

Barre City Planning Commission

January 22, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Present: David Sichel (Chair), Wendy Ducey (Vice Chair), Joe Reil (Secretary), Rosemary Averill, Caitlin Corkins

Absent: Raylene Meunier.

Staff: Janet Shatney (Director of Planning, Permitting & Assessing)

Visitors: None.

1. Call to Order.

5:30pm.

2. Adjustments to the Agenda.

None.

3. Public comment (for something not on the agenda).

None.

4. Approval of Minutes.

a. November 12, 2025.

Ducey suggested an edit, to correct the spelling of her name. Averill moved to approve with that edit, Ducey seconded, unanimous in favor.

5. Old Business.

a. Map Change Request for 4 Blackwell Street – zoning change discussion.

The requester was unable to attend and consensus was to compile our questions to be sent to them directly.

Questions discussed were about what steps have already been, or would be, taken to bring the building up to flood regulation standards; what the current and historic usage of the building is and has been; and whether they had reviewed zoning regulations prior to making any changes. Shatney will send the questions back to the owner to discuss in our next meeting.

6. New Business.

a. Municipal Plan Renewal/Rewrite RFP Discussion: Expiration 9/15/2028.

We will need to start planning next steps to get a consultant lined up. Shatney indicated that there is funding available now and more will be requested in the budget for the next fiscal year.

Consensus was that, given how much change has occurred since the previous plan that a completely new plan was appropriate. Some initial priorities (Housing, Grand List, Infrastructure) were discussed and Resilience was considered as an overall theme.

Next steps agreed upon were for Shatney to begin working on RFP, to begin reviewing the existing plan in detail in future meetings, and to consider other parties (e.g., BADC, Police, School Officials, other Committees, etc.) to invite to future discussions.

7. Confirm Date of Next Meeting.

February 12, 2025.

8. Staff Updates.

In addition to the information in the packet, the various City departments are working on their budgets, and work is proceeding on buyout requests. Prospect Heights project put out an RFP for a developer.

Ducey mentioned Shatney's note about the members whose terms will expire this year (Reil, Ducey, Corkins, Meunier, and Averill) and asked about the process to re-apply. Shatney indicated that she would fill out the application and that she would remind everyone when the deadline gets closer.

9. Round Table.

Sichel mentioned Reil's participation in a recent local event, the WORST. SONG. EVER. Contest, held at the Barre Opera House on November 21. Reil thanked him and explained the history and background of the event and its connections to Barre.

10. Adjourn.

6:11 pm, **Reil moved to adjourn, Ducey seconded, unanimous in favor.**