

## **Barton Village, Inc.**

### **Regular Trustees Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, December 23, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.**

Barton Village Memorial Building – Back Office

*Note: The meeting may be relocated to the downstairs meeting room in the event of an accessibility issue for any attendee or participant. Requests to relocate the meeting prior to the scheduled date and time must be made by contacting the office at 802-525-4747, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

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#### **Attendance**

- Gina Lyon, Chair & Village Business Manager
  - Marilyn Prue, Trustee
  - Ellis Merchant, Trustee
  - Shelia Martin, Finance Manager / HR
  - Jacqueline Laurion, Clerk
  - Cassandra Griffin
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#### **Agenda**

##### **A. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Gina Lyon at 6:02 p.m.

##### **B. Changes to the Agenda / Additions or Deletions**

No changes to the agenda were noted.

##### **C. Privilege of the Floor**

No public comments were presented.

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#### **Action Items**

**D. Minutes – Regular Board of Trustees Meeting, December 09, 2025**

The minutes from December 09, 2025, Regular Board of Trustees Meeting were reviewed, and Gina Lyon made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **E. Bills and Warrants**

Bills and warrants were presented for review. Marilyn Prue made a motion to accept the bills and warrants as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **F. Financial Reports – Period Ending November 2025**

Financial reports for the period ending November 2025 were reviewed. Meetings with department heads have been taking place to review the budgets for 2026. Marilyn Prue had a few questions on the financial reports that Sheila noted needed correction and is currently working on. Marilyn Prue made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented. Gina Lyon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **G. Hydro Management**

Hydro management matters were reviewed as part of ongoing operational oversight. Denis Fortin wishes to remove himself from the role of Hydro Manager as of June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Gina Lyon feels that having a replacement in place ready to go as of June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, would be a wise idea. She would like the Trustees' approval to place an ad for this upcoming vacant position. The proper candidate or contractor will need some large machine mechanical expertise and electrical expertise. Denis states he will not simply leave as of June 1<sup>st</sup> but recommends the Village place effort in a replacement. Marilyn Prue made a motion to advertise for an open position for Hydro Management. Ellis Merchant seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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## **Discussion Items**

### **H. Tailwater Engineering – Well Water Blending**

A presentation and discussion were held at the 12/9/2025 Trustee meeting and Gina wanted to see if the Trustees had any other open questions. Marilyn Prue had previously sent her questions to the engineering team, and they were all answered. Ellis Merchant stated he had some questions on initial cost, but after further discussion, he felt better. The topic of moving forward with the Tailwater Engineering contract for this project will be presented in the future for action consideration.

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## **I: Department Operations Updates**

### **Office**

- Mail sorter and postage meter are scheduled to arrive on January 8, 2026.
- Shelia Martin gave the office staff a list of past due accounts for Water/Sewer & Electric, so that outreach can be done to these customers for payments and arrangements if payments cannot be made.
- Shelia Martin will also be providing a list of delinquent tax sale properties.

### **Department of Public Works (DPW)**

- The salt/sand shed is complete. The Village is awaiting USDA grant funds to be deposited into the Village bank account. A third funding attempt was anticipated this week.
- The F-550 plow truck experienced mechanical issues and was at Champlain for repairs at the end of last week. Ongoing wiring issues remain, and repairs will include rewelding of barrels.
- The International truck is expected to be repaired and back in service by the end of next week. Delays were due to incorrect parts being received; correct parts are expected by the end of this week.

### **Water Treatment**

- Generator installation is complete except for the propane connection. Freds was contacted, and an appointment is scheduled for January 8, 2026.

### **Wastewater**

- An email response was sent to Cindy Epinette, Glover Town Clerk, on December 16, 2025, advising that Trustees could not attend a Glover Selectboard meeting until the week of January 12, 2026. No response has been received to date back from Glover with the proposed new date.

### **Electric**

- Discussion was held regarding the power outage on December 19, 2025. It went very well, and the warming shelter was opened and managed by Marilyn Prue later in the afternoon. The office phones were kept open until 7:45 PM, and excellent communication took place between the Village Office and the Electric Lineman. This assisted in faster resolution for those impacted by the extended outage.

Because this was well received by the community and customers, it will be something considered by the Village in the future to ensure the customers' questions are answered.

- A joint power supply meeting was held on December 22, 2025, with VPPSA, Orleans Electric, Barton Electric Department, and Lyndonville Electric Department following notification that VPPSA's projected power supply budget reflects significant increases. This was a meeting requested by John Morley, III. VPPSA reviewed the budget and acknowledged that some errors were on the original submission to the Municipalities. They will be sending the adjusted budgets. These increases are based on access to power supplies. Renewable energy initiatives in the State of Vermont are adding to the spike in cost.

### **Hydro Plant**

- The hydro project is progressing on schedule.
  - Delivery of the penstock is scheduled for the beginning of the week of December 29, 2025.
  - Installation is expected to be completed by the end of January, with the plant anticipated to be operational again in early February.
  - Bearings in Generator #2 and the exciter in Generator #1 have been removed and are undergoing repair in preparation for startup.
  - Four Fair Banks Mill welding teams are scheduled to be on site next week upon penstock delivery.

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### **J. Other Business**

No additional business was discussed.

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### **K. Executive Session**

**Executive Session – Legal** - Pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(E) - Not needed.

**Executive Session – Personnel** – Pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) – Gina Lyon made a motion to go into Executive Session at 6:41 pm. Marilyn Prue seconded. Motion carried. At 7:24 pm, Gina Lyon made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Ellis Merchant seconded. Motion carried. During the Executive Session, a discussion was held regarding

Lucas DiMauro, Water Manager's resignation received and effective at 5:02 pm on 12/22/25. Acknowledgement and acceptance of Lucas' resignation was made by Gina Lyon, Business Manager, at 10:00 am on 12/23/25. The Board also acknowledged and accepted Lucas' resignation. Discussion was also held regarding coverage of the water plant and Gina Lyon, Business Manager, working with the State of Vermont and Vermont Rural Water Association. No further action was taken.

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### **I. Adjourn**

At 7:25 p.m., Gina Lyon made a motion to adjourn. Ellis Merchant seconded. Motion carried.

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### **Upcoming Meetings**

- Regular Board Meeting: January 13, 2026
  - Regular Board Meeting: January 27, 2026
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Regina L. Lyon, Trustee, Board Chair