

TOWN OF PEACHAM

MINUTES OF THE SELECTBOARD MEETING

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

APPROVED

Selectboard Members Present (all via phone/video conference): Mike Heath, Beatrice Ring, Peter Craig
Public (all via phone/video conference): Road Foreman Jeremy Withers, Selectboard Clerk Rebecca Washington, Neil Monteith, Mel Reis, Jeff Lamphere, Susan Smolinsky, Kathy Corcoran, Marit Danielson, Ken Danielson

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair of the Selectboard Mike Heath at 6:30pm.
2. Additions to the agenda
 - a. Discussion ensued on whether or not to add an executive session to the agenda to discuss Peacham Farm Support Grant applications.
 - i. Due to the state statutes regarding executive sessions, it was not added.
 - b. Cemetery Sexton resignation
 - i. Ring explained that Cheryl Stevenson resigned from her position as Cemetery Sexton and thanked her for over 30 years of public service.
 - ii. **Craig moved to accept Cheryl Stevenson's resignation. Ring seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
 - c. Yoga in the gym
 - i. Karen Gallas requested the use of the Town Gym for yoga classes when the weather's wet. The size of the gym would allow her students to be six feet apart from each other.
 - ii. The Selectboard agreed to let Karen Gallas use the gym for yoga and agreed that, as a resident, she shouldn't have to pay to use it.
 - a) All of the state's current guidelines should be followed.
 - d. Peacham Library storywalk
 - i. Smolinsky explained that the Peacham Library would like to install a storywalk on the green across from the Fire Station.
 - a) Discussion ensued on other possible locations.
 - ii. The story would be changed every two weeks and the individual pages would be spaced more than six feet apart.
 - iii. The pages would be moved periodically to avoid interfering with mowing.
 - iv. The Selectboard agreed to let the Peacham Library install the storywalk.
 - e. Authorize Tax Anticipation Note
 - i. **Craig moved to authorize the Tax Anticipation Note. Ring seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
 - f. 4th of July
 - i. Ring contacted the company that does the fireworks display for Harvey's Lake and learned that Peacham could put on a similar display for \$4,000.
 - a) The cost would be covered by the July 4th restricted fund which is funded by donation and is currently at \$2,910.
 - ii. Discussion ensued on possible locations.
 - iii. The Selectboard agreed that a fireworks display was a good idea.
 - iv. Because the company is booked on July 4th, Ring will see if they are available on either July 3rd or July 5th.
 - v. The Outdoor Club will discuss ideas for additional activities.
 - g. Worcester Road
 - i. Discussed during agenda item 3, Highway Department update.
3. Highway Department update
 - a. The road crew has been working on spring maintenance.
 - b. The older 10-wheeler is still having issues and is at Clark's Truck Center.
 - c. Withers applied for a paving grant for the stretch of East Peacham Rd between Ernie Shatney's property and the East Peacham Church, but is not going to receive it.
 - i. The grant is based on a point system and town mileage. Peacham received the grant in 2017.
 - ii. Withers proposed that the town hire someone to grind the road and Heath suggested doing a shim and overlay.
 - a) Discussion ensued on both options.
 - b) Withers got a price from Pike to grind the road for \$13,921.30 and then fine grade it for an additional \$8,189.
 - c) Heath pointed out that both options should go out to bid to follow the Town's purchasing policy.
 - 1) Withers will work on getting bids for both grinding the road and a shim and overlay by the June 3rd meeting.
 - d. Lamphere asked about dust control and Withers explained that they have been making the rounds and will get out to Keiser Pond Road as soon as they can.
 - e. M. Danielson explained that when the turnaround was put in on Worcester Road in 2011, the shoulder was removed on her side of the road and the center of Worcester Road was shifted toward her property line. The town determines the right-of-way of a

road by the center of the existing road. Now that the historical Worcester Road has been restored, she would like the road to be shifted back at least a few feet to give a buffer for her trees.

- i. Withers explained that the road likely couldn't be shifted back because it would be shifted into a ditch and the water would have nowhere to go.
 - ii. Discussion ensued.
 - iii. Withers and Heath will go walk the road with M. Danielson and K. Danielson.
4. Town Clerk update
 - a. The Town Clerk was not present but sent a message to the Selectboard saying that all was good in the Town Office.
 - b. Heath asked about the Town Office reopening and Washington explained that a reopen date had not been set but that it was currently open by appointment.
5. Covid-19
 - a. The emergency response team has been in standby mode.
 - b. The PIO has continued to post updates on the website and Facebook.
 - c. Governor Scott extended the "be smart, stay safe" until June 15th.
 - i. Monteith will wait and see what happens after that.
 - d. AWIP has continued to check on seniors.
 - e. Discussion ensued on spending limits and delegation of authority for the 2020 LEMP.
 - i. Monteith will email the plan to the Selectboard and Withers for their input and for discussion at the June 3rd meeting.
 - ii. Monteith will try to get plans from surrounding towns and towns of similar size for comparison.
6. Public nuisance issue
 - a. Heath contacted the troop commander and the daytime patrol officer for Peacham from the state police and they agreed to increase their presence on Keiser Pond Road.
 - b. Zoning Administrator Bob Hansen has been out to the property.
 - c. The Selectboard discussed having Constable John Sheehan hand deliver the letter from the Town Attorney.
 - d. Discussion ensued on a noise ordinance and Heath explained that the last Selectboard determined that there would be enforcement issues with a noise ordinance.
 - e. Those concerned with the issue were encouraged to continue calling the police and contacting the Selectboard every time there was a problem.
7. Personnel Policy update
 - a. The Selectboard will review the current Personnel Policy before the June 3rd meeting.
8. 2020 Selectboard appointments
 - a. Appropriations Committee
 - i. **Ring nominated David Edwards to the Appropriations Committee to take the place of Nancy Saidi. Craig seconded. All in favor. Appointed.**
9. Old business
 - a. Summer mowing for town properties
 - i. No update. The agenda item will be removed from old business.
 - b. Paint Town Hall-Katelyn Langham
 - i. The Town received VLCT's stance on the liability and Heath thought that the benefits outweighed the risks.
 - ii. The Selectboard is amenable to the gym being painted but would like Katelyn Langham to attend the June 3rd meeting to discuss expectations.
 - c. Town Hall renovation/ADA improvements
 - i. Washington will reach out to Rusty Barber to see where the project stands.
 - d. Town solar project
 - i. No update.
10. Approve minutes
 - a. **Craig moved to approve the minutes of May 6, 2020. Ring seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
11. Review and approve bills
 - a. **Craig moved to approve the bills. Heath seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
 - b. Craig will go sign the warrants in the Town Office.
12. Review correspondence
 - a. No correspondence present.
 - b. M. Danielson asked about a view ordinance and was directed toward Zoning Administrator Bob Hansen.
13. Adjourn
 - a. **Craig moved to adjourn. Ring seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm.**

These minutes were approved as amended by the Peacham Selectboard at its regular meeting on 6/3/20.

Rebecca Washington, Selectboard Clerk

