

TOWN OF PEACHAM
MINUTES OF THE SELECTBOARD MEETING
Wednesday, June 17, 2020
APPROVED

Selectboard Members Present (all via phone/video conference): Mike Heath, Beatrice Ring, Peter Craig
Public (all via phone/video conference): Town Clerk Thomas Galinat, Road Foreman Jeremy Withers,
Selectboard Clerk Rebecca Washington, Neil Monteith, Marit Danielson, Gretchen Boswell, Ian Boswell, Tim
Mckay, Ron Craig, Barbara Grey, Bill Cobb, David Edwards

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair of the Selectboard Mike Heath at 6:33pm.
2. Additions to the agenda
 - a. Covid-19 Fund update-David Edwards
 - i. Edwards explained that \$15,661.87 had been raised so far.
 - ii. There was one application for assistance in June and the advisory committee unanimously approved payment of \$1,000 for the applicant's utility bill.
 - iii. The next deadline for applications is July 15th and applications are available on the town website and in the lobby outside of the Town Clerk's office.
 - b. Request to use GoToMeeting for VTGFOA-Thomas Galinat
 - i. Heath said that he didn't have problem with it.
 - ii. The Selectboard planned to discuss the request during the Town Clerk update.
3. Executive session for legal matters
 - a. **Heath moved to enter executive session for legal matters. P. Craig seconded. Ring, P. Craig, and Heath in favor. Executive session entered at 6:39pm.**
 - b. The Selectboard came out of executive session at 7:29pm.
 - c. No action taken.
4. Highway department update
 - a. E. Peacham Rd. was reclaimed and turned back to gravel for the time being.
 - i. Pike would honor the shim and overlay bid price if the Selectboard wanted to go ahead and have the base coat paving done. The top coat would be done at a later date.
 - b. Mathew's Excavating is scheduled to install the Aiken Farm Rd. box culvert the week of July 13th.
 - c. Because the weather has been so dry, grading is tough and the chloride budget is being used up quickly. The spring at the garage is almost dry as well.
 - d. The road crew has been ditching on Ewell Mill Rd., trying to get water off the edge of the road and into the ditch. Withers would like to remove the berm at the bottom of the hill.
 - i. Discussion ensued on the flow of water down Ewell Mill Rd. and the options available to address it.
 1. Options discussed included putting in a culvert under Barbara Grey's driveway and putting a culvert in under the road starting above Grey's driveway.
 2. Grey would prefer to have the culvert go under the road and the Selectboard and Withers agreed to put it in under the road.
 - e. There is currently \$125,545 in the Retreatment Fund and discussion ensued on whether to go ahead and have the base coat paving done on E. Peacham Rd. or to wait to hear about the paving grant.
 - i. The Selectboard will continue the discussion at future meetings.
5. Town Clerk update
 - a. State Highway Aid is not guaranteed in the state's upcoming fiscal year. This may result in a budget shortfall.
 - b. The education tax rate may be affected this year because of the deficit the education fund is facing.
 - i. Galinat pointed out that the school taxes have to be paid in full, so delinquent taxes only effect the town budget.
 - c. There was a press release about a loan fund for shortfalls in education spending. The town might be able to borrow at zero percent to offset shortfalls.
 - d. Galinat plans to borrow the first \$50,000 either June 18th or June 22nd.
 - e. Tax bills are delayed and the earliest they will go out is the middle of August.
 - f. There could be a delay in receiving state grant reimbursements which would cause the town to pay more in interest on the TAN.
 - g. Dog licenses went out last week.
 - h. Galinat and Washington are back together in the office wearing masks and are still open by appointment only.
 - i. Regarding agenda item 10, there is plenty of money in the Town Hall Maintenance line of the budget for paint for the gym.

- i. Galinat recommended having Langham purchase all materials at Larrabee's using the town's account.
 - ii. Galinat suggested changing the green color in the gym to a different color.
 - j. Regarding agenda item 15, Galinat would be happy to print dump cards and give them to the local distribution points.
- 6. Worcester Road
 - a. Prior to the June 3rd Selectboard meeting, P. Craig and Withers met with Shane Stevenson on Worcester Rd. Ken Danielson would like to pay Stevenson to move Worcester Rd. towards his side of the road and create a two-foot buffer for the trees on the other side of the road.
 - b. **P. Craig moved to allow Ken Danielson to have Shane Stevenson move the road over in the direction of his house with no expense to the town.**
 - c. After discussion ensued, **P. Craig amended the motion and moved to allow Ken Danielson to have Shane Stevenson move the road within Jeremy Withers' specs with no cost to the town. Ring seconded. Ring, P. Craig, and Heath in favor. So moved.**
- 7. Covid-19 response update
 - a. The expenses for the Covid-19 emergency response are at \$2,744.71. Of that, \$2,309.33 has been invoiced for reimbursement.
 - i. All but \$217.04 of the invoiced amount has been reimbursed.
 - ii. The remaining \$435.38 was for supplies as well as monthly fees for Google Suite and GoToMeeting.
 - b. The emergency response team has moved into an "available" mode and can be reactivated as needed.
 - i. Monteith will still monitor the situation and the PIO will still post pertinent information.
 - c. Discussion ensued on whether or not to move the Google Suite and GoToMeeting expenses out of the Covid Response expense line of the budget.
 - i. Those services were originally set up for the emergency response team but may continue to be used by the town after the team is demobilized.
- 8. Adopt Local Emergency Management Plan (LEMP)-Neil Montieth
 - a. Montieth will email the revised plan to the Selectboard for adoption at the next Selectboard meeting.
- 9. Dry Hydrant-Jeff Berwick
 - a. Berwick not present. The Selectboard will discuss at the next meeting.
- 10. Paint Town Hall-Katelyn Langham
 - a. Heath explained that Langham volunteered to paint the town gym prior to her wedding and requested that the town pay for the supplies. Langham estimated that the supplies would cost the town \$707.93.
 - b. **P. Craig moved to purchase the paint and supplies to have Katelyn Langham paint the Peacham Town Gymnasium. Ring seconded. Ring, P. Craig, and Heath in favor. So moved.**
 - c. The Selectboard would like to leave the choice of color up to Thomas Galinat.
- 11. Fall Fondo- Gretchen & Ian Boswell
 - a. Discussion ensued on the 2020 Fall Fondo.
 - i. Because Vermont's State of Emergency was extended until July 15th, the end of July was set as the deadline for a decision.
 - ii. Fall Fondo will be on the agenda for the August 5th Selectboard meeting.
- 12. Church septic system-Tim Mckay
 - a. Mckay explained the history of the Town Hall leach field.
 - i. The Town Hall leach field is the school's old leach field on the school baseball field.
 - ii. The leach field was put in in 1980 and was designed for 1,500 gallons/day.
 - iii. Town Hall was added to the school's leach field in 1989, which added an additional 45 gallons/day.
 - iv. A new system was built for the school in 1996, leaving Town Hall as the leach field's only user.
 - b. Mckay contacted Rich Wilson, the wastewater engineer for the state, and learned that, although the leach field is within the 500-foot wellhead protection area of the school, Wilson would permit adding flow up to the designed flow for the system.
 - i. Mckay would like permission to start an engineering analysis to see if getting a pipe across the road to the Town Hall tanks is feasible.
 - c. **Heath moved to allow the Peacham Children's Center to proceed with an engineering analysis of the feasibility of adding the church wastewater flow to the Town Hall system. P. Craig seconded. P. Craig, Ring, and Heath in favor. So moved.**
- 13. Town Hall renovation/ADA improvements
 - a. Shane Stevenson shot grades the previous day and the Selectboard will wait on a design.
- 14. Cemetery Preservation Committee job descriptions and update

- a. **Ring moved to accept the Cemetery Committee's job description which describes the regulations and duties of the sexton, the Peacham Cemetery administrator, and the gravedigger. P. Craig seconded. Ring, P. Craig, and Heath in favor. So moved.**
 - b. Ring asked the committee to look into the maintenance needed in the old cemetery.
 - i. R. Craig explained that it had already been mowed and trimmed and that the branches had been cleaned up.
 - ii. There are a few stones that need some attention.
 - c. Discussion ensued on maintenance of the Groton-Peacham Cemetery. Peacham and Groton are supposed to alternate responsibility for maintenance every other year, but it is unclear whose year it is.
15. Dump cards
- a. The Selectboard agreed to start selling dump cards again.
16. Vermont Local Government Resolution
- a. **Ring moved to adopt the Vermont Local Government Resolution provided by Maura Carroll from VLCT. P. Craig seconded. Ring, P. Craig, and Heath in favor. So moved.**
 - b. Heath will go sign the resolution in the Town Office.
17. Old business
- a. July 4th update
 - i. There was an extra \$700 donated specifically to increase the contract with the fireworks company.
 - ii. There have been \$2,000 in donations so far this year.
 - iii. The fireworks will be behind the Fire Station on July 3rd.
 - iv. Four banners thanking those who helped Peacham get through the emergency were made and will hang on the sides of the fire trucks during the July 4th celebration. Ring recommended that they be hung around town afterwards.
 - b. Public nuisance issue
 - i. The Selectboard will discuss the issue at the July 15th meeting.
 - c. Personnel Policy
 - i. The Selectboard is waiting to hear back from VLCT.
 - d. Town solar policy
 - i. No update.
18. Approve minutes
- a. **P. Craig moved to approve the minutes from June 3, 2020. Ring seconded. Ring, P. Craig, and Heath in favor. So moved.**
19. Review and approve bills
- a. **P. Craig moved to approve the warrants. Ring seconded. P. Craig, Ring, and Heath in favor. So moved.**
 - b. Heath will go sign the warrants in the Town Office.
20. Review correspondence
- a. Washington read a postcard from Green Lantern Solar.
21. Adjourn
- a. **P. Craig moved to adjourn. Ring seconded. Ring, P. Craig, and Heath in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:57pm.**

These minutes were approved as written by the Peacham Selectboard at its regular meeting on 7/1/20.

Rebecca Washington, Selectboard Clerk


