

**TOWN OF PEACHAM
SELECTBOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday July 18, 2018**

UNAPPROVED DRAFT

Present:

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

Selectboard Clerk: Melissa Laurita Kohl

Public: Mike Bruton, Fire Chief Jeff Berwick, Road Foreman Jeremy Withers, Frank Miller, Energy Coordinator Jock Gill, Stergios Lazos, Mary Daly, Gretchen Kaija, Matt Pettigrew, John Dawson, David Jacobs, Steve Engl, Town Clerk Tom Galinat, Alfred Dedam, Jeff Lane

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. Jeremy will do "reasonable suspicion" training related to the Drug & Alcohol Policy that will be adopted.
2. 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.
3. Tim will check in with Doug Morton of NVDA about adding a stop sign at the South Peacham Intersection and changing the speed.
4. Melissa will create a community survey about changing the speed limit through town.
5. Tim will write up a 5 point goals for energy committee with a couple of sentences for each goal.
6. Melissa will invite people to contact Tom if interested in being part of the energy committee and to come to the July 18th meeting if interested.
7. Tim will write the letter and have it sent to them.
8. Tom will invite abutters to the next meeting.

MINUTES:

1. Additions to the Agenda for any additional business this meeting
 - a. Frank Miller Re: PAMFest
 - b. David Jacobs Re: Peacham Pavillion Plan
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. **Tim moves to approve the minutes of July 3, 2018. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
3. John Dawson re: Power Under the Road to Move Power Underground on his Property
 - a. The power lines will be on the edge of the right of way, not under the road. Electrician Matt Pettigrew will put the lines deep enough and where not possible, encase in concrete. Green Mountain Power has trouble servicing those lines so burying the existing power lines would help them as well.
 - b. **Tim moves to allow the power lines to be moved off of its existing road to the right of way on Penny Street as long as Green Mountain Power specs or better are followed. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
4. Highway Department Update & Requests
 - a. The road crew is doing routine summer maintenance including ditching and grading.
 - b. Next week the new 10 wheeler is getting the body on so the truck should be in the town garage by end of August.
 - c. Roadside mowing is happening this week.
 - d. All of the trucks are back on the road.
 - e. Tom had a question about getting down to the soccer field. It needs a little bit of material and a dugout culvert so would be simple to maintain. The Selectboard told Jeremy to maintain the access to the soccer field.

- f. Mike Bruton said that the beaver deceiver in a culvert on Macks Mountain Rd is being improved. The beavers have moved to a new location for now.

5. PAMFest

- a. Frank provided the Selectboard with a letter and a copy of the schedule. The letter has a list of items PAMFest has used in the past, including town facilities. The only change from last year is requesting that only part of Academy Hill be closed so that residents can still get in and out.
- b. There will be a new tent by the Science Building to have entertainment rather than having entertainment in the Peacham Cafe.
- c. Steve Engl was concerned about people using his land as bathroom facilities. Frank said that he could put up a sign. In years past, they added a porta potty but no one used it.
- d. Tim moves to allow PAMFest to use the town facilities as discussed on August 16 through 19th, 2018. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**

6. Peacham Pavillion

- a. A committee formed after town meeting day to work on this project. They held three brainstorming sessions to figure out how to use the tennis court space. They want to accommodate all of these users: families, PTF, elders, etc. It's public property so anyone can use the pavillion.
- b. The Peacham Pavillion Committee includes: Stergio Lazos, Rachael Moragues, Alfred Dedam, Jim Minichiello, Jane Woodhouse, Eric Kaufman, Frank Miller, Gretchen Kaija, and David Jacobs.
- c. David presented the plan for the tennis court. It includes a 76x32 pavillion, access from parking lot and ramp, and possible planting to screen abutting property. It will be timber frame post and beam open all sides, maybe with roll downs in bad weather. The building isn't designed yet. Restroom access is kind of a sticking point. It's to be worked out. There is an outdoor water hydrant in the design. It will be engineered to catch runoff from the roof and manage drainage. It has a 25 foot setback.
- d. David asked that the Selectboard give the tennis court group their blessing to go ahead with the project. Then the committee will have the building and site engineering designed followed by applying for zoning approval from the DRB, state permits, detailed budget, and fundraising.
- e. PCH is supportive of this project.
- f. Steve is supportive of the project but he is wondering if the parking lot could be improved. After a rain the parking lot can get pretty muddy. David said that they are hoping this will get lumped into a lot of other things in the town and parking lot could be one of them. They are hoping to team up with other organizations to access grant funding.
- g. The goal is not to raise any taxes for this. There might be some road crew work.
- h. Tim asked if it would make sense to design it for solar panels on the roof. Maybe David could work with the energy committee.
- i. This topic will be discussed and approved again at the August 15th meeting.
- j. The Peacham Fall Fondo will be making a donation to the pavillion.
- k. Gretchen will submit a letter, schedule, and use of space for the Fall Fondo.
- l. Steve asked if it is too early to solicit donations for this project. He suggested setting up a table at PAMFest.
- m. Gretchen left posters for the Fall Fondo.

7. Modern War Monument

- a. Have about a \$5,000 donation. Getting an estimate from Allen Thresher for the cost of a new monument. There are about 40 people who can be added to the monument.
- b. Water on the green has to be delayed until the Peacham Fire District leak/water issues are resolved.

8. Energy Committee Appointments

- a. Tim wants to collect all of the names on the list. Jock Gill, Morgan Gold, Tom Galinat, Mary Daly, Dave Edwards, David Jacobs, Jeff, Stergios Lazos, Jerri Kohl, Gretchen as an alternate with Morgan, Tom Bryer. There will be 7 members with alternates.
 - b. The Selectboard will let the committee decide what they want to do. The committee will come up with short and long term plans to help the town save money and help the residents and the planet - includes weatherization etc beyond solar. Jock said the overarching concern is the state mandate that by 2050 there be 90% renewable energy. He thinks that to preserve the character of Peacham, the town needs a proactive plan.
 - c. The energy committee will give recommendations to the Selectboard to be acted on.
 - d. Melissa discussed the Open Meeting Law commitments.
 - e. **Tim moves to appoint Jeff Lane, Mary Daly, and David Jacobs to a 1 year term to the Energy Committee. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
 - f. **Tim moves to appoint Jock Gill and Tom Bryer to a 2 year term to the Energy Committee. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
 - g. **Tim moves to appoint Stergios Lazos and Dave Edwards to 3 year.. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
 - h. **Gretchen Kaija, Tom Galinat, and Morgan Gold as alternates for 1 year terms. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
9. Purchase of a Tanker for the Fire Department
- a. There are three financing options. Tom discussed the three options with his recommendation for the cheapest option that also allows transparency for the town voters.
 - b. The Selectboard went with Tom's recommendation.
 - c. **Tim moves to purchase a new tanker truck in the amount of \$342,029.94 and to make a \$43,000 down payment before January 15, 2019 in the 2019 calendar year toward the tanker, with annual payments of 49,964.41 before for 7 years. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
10. Possible Creation of a Noise Ordinance
- a. Tim's concern is that noise limits are a hard thing to enforce. Do you set a decibel level?
 - b. This was proposed because of one resident. Tim feels like we have enough zoning regulations that are difficult to enforce.
 - c. Tom said that it's a way to be able to get the police there so people will quiet down.
 - d. Rather than create a noise ordinance, the Selectboard would like to contact the property owners directly.
11. Soccer Field
- a. There are three bids to brush hog it. The question is, what would the Selectboard like to do with the field after that?
 - b. There is interest in forming a soccer team this fall.
 - c. There are holes in the field that are a hazard for playing. If the town is going to make a soccer field, the town needs to make a soccer field.
 - d. Mike Bruton said that the wastewater system is part of the issue. ANR would not allow levelling and grading 6 or 8 years ago. Bruton said the issue was running the grader over there.
 - e. It's public property with a private wastewater system under it because it was private property before the land was donated to the town. If the town doesn't want to make a soccer field, the town should have the residents maintain their own leach field. If the town wants a soccer field, Tom will talk to ANR about how to do it properly.
 - f. Tim wants to look into improving the field.
 - g. The Selectboard approved brush hogging it. **Mike moves to have Joe Lane brush hog. Nattie seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
12. Ramp to Town Office
- a. The town had a trip and fall. Boards to a town hall entrance aren't screwed down anymore. Some of the underlying joists might be rotten. The voting ramp is even worse. This will be addressed.

- b. Last winter snow took off the awning over an exist to town hall. It needs to be put back on before winter. The Selectboard gave Tom permission to fix the awning.

13. Tax Rate Approval

- a. Ewell's Mill Park was donated to the town in 2018 and the new parcel was not converted to a non-taxable property. This needs to be changed. **Tim moves to approve a change to the Grand List after it was lodged. Nattie seconds. All in favor. So moved.**

14. Town Clerk Update & Requests

- a. There is a new trend in the NEK to release all glebe leases. There are still a few properties in Peacham that have a glebe lease. Tom would like to have Bill Cobb start the process to streamline this. The seller is responsible for the expense. There will be no cost to the town.
- b. Tom wanted permission to look into putting an official town posting bulletin board at the library. The Selectboard gave him permission.
- c. Someone wanted to know if the town could buy more benches for the cemetery because it is elderly prohibitive. Tim said that this can be noticed at a future meeting if this person would like to come in to talk about it.

15. Review and Approve Bills

- a. The Selectboard reviewed and approved bills.

16. Review Correspondence

- a. The Selectboard reviewed correspondence.

Tim moves to adjourn at 8:55pm. Nattie seconds. All in favor. So moved.