

**TOWN OF PEACHAM
SELECTBOARD
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday May 2, 2018
UNAPPROVED DRAFT**

Present:

Selectboard Members: Mike Heath and Tim Scott

Selectboard Clerk: Melissa Laurita Kohl

Public: Mike Bruton, Road Foreman Jeremy Withers, Sexton Cheryl Stevenson, Town Energy Coordinator Jock Gill, Town Clerk Tom Galinat, and David Jacobs

The meeting was called to order by Selectboard Chair Tim Scott at 6:30PM.

ACTIONS:

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

1. Nattie will put the long board up on the Snow Roller Barn.
2. Melissa will check with David about whether or not the Drug & Alcohol Policy will be sent to the town lawyer when a draft is complete.
3. Jeremy will do "reasonable suspicion" training related to the Drug & Alcohol Policy that will be adopted.
4. The town clerk's office will look into David's concern about the second test in the Drug & Alcohol Policy draft.
5. Tim will look into a thermostat that sends out alerts in the case of potential freezing since the town hall almost froze when the boiler went out over the weekend.
6. Tom will contact Laura Johnson about the Modern War Veteran Monument.
7. Tom will contact Willie Nickerson as a water engineer.
8. Tom will find out why "Peacham Corner" is on Peacham Pond according to the US Geologic Survey.
9. Tom will call the State Forest to see about signs for the town forest.
10. Tom will try to complete the AARP application for the water bubbler.

MINUTES:

1. Additions to the Agenda for any additional business this meeting
 - a. Reappraisal
2. Approve Minutes
 - a. **Tim moves to approve the minutes of 4/18/18 with one minor change. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
3. Review Action Items from Previous Meetings
 - a. The Selectboard reviewed and updated action items with the clerks.
4. Town Property Reappraisal
 - a. The listers had intended to finish the reappraisal in one year instead of two. However, at this point the listers still need to inspect 180 properties, have to enter data for 350 properties, update land and property schedule, and re-evaluate properties.
 - b. The State is fine with it since they thought it would take the town two years anyway. With Selectboard approval the listers would like to send a postcard saying that the reappraisal will happen next year and post notices.
 - c. The listers' goal is to finish property inspections by October. They are also getting a new parcel map for the town. They want to have a forum to have people come and take a look before the town adopts that new map, which will happen at the same time the listers finish the reappraisal. The reappraisal will be based on that new map.
 - d. Mike said there are advantages for the school tax rate for postponing the reappraisal.
5. Highway Department Update & Requests
 - a. Annual Meeting with Shauna from VTRANS

- i. The Selectboard signed “Certification of Compliance for Town Road and Bridge Standards and Network Inventory” and “Annual Financial Plan - Town Highways” from VTRANS.
- ii. New Municipal Roads General Permit
 1. The town pays the state \$2,640. The State tells the town to correct hydraulically connected roads so they do not wash out or run off and deposit sediment into waterways.
 2. Peacham did an NVDA grant to inspect roads to determine which roads need to be brought up to new state standards to prevent runoff.
 3. Some of Peacham’s old roads are impractical to be able to ditch according to state standards. Peacham’s class 4 roads fall under this general roads permit but to meet the state standards on these roads would ruin their character and be prohibitively expensive. Jeremy recommended the Selectboard talk seriously about reclassifying our class 4 roads to legal trails - morrison hill, hookerville road, etc.
 4. Legal trails are optional to maintain, but not mandatory. Peacham would not have to follow the general road permit for legal trails. The Selectboard could make a town road policy that states that it will maintain these legal trails as if they were still class 4 roads so residents wouldn’t lose anything.
 5. Tom suggested contacting every person who has property on a class 4 about the general road permit and the possible reclassification.
 6. The town has to get a permit by 7/31/18 and then work toward upgrading the town roads to meet the new state standards.
- iii. Review Applications for Road Crew Worker
 1. Jeremy received 5 applications that he was interested in interviewing.
 2. **Mike moves to delegate Tim and Jeremy to interview applicants for road crew worker. Tim seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
 3. **Tim moves to delegate to Jeremy the task of choosing which applicants to interview. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
- b. The new truck will probably be to the town in July. And the black mac is gone.
6. Town Representatives to NVDA
 - a. **Mike moves to nominate Tim Scott as the NVDA representative. Tim seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
 - b. Melissa will get more information about what the commitment is and report back at the next meeting.
7. Grants for Town Building Improvements & Possibility of Putting out to Bid for a Grant Writer
 - a. Need to get an NVDA representative first then follow up on this.
8. Modern War Veteran Monument
 - a. The town bought this monument in 2012. The town owns and maintains it. Allen Thresher purchased it. There were private donations and \$12,000 about from a logging project. Allen’s vision was for PHA to do the research and then report to the town so that the town adds names. Tom would like to start a reserve fund for \$300 to \$500 a year so the town has money for perpetual care of this monument.
 - b. Jock asked what the parameters were for the project. Tom spoke to a PHA member and was going to bring it to the PHA board.
 - c. Cheryl said that her Aunt Laura Johnson started this monument so she suggested that the clerk talk to her and Tom agreed.
9. Exploration of the expansion of a Town Curb stop to Have Public access to water on the town green near the fire station and water at the cemetery for washing equipment and watering flowers
 - a. Tom called the State about the potable water permits. The fee will probably be waved but the town still needs an engineer to survey the proper location for the line. Can have

one line into the green for potable water and then have the line go across to the cemetery for water there.

- b. Jock recommended Willie Nickerson who used to live in Peacham. He is an engineer and works for the State water department.
- c. Jock said that there will be a walk of Peacham brochure and this water bubbler should be on it.
- d. The town has about \$17,000 for a working capital fund for the cemetery.
- e. Tim suggested applying for the AARP grant for the water fountain.
- f. **Tim moves to sign the application to connect to the Peacham Fire District. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
- g. The Selectboard signed the application to connect to the Peacham Fire District.

10. Peacham Corner Location on Historical Documents and the Current Vermont General Highway Map

- a. Right now it is on the corner of Lovely Road and Peacham Pond Road according to the Vermont General Highway Map.
- b. David said that a lot of people still think the main village is Peacham Corner. Historically the name was Peacham Corner.
- c. The Peacham Town Plan and the Village Center Designation with NVDA and the State references the main village as Peacham Corner.
- d. Tom contacted the US Geological service and State Library. There is an official state highway map from 1939 has Peacham Corner being at Peacham Pond. 1858 Walling Map has Peacham Corner in the Village. Peacham Corner Cemetery is the main cemetery in the main village.
- e. Tom suggested that the name “corner” might have represented a certain population density. Maybe it was the name for the old logging camp that was substantial.
- f. Peacham has to petition to the US Geological Survey to change the location of “Peacham Corner”. It’s a process and the town has to provide supportive evidence. Tom says that he thinks pursuing this is the right to do.

11. Peacham Pavillion and a Town Picnic in July

- a. The community group just had an onsite design meeting. The plan is coming along. They would like to have a picnic on the tennis court like last year organized and at that picnic David will have a concept plan to present.
- b. The programming uses have been proposed, the users, and the site requirements, and other site considerations.

12. The Possible Formation of a Peacham Town Energy Committee

- a. Mike and Jock met with Alison of NVDA and shared documents with the Selectboard. Joana Miller recommended the town plan an organizational information meeting at the library. She and Alison could present - why, how, what form the committee could take.
- b. This will be a warned Selectboard meeting with ample notice to make the public very aware of it.
- c. **Tim moves to delegate to Jock to organize a meeting about creating a formal energy committee. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**

13. AARP Grant Follow Up - Potential Small Project for \$3,000 to be Completed this Year

- a. Already discussed.

14. Parking in the Emergency Right of Way

- a. Parking needs to be addressed in the town hall parking lot and driveway to keep right of ways open for emergency vehicles and off of the Jensen’s property.

15. Town Hall Gym & Rental Policies

- a. If the selectboard wants to do this, the town needs a policy and needs to require a certificate of insurance. These are available through home insurance.
- b. Tom will email the model policies.

16. Town Forest Update

- a. All of the money is in. Everything is done but Joe will go in to do clean up. The town made over \$22,000. If the Selectboard had put it out to bid, it probably would not have

happened this season, and the town definitely would not have made as much money because softwood was at a record high.

- b. Tim moves to delegate Tom to have two harvest signs and a recognition sign for Neil Monteith as Tree Warden and Matt Langlais County Forester not to exceed \$300. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**

17. Review and Approve Bills

- a. The Selectboard reviewed and approved bills.

18. Review Correspondence

- a. The Selectboard reviewed correspondence.

Tim moves to adjourn at 9:25pm. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.