

TOWN OF BARRE
BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING
May 27, 2020

AGENDA

1. Call to order 6:00 p.m.
2. Consider approving/amending the agenda.
3. Role Call. It is noted this meeting was conducted via Zoom and teleconference.
4. Additions to checklist. In accordance with VSA Title 17, Chapter 43, Section 2144 (b) the Town Clerk has added applications to the checklist for the period March 4, 2020 through May 27, 2020. A complete list will be provided at the meeting.
5. Deletions to the checklist. The list of deletions to checklist by reason of death, duplicate records, by application/online, and purge request for the period March 4, 2020 through May 27, 2020. A complete list will be provided at the meeting.
6. Other Business:
 - a. Update on procedures for June 2, 2020 vote (drive-thru and off-site tabulation of ballots). Discuss COVID-19 and work requirements.
 - b. Next election will be August 11, 2020, State Primary.
 - c. Tax Grievance Hearing dates are unknown as Grand List has not been lodged. Traditionally the first meeting is held mid to late July. There are guidelines in place for conducting these meetings.
 - d. Any other business to come before the Board.
7. Adjourn

MEETING MINUTES

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Board of Civil Authority was advertised to be held at the Municipal Building, Selectboard meeting room, in Lower Websterville on Wednesday, May 27, 2020, using Zoom and teleconference, for the purpose of reviewing the Barre Town Checklist to be used at the Annual Town of Barre Election of Officers and Voting By Australian Ballot, and the Open Meeting which we combined due to COVID-19, to be held on Tuesday, June 2, 2020.

The following members were in attendance: Chair Paul Malone, Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer, Jeff Blow, Pearl Bugbee, William Bugbee, J. Guy Isabelle, JP Isabelle, Tom Koch, W. John "Jack" Mitchell, Norma Malone, Robert Nelson, Ed Paquin, Jay Perkins, Virginia Poplawski, Christopher Violette, , R. Lee Walther, Sheila Walther and Paul White, Those not present: Charles Castle, Jeanne Daniele, and Tom White.

Others present: Assistant Manager Elaine Wang (IT).

CALL TO ORDER - Chair Paul Malone called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

On a motion by William Bugbee, seconded by Norma Malone, the Board of Civil Authority voted unanimously to approve the amended agenda, add Item 6 Other Business (d) discussion of the June 2, 2020 Affidavit of Ballot Error. Those absent for the vote Charles Castle, Jeanne Daniele, and Tom White.

Motion discussion focused on the Scrivener's error on the June 2, 2020 ballot. Article 1, Selectboard race had the wrong terms listed. The races were correct but terms should have been Bob Nelson should have been a 3-year term and the race between Melissa Battah and Justin Bolduc should have been 2-year term. The Clerk contacted the Secretary of State of VLCT. She was informed it is not uncommon for errors on the printed ballots. The alternatives were to proceed with the election or have the ballot reprinted and new election called for the Selectboard Article only. After consulting the candidates, all three believed it was in the best interest of the Town to proceed with the election. An Affidavit of Error was generated detailing the error and is to be signed by all three candidates. The Affidavit states they are aware of the error, do not want to call for a new election and will not contest the results.

A notice was immediately placed on the Town website and a neon colored notice was attached to the early ballot Charter Amendments supplement sent with the early ballots. The error was noticed around mid-May,

The Clerk stated this Affidavit will become part of the election and the Selectboard minutes (as an Appendix). The Selectboard as part of their meeting will be asked to ratify the election results during their June 9th meeting.

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING OF May 27, 2020 continued:

Concern was raised that individuals had already voted without knowing the error. Tom Koch stated that in his opinion most individuals are voting for the person and/or party not the term.

CHANGES TO THE CHECKLIST

The following list of Additions and Deletions to the Checklist for the period March 4, 2020 through May 27, 2020 were provided for the BCA to review prior to the meeting. Below is the list.

In accordance with VSA Title 17, Chapter 43, Section 2144 (b) the Town Clerk has added 68 voters to the checklist and made 21 deletions to the checklist for the period March 4, 20120 through May 27, 2020. No action is required by the BCA but the names are being entered into the minutes as a matter of record.

ADDITIONS TO THE CHECKLIST

Jared P Barber	Penny B. Barrows	James P. Bernasconi
Ryan A. Brady	Jonathan D. Conrad	Jeannette B. DeForge
Chandler J. Deserres	Cynthia J. Ferguson	Thomas C. Fox
Megan J. Hammarstrom	Cellan E. Hogan	Michael E. Houston
Gregory F. Jackson	David Jacobs	Eldin Kamberovic
Jeffrey Ryan Lafaille	Kimberly A. Larivee	Ernest N. Larrabee
Irene M. Larrabee	Jalen W. Lewis	Gabriel A. Little
Pierrette Martel	Anthony R. Martin	Grant G. Otis
Emily C. Robtoy	Zachary Wyatt Robtoy	Miquelle G. Thurber
Erik J. Tosto	Robert D. Vanarsell	Elwood Charles Welch
Lawrence David Whaples	Erika R. Williams	Alicia B. Anton
Richard B. Aronson	Ryan Baker	Victoria M. Biondolillo
Robert Louis Boutin	Miranda Snyder Cameron	Anton Cole
Kellie L. Davis-Vivian	Keri Anne Delaney	Debra A. Demas
William C. Derouchie	Benjamin W. Draper	Dennis R. Gaudet
Jessica L. Giacherio	Trevor S. Hallihan	Jessika D. Jamele
Kyllashandra-Rae Kaneakua	Tara M. Koval	Joann Veronica Krodel
Travis W. Lepanen	Irene E. Miller	Dru D. Mullaney
Eugene L. Peabody	Justin A. Perry	Nicholas Phillips
Ryan L. Ricker	Jeffrey A. Rouleau	Byron Sancibrian
Amanda M. Sherman	Amanda L. Shute	Carol A. Sinclair
Yoshi Tardie	Timothy M. Vincent	Gail Louise Wheately
Peter Wayne Wheately	Tara Spaulding Klyszeiko	

DELETIONS BY REASON OF DEATH, PURGE, DUPLICATION, APPLICATION

April L. Akers	Scott W. Benoit	Debra G. Blondin
Michael J. Blondin	Robin Allyn Bombard	Kathleen Boucher
Alan G. Clark	Carissa M. Durham	Edward S. Gilbert Jr.
Virginia R. Grant	Kristen Mae Hood	Roberta J. Johnson
Bernard C. Juskiewicz	Katie L. Lyford	J. Stanley Moran
Walter E. Morse Sr.	Randy G. Reynolds	Robert C. Sager Jr.
Paul R. Stacey	Aslin M. Trepanier	Herbert C. Watson Jr.

OTHER BUSINESS

Update on procedures for June 2, 2020 Elections: Kelty noted changes have been made to the Polling Day Assignments and will be provided. This is an unusual election. The Open Town Meeting and Election of Officers were combined. With the addition of the 4 charter amendments this is a very long ballot and will most likely impact the drive-thru voting, especially if you are waiting in line. The drive-thru layout plan was provided for the BCA to review. The Tabulation Center will be located at the Municipal Building and will be live streamed.

State Primary elections will be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2020. At this time, the elections are being planned to be conducted as usual. However, there will be a strong emphasis on “vote by mail.”

Tax Grievance Hearings for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 will tentatively begin in mid to late July. Assessor Beaudin has stated he plans to lodge the Grand List on the statutory deadline.

Affidavit of Ballot Error: Consensus of the BCA is this has already been discussed and they should state their position on the action taken by the Clerk.

BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING OF May 27, 2020 continued:

On a motion by Tom Koch, seconded by Guy Isabelle, the Board of Civil Authority voted to recognize there was a Scriveners error on the June 2, 2020 ballot whereby the terms listed for the two Selectboard races were reversed: Article 1, Selectboard 3-year term (race between Melissa Battah and Justin Bolduc) should be for a 2-year term and Selectboard 2-year term (Bob Nelson only candidate) should be a 3-year term, and further recognizes that the candidates have agreed, by signing of the Affidavit of Error, agree there is no need to reprint the ballot, call for a new election, or will contest the races, support the Town Clerk's actions to rectify said error. The motion passed with the following voting yes: Jeff Blow, William Bugbee, Pearl Bugbee, J. Guy Isabelle, J.P. Isabelle, Donna Kelty, Bob Nelson, W. John Mitchell, Edward Paquin, Jay Perkins, Virginia Poplawski, Tom Koch, Norma Malone, Christopher Violette, Paul White, and Sheila Walther. Those voting no include Paul Malone and R. Lee Walther. Those not present for the vote are Charles Castle, Jeanne Daniele, and Tom White.

Jeff Blow stated the upcoming election processes developed are new to all of us. He stated the Town Clerk and staff have put in many long hours to ensure the elections are conducted smoothly. With this one minor hiccup they deserve a "hats-off." The Clerk thanked Mr. Blow and will forward it to the staff.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Jack Mitchell, seconded by Jay Perkins, the Board of Civil Authority voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. Those absent for the vote: Charles Castle, Jeanne Daniele, and Tom White.

Respectfully submitted:

Donna J Kelty, CVC, CVT
Town Clerk-Treasurer
Clerk of the BCA