



BARRE TOWN MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER

Vol. 20, No. 3
August 2014

PO Box 116, 149 Websterville Rd, Websterville, VT 05678
Phone: 479-9331 www.barretown.org

All Town Offices will be closed:

September 1st- Labor Day
November 11th- Veterans Day

LOOK FOR THE NEXT EDITION

.....of the Barre Town newsletter to be published in November, 2014

~ Important Dates to Remember ~

- ◆9/20 - Fall Bulk Trash
- ◆10/7 & 21 - Public Hearings
- ◆10/11 - Hazardous Waste Collection
- ◆10/29 - Voter registration deadline
- ◆10/31 - Cemeteries close
- ◆11/1 - Winter Parking ban
- ◆11/4 - General Election
- ◆11/17 - Property taxes due

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November Special Town Meeting

November 4 is the state's general election day. Voters will elect a governor, state senators, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and more state officials. Because of a vote on July 29 stating the selectboards intent to call for a Special Town Meeting on November 4, town residents likely will vote on 5 town articles.

Leading the list of town articles will be an article about joining the regional public safety authority with the City of Barre and City of Montpelier. It was this issue that prompted the Selectboard to announce its intention to call for a Special Town Meeting. The board expects to approve the Special Town Meeting Warning at its meeting on August 26. The Warning could include 4 Town Charter amendments; one each for 4 sections of the Charter.

The selectboard will hold public hearings about the regional public safety authority and Charter amendments on October 7 and 21.

The Town Charter sections that might be on the ballot are 3, 7, 33 and 34. The Town Charter can be read using a link on the town website (www.barretown.org/Pages/charter.html). Section 3 is about warning Town Meeting and elections. The amendment in 3 (a) would change the requirements for warning an election and town meeting. It is proposed to revise Sec. 3 to be consistent with recent VT Open Meeting Law amendments and a Selectboard policy in response to those state requirements. (See article page 6).

Section 7 describes the process for seeking election to town office. Because of changes in federal and state election laws, the time period for submitting nomination petitions has to be pushed back by 15 days (15 days sooner).

Section 33 spells out tax rate and billing procedures. This section currently states that if voters decide taxes will be due in more than 1 (but not more than 4) installment the installments amount shall be equal. Because the state now requires tax rates be calculated to the ten thousandths of a penny and requires that income sensitivity credits be deducted from the gross property tax bill, the annual amount due isn't always equally divisible by 4. The proposed amendment will simply state the installments will be as equal as possible.

Revisions to the last section (34) also were prompted by an amendment to state law Section 34 is about the Board of Abatement. The Charter currently requires the B.o.A. to find reason (listed in state statute) to abate a tax or fee. Any late fees, penalties and interest due could be abated at the same percent as the principal or base charge. State law was changed to allow abatement of just late fees, penalties and interest. Other changes in this Section update the requirements for giving public notice of B.o.A meetings and attempt to reduce confusion about the B.o.A's assignment, specifically over authority to abate assessments charges, or other levies.

For information about registering to vote, early voting ballots and November 4 polling place and hours, see the article on page 2. The Warning
(Continued on page 2)

(Con't - Payment by Credit Card)

Payment Type	Fee per transaction
E-check	\$1.00 per transaction
Debit Card	2.75% or if under \$100 = \$2.75% + 50 cents
Credit Card	2.75% or if under \$100 = \$2.75% + 50 cents
NSF/returned items	Charged an additional \$35.00

So, stand-by and I will let you know as soon as the credit card/on-line service is up and running!

By Donna Kelly, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Electronic Devices and Driving



Beginning October 1st, the use of a handheld electronic device (including cell phones) while driving on a Vermont highway is prohibited. Violations of this new law will result in fines from \$100 to \$500 per incidence in addition to potential points

added to a driver's record. Hand held electronic devices can only be used when it is necessary for a person to communicate with emergency services or law enforcement under emergency circumstances. The new law does not cover two-way or Citizen Band radio equipment or hands free electronic devices. For more information you can visit the VTRANS webstie at highwaysafety.vermont.gov/phonesdown.

By Andrew Dorsett, Asst. Town Manager

House Repair Loans

Central Vermont Community Land Trust continues to provide housing rehabilitation loans to qualifying town residents. With several programs available, including the Barre Town Housing Rehabilitation Program, CVCLT can provide low interest loans to fix up homes including weatherization repairs. These loan programs have proven to be a valuable resource for home owners. Loans must be used for rehabilitation to resolve health and safety issues such as weatherization, structural problems, or system failures making your home more comfortable and maybe reduce heating costs. For information regarding these loans or other available programs, contact the Central Vermont Community Land Trust at 476-4493.

By Chris Violette, Fire Chief

Displaying your Building Numbers

Barre Town continues to offer building numbers at a minimal cost. As part of our effort to better identify properties for emergency services, the Town is able to supply 4" x 12" green reflective signs with your building number. Holes can be drilled for hanging purposes if desired. The cost of the sign is \$10 and can be ordered through the Town Managers Office. You can call for a form (479-9331) or print one from the Town website, www.barretown.org. All forms should be turned into the Town Manager's Office by mail at P.O. Box 116, Websterville, VT 05678 or dropped off. If you're not sure what your building number is you can contact the Assessor's Office at 479-2595.

Having an easily identifiable building is a critically important part of helping emergency service providers find you in an emergency. Building numbers must be displayed where it can be seen day or night from the road. Please consider the location of your building number and whether it is easily identifiable.

By Chris Violette, Fire Chief

Recreation News



Summer Tennis Camp: Six weeks this summer kids and adults participated in the Town of Barre Tennis Camp sessions hosted by the Recreation Board and Coach Kelley Cleveland. The camp was sponsored by the Recreation Board. This summer's program included residents from Orange, Roxbury and Barre. Coach Cleveland said "This was the first for the summer tennis camp program and I'm looking forward to expanding this fun community activity each year". One participant stated, "this was a lot of fun, I used to play this as a kid" many participants said they wished they'd picked up their racket earlier.

Anyone interested in playing pickup matches, wanting to preregister for next year's summer camp or just learning about this fall's tennis activities can reach Coach Kelley Cleveland at (802) 279-2679 or krc67stang@gmail.com.

(Continued on page 4)

NOTICE

- 1. No street openings or work in right-of-ways after Nov. 1***
- 2. No water or sewer main connections between Nov. 2 and April 15***

(Cont'd - Recreation News)

2014 - Town & City of Barre Youth Track Team:

The Barre Town and Barre City Recreation Departments jointly sponsored a summer Track Team. The team is composed of boys and girls from ages 7-14. The team was represented by five area towns with 40 participants; 18 Barre Town residents, 9 Barre City residents, 4 Corinth residents, 2 Topsham and 3 Williamstown residents. This is a great program that allows an opportunity for the Barre area's younger residents to stay active, develop athletic skill and make new friends.

This great program that has been growing each year. New volunteers would be greatly welcomed and are needed for next year's program. If you're interested in signing up to volunteer or would like to learn more about the program, please contact Stephanie Quaranta at (802) 476-0257 or by email at squaranta@barrecity.org.

Town Forest: The Barre Town Forest is a 381 acre parcel that has many trails as well as intriguing and scenic resources. The forest is for open to the public free. There is a nice sized parking area at 44 Brook Street in Upper Websterville and another smaller parking area at the end of Barclay Quarry Road. Maps and walking/hiking guides are available for free at the Barre Town Manager's office. The forest is managed for timber, education and recreation and is great for hiking, biking, jogging, and walking. Guided walking tours are available on Tuesdays and Sundays at 9:30 am.

Some of the notable features of the forest include; views of the Green Mountain Range, Camel's Hump, Barre City and the forested hills to the east, as well as 25 abandoned quarries, a first class disc golf course and large piles of waste granite. Come visit the forest for its sport, views and cultural history or just for a peaceful stroll through the woods. The Barre area is fortunate to have this amazing resource right in its back yard.

For more information about guided walks contact Marianne Kotch at (802) 476-4185. For questions, volunteer opportunities or more information about the Town Forest call the Town Office at (802) 479-9331.

By Andrew Dorsett, Asst. Town Manager

Volunteering to make a better community!

The Town of Barre values volunteers and the work that they do to assist the citizens of Barre. By becoming a volunteer with the Town you will have an opportunity to contribute your talents by assisting the public, while gaining valuable experience in an assortment of different roles.

The Town of Barre has a variety of volunteer opportunities available. Whether you are looking to obtain on-the-job experience, school credit, or just want to give back to the community we can help you find an opportunity to fit your needs.

If you're interested in assisting the Town submit a cover letter illustrating what type of opportunity you are seeking, when you would like to start, the number of hours you are available to commit and what skills you can contribute.

By Andrew Dorsett, Asst. Town Manager

Answers to tax rate/year match: 1c, 2d, 3f, 4g, 5e, 6a, 7b

EMS Monthly Training in July

The Barre Town EMS department hosts training for all EMS employees every third Wednesday each month. Area ambulance services and first response squads are invited each month as a way of enhancing their own training opportunities with interesting and timely topics by knowledgeable staff and guest lecturers.



The EMS Department hosted a lecture on Pediatric Emergencies presented on July 16th by Jonathan

Snow, Critical Care Paramedic and Instructor/ Coordinator for the New England EMS Institute in Manchester, NH. The lecture was well attended by BEMS personnel as well as personnel from several area services and FAST squads.

The Emergency care of children requires specific knowledge, equipment, skills, and resources. A child's physiologic response to a critical illness or injury differs from an adult's for such conditions as shock and prolonged respiratory distress. The causes of catastrophic events, such as cardiac arrest, are different from those of adults. In children, the signs and symptoms of distress may be subtle, and EMS providers are required to know the differences.

In keeping with the pediatric theme, Barre Town EMS will host a training on the Signs of Abuse and Neglect, and Mandatory Reporting to be presented on August 20th by John Bouthillette, APS Program Chief, Department for Children and Families (DCF).

By Dave Jennings, EMS Director

Visit us at our website: for announcements, publication, permit forms, monthly calendar, etc. Also included are meeting minutes, genealogy information, information on boards and departments, and more!



FALL BULK TRASH COLLECTION *September 20, 2014*

That town dump day is coming up. You know, that collection of big stuff at the town garage, where the school buses are parked; it is Saturday, September 20. If you've been busy making home improvements or if you have unneeded items laying around the basement, garage or tool shed, do some summer's end cleaning up. The bulk trash collection is a great, less expensive way to dispose of old furniture, mattresses, carpet, large plastic toys, building material, pool covers and liners, and other large items.

The service is offered from 8 am – 2 pm on Saturday, September 20 at 129 Websterville Road. Service is for town resident's home use only. Bring a tax or utility bill to verify residency. Fees are charged (See below).

Small pieces of sheetrock, plaster, roofing shingles, and any other material or items must be in containers. Siding and lumber must be cut to easily handled lengths. Loads of loose (not in containers) roofing shingles will be parked at the side and unloaded when no one is in line to be off-loaded. Plan your load for efficient off-loading and be sure it is properly secured.

<u>Items Not Accepted</u>	<u>Take To</u>
Household trash, recycling	Wilson Depot or other licensed collectors
Electronics	Wilson Depot, CVSWMD ARCC
Tires	Wilson Depot, CVSWMD ARCC
Large Metal/appliances	Wilson Depot
Hazardous Materials	CVSWMD collection
Lawn Waste	Holden Road site

<u>FEES</u>	
Car.....	\$5.00
Pickup truck.....	\$8.00
Unloaded car or truck w/loaded trail.....	\$8.00
Loaded car or truck & loaded trailer....	\$13.00
Truck larger than pickup (1-ton or 10' rented van max.).....	\$13.00
Loaded large truck & loaded trailer.....	\$20.00

Loads of roofing shingles charged double

Salvaging is permitted during the event. Volunteers get free disposal. To volunteer call 479-9331 or email offices @barretown.org.

LEAF DISPOSAL



This fall, when it is time to clean up the lawn, there is an alternative to burning leaves and to raking them into ditches and drainageways. Leaves and tall grass often are dry in the fall. A little wind could spread the fire creating a wildland fire. No one needs that.

The lawn waste site on Holden Road is open Wednesdays 3 pm – 6pm; Thursdays 9 am to noon, and Saturdays 8 am to noon. On the weekends of October 11,12; 18, 19; and 25, 26 the site will be open Saturdays from 8 am to 4 pm and Sundays noon to 4 pm.

To haul more leaves, chop them once with the lawnmower. Laying a tarp or sheet of plastic in the truck bed will reduce off-loading time. Please don't leave plastic or any bags at the site.

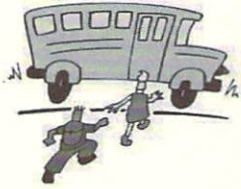
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE – CVSWMD Collections

The Town of Barre is a member of the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District (CVSWMD), which means Barre Town residents can use CVSWMD's sponsored collections in any town. The CVSWMD is holding three more special collections this year:

- ~ Saturday, Sept. 6 – paint, battery, fluorescent and CFL bulbs at Bradford Town Garage
- ~ Saturday, Sept. 27 – household hazardous waste (HHW) at Bradford Town Garage
- ~ Saturday, Oct. 11 – HHW at VT Department of Labor, Montpelier



All collections are open 9 am – 1 pm. PBF collections are free. For residents, the HHW fee is \$15 per car. For more information visit the CVSWMD website at www.cvswwmd.org.



SCHOOL STARTING SAFETY TIPS

Another school year at Barre Town Middle and Elementary School started August 26. School is getting underway in surrounding towns, too. With the start of a new school year we would like to remind you of a few safety concerns.

Keep in mind there will be more traffic in the morning and afternoon as parents, teachers, and children are headed to and from school. You should plan your time accordingly. Many crashes happen because people are in a rush and their primary focus is on getting where they are going instead of what is in front of them on the road. Many also get distracted by their cell phones and other electronic devices. When available use hands free devices and learn how to use them properly. ***As of October 1, 2014 a hands free device law will be in effect.***

School buses can slow your commute but be sure to obey the flashing signal light system. Yellow lights mean that the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop. Red lights and the extended stop arm indicate that the bus has stopped and children are getting on or off the bus. Motorists must stop their vehicles and wait until the red flashing lights are turned off and the stop arm is withdrawn.

When approaching a bus stop whether the bus is there or not you should slow down. Children waiting for the bus, walking or biking to the bus stop or school can be unpredictable and wander into the path of a motor vehicle. Parents should remind their children to watch for traffic and stay aware of what is going on around them.

Also be aware that there are more new drivers headed to or from school. For parents this is a good time to remind their teen drivers of the rules for school buses, the graduated license process, the electronic device while driving regulations and general safe driving procedures.

This is a great time to remind children never to take a ride from someone they do not know no matter what the person says. If approached they should also try to remember the registration plate number so the police can attempt to identify the person. Children should be reminded to just scream if someone approaches them that makes them feel uneasy. This will alert people in the area that something is wrong. If parents or their children observe any suspicious behavior they should notify the Barre Town Police Department (479-0508 or 479-0509) so the incident can be investigated.

By Nicole Poulin, Police Department

Meeting Agendas and Minutes

To comply with Vermont Open Meeting Law amendments that went in effect July 1, 2014, the Selectboard adopted a policy for posting all board, commission and committee meeting agendas. Barre Town has been posting Selectboard meeting agendas at three stores for nearly 20 years and on the town website for about 13 years.

No less than 48 hours before a regularly scheduled meeting, agendas for all boards, etc will be posted at Graniteville General Store, Trow Hill Grocery, Hannafords and inside the Municipal Building. Also the agenda will be posted on the town website. To find agendas, from the home page (www.barretown.org) select Boards and Commission. Pick the board or committee and look for the list of agendas. Typically agendas are posted at the 3 stores on Friday evenings and in the Municipal Building and online Friday afternoons.

The new Open Meeting amendments also require draft meeting minutes be posted on the website within 5 working days of the meeting. Minutes can be found on each board, or commission's webpage, usually next to agendas.

The 4-week calendar on the website is a helpful resource. The calendar is updated weekly. When agendas are posted on the website, meeting time entries on the calendar serve as links to the agendas.

The website offers a subpage called Departments, as well as the Boards and Commission subpage. The Departments navigation button offers information about departments, about operations and contact information for the staff.

Department of Public Works

When residents think of Public Works what often comes to mind is a department that handles upkeep and maintenance of road issues. But public works handles much more than that. Public Works also handles all Sewer and Water issues. Please remember to call the Department of Public Works first when you suspect a sewer or water problem, prior to any homeowner or

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(Con't - Department of Public Works)

plumber action. In many instances they may be able to assist in resolution of the issue or determine if the problem needs the attention of your plumber. The Public Works Department can be reached at (802) 479-3522. On weekends or holidays and at night they can be reached through our EMS Department at (802) 476- 3147.

By Andrew Dorsett, Asst. Town Manager

TRAINING AT THE POLICE ACADEMY

The Barre Town Police Department hired a new recruit and this is a sample of what he/she should experience in their own words at the Vermont Police Academy.

Day One, Week One: As I pulled in and park in the rear of the parking lot we all lined our vehicles up in a row. Each one of us standing in front of our vehicles with our bags on the ground next to us. It is easy to spot who is nervous/scared and who was comfortable under pressure. As soon as our Training Coordinator (TC) and Training Assistants (TA's) exit the building all the excitement begins. The TC's and TA's begin pushing recruits tolerance levels with a series of tasks as simple as standing in line to making our bed with exact measurements within a special amount of time. Throughout the day we are all tested on core values such as ethics, discipline and honor. We are even quizzed on such items in the chow line.

Day Two: As we begin the second day we wake up at 6:00 a.m. to the ringing of a bell and all the recruits sounding off. Various chores need to be completed before we can start the day. The living areas need to be cleaned such a vacuuming the floors, mopping the stairs to cleaning the bathrooms. By 6:45 a.m. all chores are done, teeth brushed and all male recruits are freshly shaved and everyone is in their uniforms lined up for inspection in the gymnasium. After various corrections have been made we head to breakfast where the only talking you can hear is the asking and answering of questions posed by the TC's and TA's. After breakfast we head to class. While at the academy the cadets are put through collegiate type classes, such as; Vermont Criminal Law, Vermont Motor Vehicle Law, Crime Scene Investigation, Firearms Instruction, Driving Instruction, and Non-Lethal Use of Force. In addition we also receive instruction about patrol procedures, domestic violence, liquor control, DUI, fingerprinting, juvenile law, etc. A lot of these classes such as crash scene investigation consists of practical training like going to the local junk yard and examining the vehicle damage caused by crashes. In the late afternoon hours cadets will do their physical training. After dinner is boot polishing and uniform pressing and studying for the next days classes. By 10:00 p.m. our day is complete as we sound off before jumping into our racks.

As the days turn into weeks our class moves from phase one to phase two, which allows the class to have more privileges. For the majority of the class the excitement is the one cup of coffee allowed in the morning. Through this phase our team building exercises also become more intense as we move from trust falls to a ropes course involving repelling and

zip-lining. When the TC decides you have not completed tasks or have become too complacent, you can easily be regressed back to phase one.

After proving ourselves time and time again, our TC's ultimately advance us to phase three, the highest level we can achieve while at the academy. Phase three allows for the class to operate on their own with minimal supervision at the very end of academy. This is when the TC allows the class to run itself. There is a class president, vice president and four team leaders that delegate tasks so the class is self sufficient.

All law enforcement officers (municipal, state, DMV, fish and game, or DLC) in the State of Vermont attend VTJC. This gives everyone the best advantage possible because we know when we show up on a call or ask for backup that everyone has been trained to the same standards. This gives us a crucial leg up when dealing with dangerous situations.

At the end of seventeen weeks the recruits graduate and are pinned in a ceremony where they transition to Police officers.

In the November issue of the Barre Town Municipal Newsletter we will follow our officer through the FTO (field training) process.

By Damian Hook, Barre Town Police Officer

2014 Paving Projects



Paving projects will begin on or about August 20 and end September 12, 2014:

West Rd. – entire length – 3” HMA;
Cheney Rd. – gravel section- pave 3” HMA;
Donahue Rd. – Waterman St. intersection To Drury Hill - 2” shim & overlay;
Terry Court – entire length - 2” overlay;
Graniteville Rd. - E. Bound

between McLeod Hill & hill – 1” average shim; Miller Rd. - Perry – Birchwood – 1 average shim; 1-1/4” overlay of entire length on Violet St., Casanova St., Milano Hill, Brook St., Libercent St., Sabetto St., Gregoire St., Henry St., Maple St., Wilson St., Seagar Ln., Stevens Ln., and Wilmuth St.; 1-1/4” overlay on Littlejohn Rd., from Church Hill to end of pavement; Millstone Blvd. – 3” HMA overlay at end of street.

Gravel Roads: Spruce Mountain View, Belding Road, Taplin Road, Clark Road and Miller Woods Road.

By Harry Hinrichsen, Town Engineer

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Development Review Board – By Heidi Bennett, Planning & Zoning (M. Nicholson, M. Reaves, C. Sanborn, C. Thygesen, S. Driscoll, G. Richards, J. Valsangiacomo, J. Fecteau, J. Hameline)

April 2014: Approved boundary line adjustments on properties at 35 Sugar Woods Rd. & 209 Windy Wood Rd.; continued request for final approval of a 2-lot subdivision for 30 Jensen Rd.; approved minor site plan to construct addition to existing commercial automotive shop on 929 So. Barre Rd.; denied request for construction of addition to existing commercial building which part or all may be in special flood area located at 929 So. Barre Rd.; approved conditional use to allow private school operation at 84 Pine Hill Rd; continued request for variance of overhang attached to existing building and addition at 527 East Barre Rd.

May 2014: Approved 2-lot subdivision for property at 30 Jensen Rd.; approved correct the record application for subdivisions of land and boundary line adjustments regarding Smokehouse Lane in So. Barre; continued request for variance and overhang for addition at 527 East Barre Rd.

June 2014: Approved construction of addition providing for disability accessibility at 527 East Barre Rd.; denied request for variance for construction of overhang attaching existing building and addition located at 527 East Barre Rd.

July 2014: Continued request for proposed construction of metal garage located at 165 Osborne Rd.; approved variance for proposed construction for attached porch located at 79 Bridge St.; approved variance for proposed construction of metal storage shed at 62 Jalbert Rd.

Planning Commission – By Heidi Bennett, Planning & Zoning (C. Sanborn, C. Thygesen, C. Violette, K. Yearman, C. Duke, J. Hameline, G. Clain)

April – June 2014: No meetings

July 2014: Discussions of the Zoning Bylaw amendments

Traffic Safety Advisory Committee – By Harry Hinrichsen, Town Engineer

April 2014: No meeting.

May 2014: Approved Hidden Drive Right” sign near #267 Plainfield Brook Rd.; discussed landscaping and possible removal of ledge area across from picnic area; reviewed GMP LED Street Lighting Program; reviewed proposed upgrades to Guard Rail Installation and Request Policy.

June 2014: Reviewed request to reduce speed limit at Cutler Corner Rd.; recommended to Selectboard of Hidden Drive sign at #121 Sterling Hill; discussed viability of rumble strips on Route 63 in So. Barre; recommended to Selectboard removal of two ledge areas in Lower Graniteville.

July 2014: Discussed LED Street Lighting Program at Taplin Rd. and Cherrywood Dr.; discussed Truck and Bus signing at intersection of Middle and Graniteville Rd.