

**TOWN OF PEACHAM
SELECTBOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday September 5, 2018
UNAPPROVED DRAFT**

Present:

Selectboard Members: Mike Heath and Tim Scott

Selectboard Clerk: Melissa Laurita Kohl

Public: Mike Bruton, David Jacobs, Road Foreman Jeremy Withers, Town Clerk Tom Galinat, Steve Engl, Rachael Moragues, Gretchen Katja, Jeff Lampiere, Paul Evans, Becky Jensen, Madge Rossinoff, Tom Bryer

The meeting was called to order by Selectboard Chair Tim Scott at 6:34PM.

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.
9. Tim will call ANR, other people at the state level, Tory the landowner, the state police and the sheriff.
10. Tom will put up a "Gender Neutral" sign on the former women's room.

MINUTES:

1. Additions to the Agenda for any additional business this meeting
 - a. Steve Engl Re: Roads, Commodes, Cops, and Greenspace
 - b. Read and Approve the Minutes of 12/27/17
2. **Approve Minutes**
 - a. **Tim moves to approve the minutes of 8/15/18. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
 - b. **Tim moves to approve the minutes of 7/18/18. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
3. Roads, Commodes, Cops, and Greenspace
 - a. Roads
 - i. Steve has noticed that Barnet has repaired roads frequently this summer. Is there any way that Peacham can take advantage of state funding to repair asphalt roads that desperately need repair?
 - ii. Peacham did receive a grant for a paving project on East Peacham Rd last year and is not eligible every year.
 - b. Commodes
 - i. Someone who was not local wanted to use the town hall restroom, but after seeing it he would not use it.
 - ii. Tom said that the town had a plan to replace that bathroom in 2017 (along with other town hall renovations) but the post office agreed to give up some space, which would ultimately serve the needs of the town better. The town needs to

wait until 2020 when the post office lease is up in order to negotiate their usage of the space. Then the new and improved meeting room, listers office, and ADA compliant bathrooms can be completed.

- iii. In the meantime, the women's restroom will be open to all. Tom will put up a "Gender Neutral" sign on the former women's room.

c. Cops

- i. The town has done a lot to reduce the speed limit, but enforcement is low and speeding is still an issue through the village. Steve believes the town needs to increase police presence. Both Tom and Steve Engl believe the cops are in town at the wrong time.
- ii. Tom said that in previous years the town has made up to \$1300 in tickets but this year they have made zero. The Selectboard will invite the sheriff's office to the 9/18/18 meeting to discuss speeding and enforcement.
- iii. Rachael asked if there are other options to explore such as speed bumps.
- iv. NVDA did a speed study, but Steve Engle said that the location they put the metering in was the wrong location. Tim will check in with them about this.
- v. Tim said that changing the speed limit throughout the village from Slack Street down to South Peacham to slow people down.
- vi. Paul said there is a 50 mile an hour speed limit in the section of road from South Peacham to the Village, but 50 seems really fast. Even 30 miles an hour through the village seems fast.
- vii. David said the goal is to make Peacham a speed trap like Danville was 20 years ago and it stopped speeding in Danville. Paul said that he hates the idea.
- viii. Melissa suggested having a community meeting about this issue with State experts to help us figure out our options for reducing speeding. Tim will invite an expert to a meeting with the Caledonia County Sheriff.
- ix. Steve said the traffic through the village has increased substantially in the last 5 years since we are the only north south road down to the highway.

d. Greenspace

- i. Is someone being hired to maintain the triangle on Church St.? Steve tried to mow it but there was a steel pipe that tore up the lawn mower.
- ii. Tom said that the Department of Corrections has the contract to mow that and other town properties for \$900 a year. Unfortunately this year there was a turnover conflict and maintenance has not been as reliable as in previous years.
- iii. Becky said the steel pipe might be a stake for the Fire District. Becky will notify them about the stake and the fallen Christmas tree lights.
- iv. Rachael asked if she could mow the town green.

4. Highway Department

a. Jeff Lampiere requested to run power under Keiser Pond Rd.

- i. Jeremy discussed the logistics of locating the poles and the requirements for burying the power (five feet deep and through a steel pipe). A culvert will need to be moved for this to happen, however, it is a culvert that needed to be replaced so Jeremy is okay with this.
- ii. This will be discussed and approved at the 9/19/18 meeting.

b. Hiring an Engineer for the Aiken Farm Rd Box Culvert

- i. The town needs to hire an engineer ASAP since finding a contractor needs to be down this fall.
- ii. **Tim moves to delegate to Jeremy to get two bids and pick the one that he wants as long as one of the quotes is under 15 grand. Mike seconds. All in favor.**

- c. The new 10 wheeler is here and is in the library parking lot if the public wants to see it.
- d. The blue mac was out of service for much of last week being serviced. It's back now.
- e. The town has been hit by torrential rain storms again and it is washing our Rachael's road. The town has repaired it twice but when it rains it pours.

- f. Rachael said that people are using the soccer field now. There have been problems with that road always. The road crew has done work on the road but the problem is that with these torrential downpours it moves material. Rachael asked if there was anything they could do with their driveway to help and Jeremy said not really.

5. Peacham Pavillion Selectboard Approval to Move Forward

- a. David Jacobs presented the plan for the Peacham Pavillion on the old tennis court next to town hall. This was very similar in content to his July 18th presentation.
- b. This project began years ago while David was on the Selectboard. Frank Miller requested to put a dance floor on the tennis court. The Selectboard thought it was a good idea but discovered that there was a 10 inch difference from one end of the tennis court to the other. David thought the community really needed to do a more comprehensive plan about what to do with this tennis court as it is a very underutilized town asset. At town meeting day, his last day on the Selectboard, he said he wanted to work on this plan and asked for volunteers.
- c. The Peacham Pavillion Committee includes: Stergio Lazos, Rachael Moragues, Alfred Dedam, Jim Minichiello, Jane Woodhouse, Eric Kaufman, Frank Miller, Gretchen Kaija, and David Jacobs.
- d. David visited a pavillion project that another community sponsored and it was really nice. He spoke with the people who did all of the work and it took three years for them to succeed. One thing he learned was that they applied for small grants early on from Fairpoint and various business, and that was the seed money to get engineering done (building and site). The Peacham Pavillion Committee are in touch with someone who does a free post and beam timber works project once a year.
- e. Abutters Madge Rossinoff, Tom Bryer, and Becky Jensen expressed concern with this project and discussed some concerns of the PCH Apartment residents. The primary issues were a lack of communication with abutters about this project (and projects in general), a lack of adequate parking resulting in event goers parking on private property (as already occurs during big events), and how much noise and light will intrude on private residences. Usage is still unknown. Daily or late night use could completely alter their experience of living in the village.
- f. Madge stated that she was very much against this project due to concerns around the noise, outdoor lighting, the view, and privacy since her property goes up to the tennis court. This is going to happen in her backyard. There was a wedding on the tennis court recently while friends were over her house for dinner and people actually got married in her yard (with no previous notice or request to use her yard) and people were primal screaming at 11:40pm.
- g. Tom Bryer said that he knows David does a lot for the town and that David's intentions are good on this so he doesn't mean to be a thorn in David's side. Tom said that the change in the view (which is a primary concern of Olive's as well) is a real concern. Tom just built a bay window to see in the direction of the tennis court to watch the sunrise. As proposed, this building will be 20 feet high. It's a substantial building that looks like it would be appropriate in a state park. Tom would highly recommend that whatever is put out there should be aesthetically considered as if it were right on the town green. He is concerned that this is a substantial looking heavy post and beam structure. David said the mockup is very rough and is for a much larger structure.
- h. The cedar trees edging the tennis court are at least 30 or 40 feet high.
- i. Madge asked why this project could not happen at the school yard where so much is happening already. David said that all of the town events center on the central village. Tom said that VT laws are quite complicated so the school district owns the school property and the school district is a separate entity from the town. So essentially the town cannot pay to put anything on school property - it would be misappropriating funds. It would be like putting a pavillion on someone's private property.
- j. The Peacham Pavillion Committee brainstormed to come up with a program - what the activities are and who the users are and combined with the site. That is what the concept

is that David is presenting here. it is very subject to engineering changes, size changes, whatever the case may be. The list of potential uses: concerts, pamfest, dances, summer theater, food court, craft show, outdoor classroom, reunions, weddings, picnics, marshmallows, cinema, workshops, demonstrations, tai chi, yoga hopscotch, bacci, sitting, reading, chess, cards, ...

- k. Rachael said that multi-use is the word. Gretchen thinks a lot of those activities create a joyous community feeling.
 - l. Becky said that the Peacham Children's Center would want to allow children to play in this area which would increase the daily use. She thinks this is great - we really do want to bring people into town, but a parking plan needs to be developed and concerns about noise and light pollution need to be taken into consideration.
 - m. Rachael thinks that Becky, Madge, and Tom should be at the committee meetings or at least on the email list.
 - n. David said this is incredibly preliminary right now. The only permission they are seeking from the Selectboard is to keep moving forward.
 - o. Paul said that this seems like a huge expensive project and he is concerned about the cost the taxpayers for maintenance. He pointed out that the town can't maintain the town hall bathroom or ramp or parking and signs for the new Ewell Mill Park.
 - p. Tom Bryer wanted to say that he appreciates what you are all doing and trying to do but his bottom line is keep us in the loop.
6. Possible Noise Ordinance Follow Up/ Noise Issue on Keiser Pond Rd
- a. The town attorney was supposed to come tonight to discuss options. He is not present so this item will be rescheduled.
7. Possible Speed Limit Change on Peacham Danville Rd Near Slack St
- a. Paul is wondering how this whole thing started.
 - b. Bill Cobb came to a meeting and said he was concerned about his kids, animals, and the neighbor's kids.
 - c. Paul is concerned about imposing more rules and regulations instead of people controlling their own kids.
 - d. Paul said the state manual said reducing speed limits has to do with the nature of the road not people unable to keep their kids out of the road. There is no history of accidents there and there have been a lot of kids in that area.
8. Peacham Fall Fondo
- a. The event is on 10/13/18. It's a fun bike riding event. Gretchen is seeking the town support in using some town facilities for the event. She passed around a map to the Selectboard and the public. Basically, it's a combination of how the farmers market uses the green and PAMFest uses the registration area. She presented a letter to the Selectboard outlining details.
 - b. So far there are 87 riders signed up and it is capped at 200. A lot of people coming from afar, including california.
 - c. **Tim moves to give Gretchen approval to use the town facilities for the Peacham Fall Fondo in 2018. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.**
9. Aiken Farm Box Culvert Engineer Hiring Process
- a. Discussed during Highway Department Update
10. Town Clerk Update & Requests
- a. There is an interesting smell in town hall in the mornings when it is opened up - not sure if it is sewage or propane.
 - b. Tom reached out to all local contractors he was aware of in order to find someone to repair the ramp and awning. Greg Schoolcraft is the only one who is interested. He is going to repair it according to Rusty Barbers town hall redesign so this only has to be done once and will be compliant. Tom discussed a suggestion with redesigning the parking and the ramp for a cheaper solution that would offer additional parking.
11. Review and Approve Bills
- a. The Selectboard reviewed and approved bills.

12. Review Correspondence

- a. The Selectboard reviewed correspondence.

Tim moves to adjourn at 8:58pm. Mike seconds. All in favor. So moved.