

# TOWN OF BARRE

## WARNING FOR ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

JUNE 2, 2020

The legal voters of the Town of Barre, Vermont, are hereby warned to vote on Tuesday, June 2, 2020, for the Traditional Open Meeting and Annual Election of Officers and Voting by Australian Ballot. Both elections will be by Australian ballot and conducted as a "vote by mail" election. To comply with the Governor's Executive Order regarding gatherings and to accommodate those with disabilities and same-day voter registration needs, a "drive-thru" polling place will be available at the Department of Public Works Garage, 129 Websterville Road during the hours of 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. The counting and tabulating of ballots will take place between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Meeting Room, 149 Websterville Road. The tabulation process will be lived-streamed with a direct link provided on the Barre Town website ([www.barretown.org](http://www.barretown.org)). In the event, the Governor's Executive Order regarding gatherings is lifted you may view the tabulation process in person. Articles on the ballot are hereinafter set forth.

Copies of the 2020-2021 proposed Town budget are available at the Municipal Building, Websterville; Trow Hill Grocery, Trow Hill; Hannaford, South Barre; Lawson's Store, Websterville; Quarry Hill Quick Stop, Quarry Hill; Gunner Brook Store and Deli, East Montpelier Road; and Graniteville General Store, Graniteville. The budget booklet also is posted on the Town web site: [www.barretown.org](http://www.barretown.org); click on "Publications".

**ARTICLE 1.** To elect all necessary officers for the Town of Barre for the ensuing term commencing June 3, 2020.

**ARTICLE 2.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize \$4,018,851 to operate the General Government of the Town of Barre during the ensuing fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020?

**ARTICLE 3.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize \$28,970 from the General Fund towards the operation of the Town cemeteries during the ensuing fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020; said sum to be added to the General Fund authorizations under Article 2 above?

**ARTICLE 4.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize \$3,180,375 for construction and maintenance of the Town highways and bridges during the ensuing fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020?

**ARTICLE 5.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$20,000 to Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice, Inc.?

**ARTICLE 6.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$5,500 to Project Independence?

**ARTICLE 7.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$6,000 to Central Vermont Council on Aging?

**ARTICLE 8.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$1,000 to Retired Senior Volunteer Program for Central Vermont?

**ARTICLE 9.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$2,000 to Circle (formerly known as Battered Women's Services & Shelter, Inc.)?

**ARTICLE 10.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$2,000 to People's Health & Wellness Clinic?

**ARTICLE 11.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$2,900 to Central Vermont Adult Basic Education?

**ARTICLE 12.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$4,000 to Barre Heritage Festival?

**ARTICLE 13.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$1,500 to the Family Center of Washington County?

**ARTICLE 14.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$7,500 to the Barre Area Senior Center?

**ARTICLE 15.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$1,000 to the Capstone Community Action (formerly known as Central Vermont Community Action Council)?

**ARTICLE 16.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$500 to the Washington County Youth Service Bureau?

**ARTICLE 17.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$350 to the Sexual Assault Crisis Team of Washington County?

**ARTICLE 18.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$2,500 to the Washington County Diversion Program?

**ARTICLE 19.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$1,200 to Prevent Child Abuse Vermont?

**ARTICLE 20.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$2,000 to the Vermont Center for Independent Living?

**ARTICLE 21.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$3,500 to the Good Samaritan Haven?

**ARTICLE 22.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$500 to Good Beginnings of Central VT?

**ARTICLE 23.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$2,500 to Downstreet Housing & Community Development?

**ARTICLE 24.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$1,250 to Community Harvest of Central Vermont?

**ARTICLE 25.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$5,000 to Washington County Mental Health?

**ARTICLE 26.** Shall the Town of Barre authorize expenditure of \$40,000 to Barre Area Development, Inc. (BADCI) for implementation of the Barre Rock Solid marketing plan initiatives with the objective of bringing individuals, families and businesses to visit, live and grow their business in the Barre area?

**ARTICLE 27.** Shall the Town of Barre amend the Barre Town Charter regarding the presiding officer at elections as follows (underlined language would be added and [~~bracketed~~] language would be deleted):  
Section 4 - Conduct

(b) The Town Clerk shall be the presiding official at all Town elections and shall cooperate with the Board of Civil Authority to assure that all laws relating to elections are faithfully observed. While the polls are open, the Town Clerk may rule on all questions concerning the conduct of the election, and shall not be disqualified from performing any such duties by reason of his or her own candidacy for any office. In the Town Clerk's absence, an Assistant Town Clerk who is a registered voter of the Town shall preside. If neither the Clerk nor an Assistant Clerk who is a registered voter of the Town is available, the members of the Board of Civil Authority who are present [may] shall designate [one of their members] a registered voter of the Town to perform the Town Clerk's duties under this section.

**ARTICLE 28.** Shall the Town of Barre amend the Barre Town Charter to abolish the office of lister in favor of an appointed assessor as follows (underlined language would be added and [~~bracketed~~] language would be deleted):



Section 10 – Elected officers; General

(b) The Office of Clerk-Treasurer may be changed to an appointive office upon approval by the voters at any annual meeting of the town. ~~[The Office of Lister may be abolished and replaced by a single full-time assessor hired by the Selectboard at such salary as the Selectboard may approve, provided the voters authorize such action at any annual town meeting.]~~

Section 34 – Board of Abatement

(a) The Board of Civil Authority, together with the Assessor ~~[Listers]~~, shall constitute the Board of Abatement. The Chair and Clerk of the Board of Civil Authority shall serve as the Chair and Clerk, respectively, of the Board of Abatement.

Section 38 – Appointed Officers

(a)(5) An Assessor, who may be hired or contracted with upon such terms as the Selectboard shall deem reasonable.

Section 39 – Compensation and fees

~~(a)(2) Listers~~

~~— (3) auditors~~

~~[(4)3] Moderator.~~

**ARTICLE 29.** Shall the Town of Barre amend the Barre Town Charter to change the personnel policy from an ordinance to a policy (underlined language would be added and ~~[bracketed]~~ language would be deleted):

Section 11 – Selectboard

(f) The Selectboard shall adopt a comprehensive personnel policy for all town employees, and shall amend the policy from time to time as is deemed necessary or advisable.

Section 25 – Administrative Code

~~(a)(2) [A complete personnel policy for town employees.]~~

~~(3)]~~ A detailed outline of financial procedures to be followed by the town including purchasing policy, expenditure of appropriated funds, the system of accounting for the town, and the form and frequency of financial reports.

**ARTICLE 30.** Shall the Town of Barre amend the Barre Town Charter to convert the elected Clerk-Treasurer position to an elected Clerk and an appointed Treasurer (underlined language would be added and ~~[bracketed]~~ language would be deleted):

Section 10 – Elected officers; General

~~(a)(5) One (1) Clerk[-Treasurer]~~

(b) The office of Clerk[-Treasurer] may be changed to an appointive office upon approval by the voters at any annual meeting of the town. The Office of Lister may be abolished and replaced by a single full-time assessor hired by the Selectboard at such salary as the Selectboard may approve, provided the voters authorize such action at any annual town meeting.

Section 16 – Clerk[-Treasurer]

(a) The Clerk[-Treasurer] shall be elected for a period of three (3) years. He or she shall ~~[keep account of moneys, bonds, notes and evidences of debt paid or delivered to him or her, and of moneys paid out by him or her for the Town. In addition he or she shall]:~~

~~(1) [Record the amount voted for support of highways, special departments and for general town purposes;~~

~~— (2) Collect taxes, assessments, charges and levies, including delinquencies in the hands of the tax collector, and maintain a record of monies collected and uncollected;~~

~~— (3) Receive fees for filing copies of records and other instruments;~~

~~— (4) Pay orders drawn on him or her by officials authorized to draw orders;~~

~~— (5) Provide detailed financial statements and reports, as may be required by the selectmen;~~

~~— (6)] Maintain a record of all action taken at special or annual town meetings;~~

~~[(7)2] Maintain all town records and an index to those records;~~

~~[(8)3] Maintain and file all reports required by law;~~

~~[(9)4] Perform any other duties required of him or her by law, this Charter, or ordinances.~~



(b) Before entering upon the duties of his or her office, the Clerk[~~Treasurer~~] shall give a bond conditioned for the faithful performance of his or her duties. The bond shall be of a sum and with such surety as prescribed and approved by the Selectboard, and the premium for such bond shall be paid by the town.

#### Section 27 – Committee of Five

Annually, prior to January 31, a committee of five (5) voters shall be appointed to review, with the Selectboard members, the proposed town budget. Their terms shall expire upon final adoption of the budget. The Selectboard members shall appoint two (2) members and the Clerk[~~Treasurer~~], one (1) member; these three (3) shall appoint two (2) additional members.

#### Section 34 – Board of Abatement

(a) The Board of Civil Authority, together with the Treasurer and listers, shall constitute the Board of Abatement. The Chair and Clerk of the Board of Civil Authority shall serve as the Chair and Clerk, respectively, of the Board of Abatement.

#### Section 38 – Appointed Officers

(a) (4) A Treasurer and such Assistant Treasurers as shall be deemed necessary. The Treasurer shall give a bond conditioned for the faithful performance of his or her duties. The bond shall be of a sum and with such surety as prescribed and approved by the Selectboard, and the premium for such bond shall be paid by the Town. In addition he or she shall:

(i) Keep account of moneys, bonds, notes and evidences of debt paid or delivered to him or her, and of moneys paid out by him or her for the town.

(ii) Record the amount voted for support of highways, special departments and for general town purposes;

(iii) Collect taxes, assessments, charges, and levies, including delinquencies in the hands of the tax collector, and maintain a record of monies collected and uncollected;

(iv) Receive fees for filing copies of records and other instruments;

(v) Pay orders drawn on him or her by officials authorized to draw orders;

(vi) Provide detailed financial statements and reports, as may be required by the Selectboard;

#### Section 39 – Compensation and fees

(b) The Selectboard shall annually consider and from time to time shall set the compensation of the following officers:

(1) Town Clerk[~~Treasurer~~]

(2) Treasurer

([2]3) Constable

([3]4) Town Attorney

([4]5) Tax Collector

([5]6) Town Manager

([6]7) Board of Civil Authority

([7]8) Board of Abatement

#### Section 44 – Definitions

As used in this Charter, except where the context or express terms require a contrary interpretation:

(f) The term “Clerk-Treasurer” [~~“Town Clerk” or “Town Treasurer”~~] as used in this Charter, any existing ordinance or any ordinance enacted after adoption of this Charter shall be understood as referring to the Town Clerk and the Town Treasurer respectively.

**ARTICLE 31.** To see if the Town of Barre will vote to pay its real and personal property taxes to the Treasurer in four installments as follows:

First installment on September 15, 2020

Second installment on November 16, 2020

Third installment on February 16, 2021

Fourth installment on May 17, 2021

**ARTICLE 32.** Shall the homestead property tax payments received from the State be applied pro rata to reduce the amount of each tax installment?

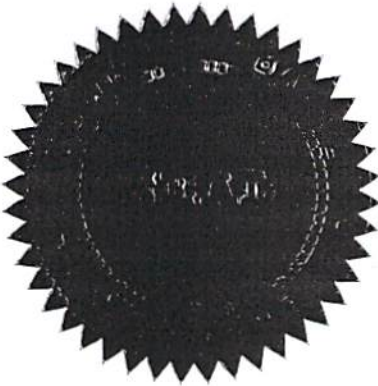
ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town of Barre will vote to pay its sewer assessments to the Treasurer in semi-annual installments payable on August 17, 2020 and February 16, 2021.

ARTICLE 34. To see if the Town of Barre will vote to authorize the Selectboard to sell real estate belonging to the Town and not needed for Town purposes during the ensuing fiscal year, or change the use of any real property owned by the Town in accordance with the Barre Town Charter, Chapter 6, Section 41.


ARTICLE 35. Shall the Town of Barre establish wages and earnings for the following Town officers as listed below?

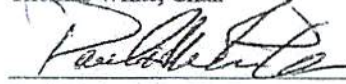
a) Auditors	-	\$13.00 per hour
b) Moderator	-	\$75.00 per year
c) Selectboard Members (each)	-	\$2,000 per year

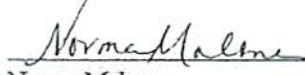
Dated at the Town of Barre, County of Washington, and State of Vermont, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2020.





BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD

  
Thomas White, Chair

  
Paul White, Vice-Chair

  
Norma Malone

  
W. John Mitchell

  
Robert Nelson

ATTEST:

  
Donna J. Kelty, Town Clerk-Treasurer