

**TOWN OF PEACHAM
SELECTBOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday November 7, 2018
UNAPPROVED DRAFT**

Present:

Selectboard Members: Mike Heath, Nattie Emmons, and Tim Scott

Selectboard Clerk: Melissa Laurita Kohl

Public: Jonathan Herz, Mike Bruton, Road Foreman Jeremy Withers, Ross Page

The meeting was called to order by Selectboard Chair Tim Scott at 6:35PM.

ACTIONS:

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

1. Jeremy will do "reasonable suspicion" training related to the Drug & Alcohol Policy that will be adopted.
2. Tim will check in with Doug Morton of NVDA about adding a stop sign at the South Peacham Intersection and changing the speed.
3. Melissa will create a community survey about changing the speed limit through town.
4. Tom will reach out to Valerie about a bill of sale for the snow rollers.
5. Melissa will promote the creation of the snow roller barn committee.

MINUTES:

1. Additions to the Agenda for any additional business this meeting
 - a. No additions
2. Approve Minutes
 - a. **Tim moves to approve the minutes of 10/17/18. Mike Heath seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
3. Review Action Items from Previous Meetings
 - a. Postponed until next meeting.
4. Plowing Penny Street to Smith Lane
 - a. Jonathan Herz owns property on Penny Street. This winter he will be sawing 30,000 board feet of saw logs. He would like to have access to the log landing, which is private, but up to Smith Lane, Penny Street is a class 3 road. Jonathan would like the town to plow the class 3 section until he is done sawing (hopefully some time in January). The road is currently plowed but not to that point.
 - b. While the street is a class 3 road, the town has a policy that states that winter maintenance is up to the red school house not up to Smith Lane. Past the school house, the road has only been maintained as a class 4 road so it would be like plowing a class 4 road.
 - c. Herz acknowledged that it is a narrow road but in past years it has been plowed in less good shape than it is right now. Sanding wouldn't be an issue since he has tire chains. It is a class 3 road and there was a precedence of plowing when people have lived there in the past.
 - d. Tim said that if a resident was living there through the winter, he would be open to plowing it regularly, but since this is a business venture and the road is rough to plow, Tim does not want to commit to plowing the road each snowfall. That being said, Tim wants to make it easier for them to access the road - for example, by pushing the snow banks back with a backhoe or to have it plowed for a certain date.
 - e. Herz says regardless of statutes ultimately there are times when the town just can't physically plow because of the nature of the road but he would appreciate some help. Over the last 50 years they have saved the town a lot of money on road maintenance.
 - f. Herz and Jeremy will stay in touch so the road crew can assist with maintaining the road this winter. Jeremy said the town will do the best they can.

- g. In the winter a section of Penny Street is just a snowmobile trail. Ross thinks that even with the additional plowing 90 - 95% of it the snowmobilers could still be off the road if they talk to other landowners. Ross wants to make sure there are no accidents with vehicles.
- 5. Highway Department Update & Requests
 - a. The road crew is ready for winter.
 - b. The wind storm on the weekend cause a few downed trees but nothing too terrible on Saturday night. Most of the roads were open. But the next night got worse and by Monday morning Jeremy saw that some people had cut up the trees to clear the roads so Jeremy thanked everyone. On Monday morning they made sure all the roads were open and there were no downed trees.
 - c. But if there is an issue people need to call the road crew so the road crew is aware. Jeremy's cell is on the highway department voicemail so he is accessible after hours.
 - d. Last year Jeremy had discussed purchasing a new pickup. He will contact a couple of other sellers so he has figures to present during budget discussions.
 - e. He would like to see if a chipper could be in next year's budget. The road crew uses it a lot; they used it all day today at Peacham Pond.
 - f. The Peacham Pond road committee got ahold of Green Mountain Power (GMP) about taking down some trees along the road. GMP did it and they neatly piled the brush and left the stubs for the road crew to deal with. The chipper is old and tired.
 - g. Start of hunting season this weekend so the road crew will take some time off unless it's snowing. The have vacation days they will be using.
- 6. Energy Committee Postings on Town Website
 - a. Melissa discussed some community members concern about whether or not the Energy Committee was legally posting agendas and minutes online. Melissa explained that when the website was created, the Energy Committee did not exist and so it did not have a page created for it. Melissa posts to the website. She can create pages but cannot do the custom coding required for the Energy Committee page to function like the others. This means that when she posts to the Energy Committee page, an automated email does not go out to the community members who have subscribed to the website. This has lead some people to believe that there were no posted agendas or minutes.
 - b. In general, some people are concerned because these automated messages do not go out as soon as a post is created. For example, Melissa posted the agenda for tonight's meeting at 1pm on Monday, but the automated email did not go out until this morning. These emails are a courtesy and are not a legal requirement.
 - c. Tim asked Melissa to update the area on the website where people can subscribe with language like this "Automatic emails that get sent out are a courtesy and not a requirement of Open Meeting Law and are not required to be sent or received at a certain time. If you would like to see the minutes/agendas sooner, you can visit the website directly."
- 7. Potential Calex Board Representative
 - a. Tim will talk to Jerry Senturia and Jeff Berwick about being a Peacham representative at the Calex board meetings.
- 8. Soccer Field Improvements & Leach Field Location and Concerns
 - a. This item is postponed until the next Selectboard Meeting. The Selectboard will not be meeting on 11/21 as that is the evening before Thanksgiving.
- 9. Snow Roller Barn Advisory Committee Creation and Appointments
 - a. This item is postponed until the next Selectboard Meeting.
- 10. Village Speed Limit Survey Draft
 - a. Melissa and the Selectboard reviewed a draft of this survey. This survey will be made available online and at the clerk's office until the end of January.
- 11. Town Clerk Update & Requests
 - a. This item is postponed until the next Selectboard Meeting.
- 12. Review and Approve Bills

a. The Selectboard reviewed and approved bills.

13. Review Correspondence

a. The Selectboard reviewed correspondence.

Tim moves to adjourn at 7:46pm. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.