$30.00 to \$35.00 a night

Day rates: 0 – 5 years old free

Six and up \$5.00

Seasonal pass from \$45.00 to \$50.00

Motion by Marilyn Prue to approve the rates as discussed.

Seconded by Ellis Merchant.

Motion passed.

L. DPW Winter Hire

Summer help ended 10/10/2025. Shelia, Andy, and Gina met and discussed a permanent position. Andy does not feel at this time he needs a full-time employee but would like a permanent part-time employee.

Discussion around the budget and work hours was had and the board decided it would be a 24-hour a week position, since there is a position with the Village that already requires it to be part-time DPW.

Marilyn Prue made a motion to advertise the position 24 hours a week and start part-time and see how it goes, and further discussion would ensue. Salary range based on experience.

Seconded by Ellis Merchant

Motion passed.

M. Permission for Snowmachine Trail Access Along 114 Church Street

The Glover Trailwinders Snowmachine Club has asked for access on the Village property near the ballfield (114 Church Street). There was discussion about ensuring the machines stay off the ballfield should there not be a lot of snow and putting up a snow fence by the pumping station with no trespass signs.

Motion by Ellis Merchant to allow this for the 2025-2026 season and revisit for 2026-2027.

Seconded by Marilyn Prue

Motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

N. Preliminary Engineering Report for Barton Well Water Project

Gina stated she had a conversation with Lucas about this project. Gina needs to have further discussion with the State before signing any paperwork for moving forward.

Marilyn asked if there was a cost saving for this project and at this time it is unknown.

O. Department Operation Updates

Office:

- **Budget planning is being discussed and is in the work of Department Managers.**
- **Shelia has begun working on Glover's Water Sewer new invoice for theirs and our budgeting purposes.**

DPW (Public Works):

- **All hands-on deck this week for annual fall hydrant flushing.**
- **Paving on Lincoln Ave has been completed.**
- **Two summer temporary employees were released on 10/10/2025. Their hard work and dedication were very appreciated.**
- **ANR has extended the NFM temporary permit for the in-kind Pageant Park culvert with a schedule of activities that need to happen. These activities will be scheduled with Andy soon. FEMA has entered our late emergency Damage Inventory for the new final replacement culvert project.**
- **Gina Lyon has a meeting on 10.17.25 with Sherriff Harlow and Lieutenant Wells to discuss the traffic issues BV has had throughout the past few months.**
- **With Government shut down we have had no response from USDA Rural Development regarding the Salt Sand Shed Grant payment that we should have received on 09.26.25 and have not. We have paid the contractor for his first invoice. Second invoice should be coming soon as the building delivery is expected in two weeks.**

Water Treatment:

- **Previously discussed preliminary engineering report.**

Wastewater:

- **Solar Bee, now called the Lagoon Revolver, was installed in Lagoon #2 to aid in aeration. Per Nate, it is doing what they desired, which was reducing some of their testing levels.**

Electric:

- **Ongoing pole and AMI project work continues. DCU's being installed.**
- **Regarding rate increase, I answered second round of discovery questions with Steve Farnham for Eli Emerson to respond to PUC before 10.23.25.**
- **Site Adjuster description on last Electric Bill was coded by El Dorado incorrectly as it should have said Surcharge for the 5.61% rate increase. El Dorado has corrected this for next month's billing. Email blast was sent to customers. Office staff have been asked to obtain email addresses from those customers that we do not have an email address on file.**

Hydro Plant:

- **Project progressing as scheduled:**
 - **Site visit with D&K, FBM, Denis, and Gina Lyon was on 10.08.25. D&K report shared with Board.**
 - **Penstock #2: Demolition complete.**
 - **Headgate installed. Whipps to come complete electrical components and give their blessing on the install for use.**
 - **Steel stair replacement complete.**
 - **Delay in the shop drawings of Penstock resulting in slight delay of project completion. Not expected to be early to mid-December. VPPSA has been made aware.**

P. Other Business

- **Discussion regarding junky yard on High Street was had. Village Attorney is willing to file an action lawsuit. Estimated cost could be \$2000. For now, Village will continue**

to attempt to get the property cleaned up with direct communication with the property owner.

- Big Bill through Act 27 (H.493) awarded Barton Village with \$30,000 as local economic damage grants distributed to municipalities through the State to address the secondary economic impacts of 2023 and 2024 flooding events. Monies from this grant cannot be expended on FEMA related projects. Discussion was had about how to utilize this. For now, it was decided to code it as MISC income under the Village Fund for future disbursement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Q. Legal – 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(E)

- Not needed.

R. Personnel – 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3)

- At 8 :55pm Gina Lyon made a motion to enter Executive Session under 1 V.S.A § 313(a)(3). Marilyn Prue seconded. Motion passed. At 9 :58pm Gina Lyon made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Marilyn Prue Seconded. No action taken. Ellis Merchant and Marilyn Prue conducted Gina Lyons 90 Day Business Manager’s evaluation during the Executive Session.

S. Adjourn

Gina Lyon made a motion to adjourn at 9:59pm.

Seconded by Marilyn Prue.

Motion carried.

Upcoming Meetings

Special Board Meeting w/Orleans Village Trustees in Orleans: Monday, October 27, 2025

Regular Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 28, 2025

Regular Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Regina L. Lyon, Trustee, Board Chair