

**TOWN OF PEACHAM**  
**MINUTES OF THE SELECTBOARD MEETING**  
Wednesday, July 17, 2019  
APPROVED

Selectboard Members Present: Mike Heath, Beatrice Ring, Peter Craig  
Public: Town Clerk Thomas Galinat, Road Foreman Jeremy Withers, Selectboard Clerk Rebecca Washington,  
Mary Daly, Paul Evans, Jock Gill, David Jacobs, Kevin Matte, Andrea Kane

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair of the Selectboard Mike Heath at 6:28pm.
2. Additions to the agenda
  - a. Parking lot at Ewell's Mill Park-Jock Gill
    - i. Gill said that the parking lot has a grand canyon going through it. Kirk Fenoff did all the work there and is willing to come and fix it.
    - ii. Galinat offered to fix it and see if it would hold up.
      - a) Withers hadn't addressed it yet because Galinat had already offered to fix it and Withers has been working on higher-priority projects.
    - iii. Evans pointed out that there's a big rock that toppled over due to the washout.
  - b. Tennis Court-David Jacobs
    - i. Jacobs got a quote from Shane Stevenson for work at the tennis court which would include removing the asphalt, grading, adding 3/8 fine stay mat, yolk raking, rolling, and adding topsoil to dress up the edges. The final size of the tennis court will be smaller by ten feet on one end and ten feet on the side. Jacobs had a conversation with Galinat about having Alfred Dedam grind the tree stumps and the town crew possibly trucking materials to save money.
    - ii. Withers said that trucking materials is something they could do but that they have plenty of other work to do right now.
    - iii. Heath asked about Jacobs' timeline and Jacobs responded that it would be nice to do it in September.
    - iv. Jacobs said it would be nice to save money so that they could do more with the site like some plantings or tables.
    - v. Ring asked if Stevenson's budget included trucking and Jacobs said yes.
  - c. Old Business-Beatrice Ring
    - i. Crosswalks update
      - a) No new information.
    - ii. The Selectboard would like to add an "old business" section to future agendas.
3. Energy Committee appointment-Jock Gill
  - a. After a recommendation by Gill, **Ring moved to appoint Daniel O'Brien for the Energy Committee for the next two years filling the slot held by Sterg Lazos. Craig seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
4. Proposal for town solar energy-Jock Gill
  - a. Gill said that back in April, Heath asked the Energy Committee to review a proposal for town energy. The Energy Committee concluded that there was no problem with it but decided not to comment on any of the numbers.
  - b. Heath explained that it was a proposal from Wolfe Energy to allow the town to piggyback on the project at the school for the municipal buildings.
  - c. Daly would like to see dollar figures before a final vote.
5. Transfer Station/Roller Barn power and lighting-Jock Gill/Tom Galinat
  - a. Gill received a letter from Dori Wolfe, of Wolfe Energy, saying that solar at the Transfer Station was not something she would normally do because it was such a small project. Gill suggested that the Selectboard put out a small RFP to have someone put in a one-panel, limited-battery, four-LED light system at the Transfer Station.
    - i. Galinat said that there's no need for lighting at the Transfer Station for the current hours of Saturday from 8:00-4:00 and asked, if the town was going to spend \$1,000 for lighting, what was going to be illuminated and when.
    - ii. Heath thought it was a question of telephone versus internet and that internet from Charter would be less expensive to install but would need power.
    - iii. Galinat explained that the town never received a quote from Charter and that the quote from Consolidated Communications was \$1,500-\$2,000. The phone line from Consolidated would not need a power source but the Charter phone would need power for the modem.
    - iv. The town got a quote of \$14,088.42 from Green Mountain Power to bring power from the last pole down to the Transfer Station. Galinat said that Charter does \$5,000 of work per project for free and that Charter would most likely be within that if they used GMP's power poles.
    - v. Galinat clarified that Jerry Senturia had requested a phone at the Transfer Station for safety reasons and that lights would only be needed if the Selectboard decided to offer evening hours.

- a) Heath said that the power discussion started because they were looking at getting internet and going with an internet phone because it was possibly cheaper to run the wires, in which case they would need a battery to run a modem.
    - vi. Gill told the Selectboard to email him with things to research.
  - b. Galinat got a quote of \$511.43 from Green Mountain Power to bring power to the Roller Barn. The town will also have to hire an electrician to do the wiring.
    - i. **Ring moved to put electricity into the Roller Barn not to exceed \$1,500. Craig seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
- 6. Town Hall ADA improvements
  - a. The ramp to access the gym on the side of Town Hall is dangerous and does not meet ADA specs for pitch and landings. Galinat got an off-the-cuff quote of \$18,000-\$20,000 to bring the ramp up to spec.
  - b. Last year, there was an idea to put a driveway behind the building that would land right about the tennis court grade and then remove two sections of the roofed area. The ramp would go from the door ninety degrees out to the tennis court and there would be room for two parking spaces, a turn around, and an opportunity for PHA to tie in and have a parking space.
  - c. There's also a concern for mold in the Town Hall and the back side of the building has some drainage issues. Last year, Galinat asked Allen Thresher for a quote to do the drainage and he never got back to Galinat. Greg Schoolcraft built the new little building that tore off based on what the drainage would look like so that everything was done in succession.
  - d. Discussion ensued on ideas for ADA improvements and addressing drainage issues.
  - e. Jacobs offered to draw out the driveway and parking spots on a base map for use when meeting with contractors.
  - f. Daly agreed to draw out a plan on the base map for a ramp that would be up to ADA specs. She also suggested looking into installing a stair lift with a large platform that would fold up.
- 7. Power under the road-Penny Street-GMP
  - a. Kevin Matte, from Green Mountain Power, said that they already have permission from a previous Selectboard to bury power lines along Penny Street. Matte was now asking for permission to go under the road at a point 25 feet up from Slack Street and he presented the proposed plan and GMP's trench plan. The line would be encased in concrete and would be at least three feet deep.
  - b. Withers said that he's not a big fan of power going underground but he has confidence that GMP and Matt Pettigrew will do it the correct way.
  - c. Matte will send the Selectboard a letter guaranteeing that the line going under the road will be encased in concrete.
  - d. **Craig moved to grant permission to Green Mountain Power to put power under the road on Penny Street with a letter stating that it will be encased in concrete. Ring seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
- 8. Adopt Town Plan
  - a. **Ring moved to adopt the Town Plan as amended. Craig seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
  - b. Galinat said that NVDA is trying to put a quorum together for regional approval and that Richard Amore, from the state, would like to come to a Selectboard meeting in September to walk the town through the Village Center Designation process.
- 9. Adopt Road and Bridge Standards
  - a. Withers explained that some of the standards are coming about because of the new mandatory Municipal Roads Permit and that the town has to adopt sections 1 and 2.
  - b. Heath asked if there would be any unforeseen consequences of doing this with the big maple trees and stone walls alongside the roads. Withers answered that he didn't think so but that he didn't know for sure.
  - c. Withers said that the town hasn't adopted road standards for many years and that, if the Selectboard adopts them, the town will gain assistance for grant-funding and will go from receiving a 70/30 match to receiving an 80/20 match. He explained that everything they do now is already done to the standards.
  - d. Heath expressed concern about the trenching and ditching standards.
  - e. Kane asked if the surrounding towns had adopted the standards and Withers said that he thought they had.
  - f. Galinat said that the only ramifications would be if the standards were adopted and then not followed. He pointed out that the town wouldn't go out and do additional ditching projects just because the standards were adopted.
  - g. Withers said that the state is trying to keep erosion down and keep sand and silt out of the brooks.
  - h. **Craig moved to adopt the Road and Bridge Standards. Ring seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
- 10. Highway Department update

- a. In response to requests from the Peacham Pond Road Committee, Withers is going to replace three culverts on Peacham Pond Rd and two culverts on Onion Point Road between July 23-25.
    - i. Withers explained that, since it takes over an hour to drive the backhoe over to Peacham Pond, he is going to subcontract a pond resident who has a mini-excavator to help with the project.
    - ii. To bring the culverts up to standards for class 3 roads, the 8" culverts that are coming out will be replaced with 18" pipes.
    - iii. Withers will inform the Peacham Pond Road Committee of the dates that the roads will be closed so they can pass on the information to the pond residents.
  - b. Ring asked when Pike would start paving the Peacham-Danville Road from the town line to the Monteiths.
    - i. Withers has been trying to get in touch with Pike but doesn't have a start date yet.
  - c. Withers is very happy with his new road crew member.
  - d. There are two culverts on East Peacham Road that have been clogged by beavers.
11. Town Clerk update
- a. Shane Clark, from Truline Surveyors, finished marking out the layout of PCH's septic on the town's soccer field. Clark probed and determined that it was installed correctly, despite the state's initial concern that it might have been buried too deep. Therefore, there's no material to take off of it and the town can refinish the soccer field.
    - i. Heath was interested in taking photographs of where the flags are for future reference.
      - a) Galinat explained that he asked Clark about doing a map and Clark responded that there was no need for a new one because the 1973 map that the town has is correct.
    - ii. Jacobs asked where the sewer line from the Rossinoff/Bryer house runs and Galinat explained where it was located and offered to show him the maps.
    - iii. Discussion on the recreation budget ensued.
  - b. Regarding tax bills, the school will be able to send the school budget to the state on July 19<sup>th</sup> and the listers are going to lodge the grand list next Tuesday or Wednesday. Hopefully the town will get some numbers from the state soon so that tax bills can go out right away and debts can be paid off.
    - i. Ring asked if people going to the BCA would get in the way of the schedule and Galinat answered that it wouldn't.
  - c. There was a tax sale scheduled for July 19<sup>th</sup> for four properties but all delinquent taxes for those properties were paid in full and the tax sale was cancelled. Delinquent Tax Collector John Sheehan brought in \$48,000 more than what he was budgeted to bring in for 2019.
  - d. The town has \$46,000 in the bank today. At the end of the second quarter, the town had spent 43% of the budget where it should be halfway. It looks good now, but there are big bills that come in December.
12. Approve minutes
- a. **Craig moved to approve the July 3, 2019 minutes as written. Heath seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
  - b. **Ring moved to approve the July 10, 2019 Town Plan Hearing minutes with a minor correction. Craig seconded. Heath abstained. All in favor. So moved.**
13. Review and approve bills
- a. The Selectboard reviewed and approved bills.
14. Review correspondence
- a. The Selectboard reviewed correspondence.
15. Adjourn
- a. **Craig moved to adjourn the meeting. Ring seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm.**

Peacham Selectboard: