

TOWN OF PEACHAM
MINUTES OF THE SELECTBOARD MEETING
Wednesday, February 17, 2021
APPROVED

Selectboard Members Present (all via phone/video conference): Michael Heath, Peter Craig, Beatrice Ring
Public (all via phone/video conference): Town Clerk Thomas Galinat, Road Foreman Jeremy Withers,
Selectboard Clerk Rebecca Washington, Mark Elliot, John Reiss, Ron Craig, Tim Mckay, Cynther Greene,
Richard Browne, Allison Webster, Bob Hansen, Jock Gill, Amber Lowell

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair of the Selectboard Michael Heath at 6:31pm.
2. Additions to the agenda
 - a. Town Informational Meeting update
3. Public hearing for revised Town Plan
 - a. Gill explained that the Planning Commission already held its hearing for the proposed Energy Plan amendment to the Town Plan and that this Selectboard hearing is part of the adoption process.
 - b. There was no public input.
 - c. In 14 days, the Selectboard can vote to adopt the amended Town Plan.
 - i. It will be on the agenda for the March 3, 2021 Selectboard meeting.
4. Highway Department update
 - a. Everything is running smoothly in the Highway Department.
 - b. Gill thanked Withers for the good job the Road Crew is doing maintaining the roads.
 - c. R. Craig pointed out that a section of Bayley Hazen Road going north out of the village could use some attention and asked about a shim and overlay.
 - i. Withers explained that there are many roads that need some work, including the section of East Peacham Road that was thrown up, as well as in the village where the water lines under the road were replaced.
 - ii. There may be grant money available in the state's coming fiscal year and Withers plans to resubmit the paving grant application he has submitted for the past two years.
 - iii. Galinat explained that, since 2017, the Selectboard has followed a retreatment savings plan to match the grant funding cycles so that every four years there is enough money to cover the matching grant without raising additional taxes. Because Covid-19 pushed the grant cycle back by a year and the town received an additional \$30,000 from the state, there could be additional money for shim and overlay projects.
5. Town Clerk update
 - a. The main focus in the Town Clerk's office has been getting the remote informational meeting organized and setting up the election and ballot processing in the Secretary of State's online system.
 - i. The town's informational meeting on February 27th will be over Zoom instead of GoToMeeting, using the library's Zoom account.
 - ii. Peacham Library Director Susan Smolinsky will be helping host the meeting.
 - iii. Galinat will mail a letter to all registered voters providing information on how to attend the meeting as well as an explanation of the meeting's procedures and etiquette.
 - b. The Peacham Auditors received a concern about the town's Purchasing policy. There is an Auditors meeting scheduled for March 9th and the Auditors plan on reviewing the current policy as well as VLCT's model policy.
 - i. Galinat explained that the Purchasing Policy has been looked at over the past two years, but not updated. He encouraged the Selectboard to make it an objective in early 2021 to review and update both the Purchasing Policy and the Personnel Policy to bring them in line with VLCT's model policies.
6. Town Informational Meeting update
 - a. Mckay attended a VLCT training and will help moderate the meeting after the Selectboard calls the meeting to order. Mckay plans on explaining that it's a Selectboard meeting, not a Town Meeting, and that it's for questions and discussion, but not voting.
 - b. Discussion ensued on the logistics of running the meeting via Zoom.
 - i. Galinat will discuss the logistics further with Mckay.
 - c. Greene suggested having a dress rehearsal.
7. Committee updates
 - a. Fire Warden
 - i. No update.
8. Old business
 - a. Church septic system
 - i. No update from the attorney who is reviewing the proposed maintenance agreement.
 - b. Town Hall renovation/ADA improvements
 - i. P. Craig will have the drawings in March so that the project can go out to bid in April for a summer build.
 - c. Keeper of the Pound search
 - i. No update.

9. Approve minutes
 - a. **Ring moved to accept the minutes of February 3, 2021. P. Craig seconded. Ring and P. Craig in favor. Heath abstained. Majority in favor. So moved.**
10. Review and approve bills
 - a. **Ring moved to accept the AP and payrolls sent by the Town Treasurer. P. Craig seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
11. Review correspondence
 - a. No correspondence present.
12. Transfer Station
 - a. Lowell wanted to touch base about her job at the Transfer Station and the Selectboard decided to move into executive session for personnel.
13. Executive session for personnel
 - a. **P. Craig moved to enter executive session for personnel. Ring seconded. All in favor. Executive session entered at 7:12pm.**
 - b. The Selectboard came out of executive session at 7:24pm.
 - c. No action taken.
14. Adjourn
 - a. **Ring moved to adjourn. P. Craig seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.**

These minutes were approved as written by the Peacham Selectboard at its regular meeting on 3/3/21.

Rebecca Washington, Selectboard Clerk

