

Barton Village, Inc.

Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, June 23, 2026 – 6:00 PM

Location: Barton Village Memorial Building – Back Office

Meeting Accessibility Notice: The meeting will be moved downstairs if there is an accessibility issue for any attendee or participant. To request the meeting be relocated prior to the scheduled date and time, please contact the Village Office at **802-525-4747**, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Everyone is encouraged to listen to the meeting recordings for all the finer details of the meetings that cannot be noted in the meeting minutes.

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

Attendance

- Gina Lyon, Chair
- Marilyn Prue, Trustee
- Ellis Merchant, Trustee
- Sheila Martin, Finance Manager
- Jacqueline Laurion, Clerk
- Ed Barber, Newport Daily Express
- Bob Ferlazo, Village Resident

A. Call to Order

Chair Gina Lyon called the meeting to order at **6:07 p.m.**

B. Changes to the Agenda

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

C. Privilege of the Floor – Eastern Avenue Drainage Concerns

Mr. Bob Ferlazo addressed the Board regarding ongoing drainage concerns originating from the hills along Eastern Avenue and flowing downhill onto properties along Lake Front Lane, including his own property, which has been significantly impacted. He also stated that the

existing culvert located on the lower section of Eastern Avenue is undersized and no longer adequate to manage the volume of stormwater. As a result, erosion has progressed significantly and is now approaching the roadway.

Mr. Ferlazo noted that he walks Eastern Avenue daily and expressed concern over the lack of corrective action, stating that the continued erosion and undersized drainage infrastructure present a potential public safety concern if left unaddressed.

He also discussed the increased stormwater runoff coming from the hills along Eastern Avenue toward the lake. While there are several drainage points along Lake Front Lane and Pageant Park Road, he believes they are no longer sufficient to accommodate the larger storm events experienced over the past several years.

Mr. Ferlazo explained that he has implemented several mitigation measures on his own property to manage the runoff and reduce flooding. He presented photographs to the Board illustrating the extent of the water accumulation, erosion, and flooding occurring on his property during significant rain events.

The discussion concluded with no answers or actionable items, but the broader question of what additional measures can be taken to address the ongoing drainage issues. The Board discussed whether existing zoning and development requirements adequately address stormwater management associated with new construction on Eastern Avenue and whether additional review or infrastructure improvements should be considered to mitigate future runoff impacts.

Potential solutions discussed included the installation or enhancement of roadside ditches, swales, or other drainage conveyance features between properties to help direct stormwater safely toward the lake rather than allowing runoff to flow onto neighboring private properties.

ACTION ITEMS

D. Approval of Minutes – June 9, 2026

Gina Lyon made a motion to approve the minutes of June 9, 2026, Regular Board of Trustees Meeting as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

E. Bills and Warrants

Marilyn Prue made a motion to approve the bills and warrants as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

F. Liens

One lien was placed on the property located at 141 Park Street due to an outstanding water and sewer balance. The property is currently listed for sale on Facebook Marketplace.

The Board also approved the discharge of a lien on 58 Harrison Avenue following payment of outstanding water and electric charges.

Marilyn Prue made a motion to approve the lien and discharge of lien as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

G. May Financial Statements

Sheila Martin reviewed the May financial statements with the Board.

Marilyn Prue noted that office labor expenses continue to exceed budget projections. Fuel costs were also higher than in previous months.

Sheila reported that the electric utility has a significant amount of delinquent accounts, and disconnection notices will begin to be issued. A more formal process for delinquent water and sewer accounts will also be implemented, including service disconnections where appropriate.

The Board also discussed the continued negative balance in the Water Fund.

Marilyn Prue made a motion to accept the May financial statements as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

H. Taxes to Raise

The Village will assess taxes as approved during the March 2026 Annual Village Meeting.

Re : Tax rates for 2026

Dear Mrs. Martin :

The amount to be raised by taxes for each department is as follows:

1. Village	\$ 76,000.00
2. Highway Department	\$425,000.00
3. Water Department Bond/Water Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 71,000.00
4. Sewer Department Bond/Sewer Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 70,000.00

Gina Lyon made a motion to approve and sign the tax rate letter to be forwarded to Sheila Martin for submission to the Tax Collector. Ellis Merchant seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

I. July Trustee Meeting Schedule

Sheila Martin informed the Board that she has been working with VPPSA regarding a proposed electric rate increase. VPPSA requested a meeting with the Trustees to discuss the upcoming Public Utility Commission (PUC) rate case.

The Board agreed to hold Trustee meetings on July 7 and July 28, 2026.

Gina Lyon made a motion to approve the July meeting schedule as presented. Ellis Merchant seconded the motion.

Motion carried

DISCUSSION ITEMS

J. Department Operations Updates

Office

- Office flooring replacement is scheduled for September.
- Painting bids are being obtained for both the interior and exterior trim of the Memorial Building.

- KBS auditors completed the Village's annual audit. Initial feedback was positive.
- As part of the MERP Grant, a contractor will be measuring doors and windows that are scheduled for replacement. Because the Memorial Building is a historic structure, renovations must comply with historic preservation requirements.
- The solar installation contractor continues working through CPG documentation requirements. Once complete, the solar array will be commissioned and placed into service.

Department of Public Works

The Village garage has been thoroughly cleaned and reorganized. Basic maintenance supplies & parts have been replenished, and the department is now better equipped for routine repairs.

Derrick continues building backup inventory for all Village departments.

The Board also recognized the DPW staff for their response to recent washouts, mudslides, and storm damage following the June 19 storms, despite the event occurring on a Village office holiday. Positive feedback from residents continues to be received regarding the department's work.

Water Department

A corrective action plan is underway for water meter readings. Some of the Village's water meters are not transmitting readings properly due to meter or sensor pad malfunctions.

Staff will conduct a two-day effort to inspect every meter and sensor pad in the Village. Homeowners with malfunctioning meters and sensor pads will be notified, and billing adjustments will be made as appropriate going forward.

Wastewater Department

The Village's Asset Management Plan is approximately 90% complete.

The project was funded through a \$50,000 forgivable loan and is being completed in partnership with Aldrich & Elliott.

The study recommends increasing the Village's capital reserves to better prepare for future infrastructure repairs and replacements.

Hydro Department

FBM completed backfilling and seeding around the penstocks. Heavy rainfall during the previous week washed out portions of the newly seeded areas, which will require reseeding.

Electric Department

The office continues working with VPPSA regarding upcoming electric rate cases.

Chair Gina Lyon attended the annual VPPSA Board Retreat to participate in long-term strategic planning discussions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:

Executive Session - Legal Action: 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(1)(E) – Gina Lyon made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:44pm. Ellis Merchant seconded. Motion carried. At 9:10pm Gina Lyon made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Ellis Merchant seconded. Motion carried. No action was taken.

Executive Session - Personnel: 1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3) – Gina Lyon made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:44pm. Ellis Merchant seconded. Motion carried. At 9:10pm Gina Lyon made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Ellis Merchant seconded. Motion carried. No action was taken.

Adjourn - At 9:11pm Gina Lyon made a motion to adjourn. Ellis Merchant seconded. Motion carried.

Upcoming Meetings:

Regular Board Meeting: 07/07/26, at 6pm

Regular Board Meeting: 07/28/26, at 6pm

Regina L. Lyon

Trustee, Board Chair