

**TOWN OF PEACHAM
SELECTBOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday January 16, 2019
UNAPPROVED DRAFT**

Present:

Selectboard Members: Nate Giroux, Mike Heath, and Tim Scott

Selectboard Clerk: Melissa Laurita Kohl

Public: Mike Bruton, Road Foreman Jeremy Withers, Mary Daly, Beatrice Ring, Town Clerk Tom Galinat, Paul Evans

The meeting was called to order by Selectboard Chair Tim Scott at 6:36PM.

ACTIONS:

Carried Forward From Previous Meetings & From Today's Meeting:

1. Tim will check in with Doug Morton of NVDA about adding a stop sign at the South Peacham Intersection and changing the speed.
2. Tom will reach out to Valerie about a bill of sale for the snow rollers.
3. Tim will send the town meeting day warning to Mike Heath for an e-signature.

MINUTES:

1. Additions to the Agenda for any additional business this meeting
 - a. Working Capital Update
 - b. Town Meeting Day Warning
 - c. Executive Session for Personnel
2. Town Plan Hearing Process
 - a. The Planning Commission is hosting the first hearing on the town plan on Wednesday January 23rd at 7:00pm.
 - b. Based on community feedback at the hearing, the Planning Commission may edit the town plan draft. At which point, the Planning Commission will send the town plan to the Selectboard and the Selectboard will host a hearing on the town plan.
3. Approval of Drug & Alcohol Policy
 - a. This is postponed until after Tim's meeting with someone from VLCT on January 23rd, 2019 to discuss a variety of policies and to make sure they are legal and appropriate.
4. Highway Department Updates & Requests
 - a. The garage is back to a full fleet just in time for a big snowstorm this weekend. The road crew is pushing snow banks back to make room for this new snow. They have also been doing maintenance in this weather lull.
 - b. New pick up..
 - i. Dodge (\$58,000) and Ford (\$52,000) are the only options for the type of truck the town needs. Jeremy does not have a preference. Dodge price is for a 2018 truck and Ford is for the 2019 vehicle.
 - ii. Mike Heath said that there are no firm numbers for the school budget yet but it is definitely jumping as well. The school is losing the small school grant starting next year (statewide) and there are some other variables.
 - iii. Mike Heath wondered if it would be better to finance the truck to reduce the increase in taxes. Taxes would go up \$37 on a \$100,000 house value for just the truck. Mary pointed out that with a finance you ultimately pay more due to interest.
 - iv. This will be a separate warned item at town meeting day. Voters can vote no.
 - v. **Tim moves to put \$52, 905 on the town meeting day warning. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
5. Town Meeting Day Warning
 - a. In the past, the town thought that to buy equipment it had to be warned as an article. Tom spoke with an attorney at VLCT today and the town has two options. It can be a separate warned article or it can be added to general budget and it would be at the selectboard discretion to spend that money as it needs.
 - b. Tim thinks it is more transparent as a separately warned item. It will be about \$120 per \$100,000 of house value for the \$170,000 municipal budget jump.

- c. The Selectboard is putting money in the working capital fund and the equipment fund in an attempt to offset future costs. The goal with this year's budget is to level the budget as much as possible for the next 7 or 8 years.
 - d. The current pick up is 10 years old so not even worth a trade and the town put 10 grand in it last year for a motor. The goal for this pickup is to trade it in, in 5 years, so it would still have trade in value and the next truck would cost 25 grand instead of 53 grand.
 - e. Mike was concerned that voters could vote down this article and the town wouldn't have a truck. Tom gave a few unfortunate but workable scenarios if the town does strike it down (hiring subcontractor, going overbudget in equipment fund, or leasing at a high interest rate to get a last minute truck).
 - f. Mike was concerned about outlaying 52 grand versus 10 or 12 grand (if financed) with all of these other jumps.
 - g. Tom said the only problem with leasing at this point is that it was not discussed before now and the warning needs to be done ASAP. The Selectboard can discuss the finance option at a special meeting.
 - h. Appropriations are reduced because Danville Rescue is now Calx and it is a budgeted line item rather than an appropriation.
 - i. Tim and Nate signed the town meeting day warning.
6. Town Clerk Update & Requests
- a. The clerks are finishing up end of year reports for the town report. The budget has been reviewed and approved by the auditors. Tom gave the final copy of the budget to the Selectboard.
 - b. Winter Carnival is moving forward. It will be on February 15th.
 - c. Working Capital Update
 - i. At a previous meeting, the Selectboard moved too much money from the working capital fund. Due to the way money has come in, the town is positive \$45, 589.53 so Tom would like the Selectboard to put the money back into the working capital fund. The town was only approximately 9 grand over budget last year, which is pretty exceptional since \$75,000 in 2018 taxes has not come in yet.
 - ii. **Nate moves to move \$45,589.53 from the general ledger back into the working capital fund. Tim seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
7. Approve Minutes
- a. **Tim moves to approve the minutes of 11/7/18. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
 - b. **Nate moves to approve the minutes of 1/2/19. Tim seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
 - c. **Nate moves to approve the minutes of 12/30/18. Tim seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
 - d. **Tim moves to approve the minutes of 12/5/18 with the one change that the public can contact Mike Heath if they have questions about the solar project. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
 - e. Paul suggested posting the approved minutes online. Melissa said that as long as the scanned minutes are emailed to her, she would be happy to post them online.
8. Retirement for Employees
- a. At the next meeting the Selectboard will have to make a decision about which retirement option to go with. After that the town retirement policy will be updated to reflect the change. No one is using the current retirement program because it is not very user friendly. The new version will be an auto withdrawal from the employee's paycheck.
9. Review and Approve Bills
- a. The Selectboard reviewed and approved bills.
10. Review Correspondence
- a. The Selectboard reviewed correspondence.
11. Executive Session for Private and Confidential Personnel Information
- a. **Nate moves to go into executive session at 7:42pm. Tim seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
 - b. **Tim moves to come out of executive session at 8:50pm. Nate seconds. All in favor. So moved.**

c. No action taken.

d. **Nate moves to approve the pay increases for Jeremy, Stan, and Dyan at the town garage. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**

Tim moves to adjourn at 8:540pm. Nate seconds. All in favor. So moved.