

TOWN OF PEACHAM  
MINUTES OF THE SELECTBOARD MEETING  
Wednesday, August 5, 2020  
APPROVED

Selectboard Members Present (all via phone/video conference): Peter Craig, Beatrice Ring  
Public (all via phone/video conference): Town Clerk Thomas Galinat, Road Foreman Jeremy Withers,  
Selectboard Clerk Rebecca Washington, Mel Reis, Rodney Reis, Kathy Corcoran, Jeffrey Lamphere, David  
Jacobs, Rusty Barber, Andrea Kane

1. The meeting was called to order by Peter Craig at 6:30pm.
2. Additions to the agenda
  - a. Speeding in the village
    - i. M. Reis explained that there's a safety issue with people speeding through the village. She would like to see the crosswalks at the school and the library painted and signs put up to slow down speeders. The Reises offered to store the signs in their barn and to put them out and take them down every year.
      1. Withers recommended that the signs be taken down nightly so that they wouldn't get stolen.
        - a. The Reises said that they, along with neighbors, are willing to take the signs down as needed and to keep an eye on them.
    - ii. The Selectboard had been interested in having 3-d crosswalks painted, but the project was stalled by the water line replacement and a lack of volunteers.
      1. R. Reis volunteered to paint the 3-d crosswalks.
    - iii. Options including having the crosswalks painted, installing summer speed bumps, installing signs, and having a constable who could write tickets were discussed.
      1. The Selectboard will find out how much the signs would cost.
      2. Withers will reach out to the state to schedule crosswalk painting.
  - b. Potholes on Peacham-Danville Rd
    - i. R. Reis wondered why the potholes on the Peacham-Danville Rd weren't being filled and explained that there were a few deep potholes near Ewell's Pond and near the old ski tow.
      1. Withers said that he wasn't aware of those but that he would address them.
  - c. Executive session for personnel
    - i. Moved to agenda item number 13.
3. Highway department update
  - a. Withers expects the chloride, gravel, contracted services, and equipment: repairs and supplies line items to go over budget this year. He said that those line items had been reduced too much over the past few years.
  - b. The road crew has been busy cleaning and flushing culverts.
  - c. Discussion ensued on delays in the new 6-wheeler's build date.
    - i. Withers doesn't expect to get the new truck before the first of the year.
    - ii. The town has been losing money by having to repair the old 6-wheeler that should have been traded in by now.
    - iii. Galinat pointed out that, due to continued delays in build dates, the town should start working on the lease for the next new truck so that there isn't a gap between turning in an old truck and getting a new one.
  - d. The Aiken Farm Rd box culvert project was completed and Withers is working on the grant paperwork.
  - e. There have been two applicants for the open road crew position.
    - i. Applications will be reviewed at the August 19, 2020 Selectboard meeting.
4. Stump/brush dump
  - a. Craig explained that multiple residents have shown interest in a stump/brush dump.
    - i. He proposed that there be a stump dump at the Transfer Station, which would be limited to organic matter and would be located over the bank.
  - b. Craig will look at property lines on the tax map and will meet with Withers to look at the proposed site.
5. Town Clerk update
  - a. The Town Office has been preparing for the primary election. More than a third of the voters on the checklist have requested absentee ballots.
  - b. Galinat has been watching the town finances tightly.
    - i. There is \$2,600 in the General Ledger, the town has already borrowed \$150,000, and Galinat plans to borrow another \$50,000 before mailing out AP checks.
    - ii. Tax bills will go out soon which will cause revenue to start coming in.
  - c. Galinat would like to meet with Terry Miller to set up a credit card payment portal on the town website. This would allow researchers to pay for copies of land records and residents to pay for property taxes and dog licenses. The 3% fee will not be paid by the town.
    - i. The Selectboard agreed that it was a great idea.
  - d. There is \$2,000,000 available through the CARES Act for the digitization of land records. Because the land record books are already scanned, Galinat plans to use CARES Act grant money to digitize the land record index.

6. Covid-19 response update
  - a. No update.
7. Town photo/bench dedication-Andrea Kane
  - a. Kane would like to organize a socially-distant event on the green on Labor Day to dedicate the appreciation bench to the Senturias and to have a town picture taken by drone.
    - i. The Selectboard agreed that it was a great idea and that Kane should try to notify residents of the event.
8. Old business
  - a. Public nuisance issue
    - i. Corcoran said that she's been having a problem with her neighbors' big dogs coming onto her property, coming into her breezeway, trying to stick their heads through her screen door, and being out on the busy road. She wanted to see if the process to bring the situation into compliance with Peacham's Dog Ordinance is being followed.
      1. Galinat explained that there are issues that need to be discussed in executive session.
    - ii. Corcoran explained that the same neighbors may be burying trash and cars with heavy equipment.
      1. Craig will ask Zoning Administrator Bob Hansen to investigate any zoning violations and Corcoran will call ANR at 802-828-1294 to see if there are any violations under its jurisdiction.
    - iii. Lamphere expressed concern about uncontrolled hunting hounds on Keiser Pond Rd and said that he's had similar experiences with the dogs that Corcoran spoke of.
  - b. East Peacham Road paving
    - i. Craig had one person request that the town repave East Peacham Road.
    - ii. Jacobs said that it's great the way it is other than the dust and the drivers who are starting to speed up again.
  - c. Personnel Policy update
    - i. No update.
  - d. Town solar project
    - i. No update.
9. Town Hall renovation/ADA improvements-Rusty Barber
  - a. Barber presented quick cost estimates of \$72,600 for the handicapped parking and entry at the rear of Town Hall and \$82,280 for the covered walkway and entrance at the front of the building.
    - i. Ring found a grant for \$25,000.
  - b. Galinat explained the three phases of the project and wondered if there was a way to reduce the cost to keep it under \$125,000 and to have it completed in 2020.
    - i. Access to the gym has been partially addressed by the new covering that prevents snow from building up and blocking the gym door. The ADA ramp still needs to be addressed.
    - ii. The drainage around the building still needs to be addressed.
    - iii. The damaged handrail and entry to the front of the building still need to be addressed.
  - c. Barber explained that it is a 2021 project because of the cost and availability of materials, the likelihood of finding a builder willing to propose a fixed price in such a volatile market, and the likelihood of finding a qualified builder for this year.
  - d. Discussion ensued.
10. Approve minutes
  - a. **Ring moved to approve the July 15, 2020 minutes. Craig seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
11. Review and approve bills
  - a. **Ring moved to approve the AP and payrolls as provided. Craig seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
    - i. Craig will go to the Town Office to sign the warrants.
12. Review correspondence
  - a. No correspondence present.
13. Executive session for personnel
  - a. **Craig moved to enter executive session for personnel. Ring seconded. All in favor. Executive session entered at 8:07pm.**
  - b. The Selectboard came out of executive session at 8:29pm.
  - c. No action taken.
14. Adjourn
  - a. **Craig moved to adjourn. Ring seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.**

These minutes were approved as written by the Peacham Selectboard at its regular meeting on 8/19/2020.

Rebecca Washington, Selectboard Clerk

