

TOWN OF PEACHAM
Selectboard Meeting
Wednesday, January 4th, 2023 at 7:00pm
Hybrid meeting in Peacham Library Community Room and via Zoom

Attendance: Richard Browne, Selectboard, Peter Craig, Selectboard, Alfred Dedam, Select Board, Dave Edwards. Via Zoom: Harry Vann, Laurie Kozar, Dave Stauffer, Greg Lockhart, Thomas Galinat, Town Clerk

Minutes

1. Call to order by Peter Craig at 7:00pm.
2. Additions to the agenda
 - a. Executive session for real estate and personnel
 - i. **Richard moved for an executive session for real estate at 7:25pm, seconded by Alfred, all in favor, so moved.** No action taken. Board came out of executive session at 7:26pm.
 - ii. **Alfred moved to accept the Chase and Chase quote to address ta boundary line adjustment and to authorize the town clerk to sign it, seconded by Richard, all in favor, so moved.**
 - iii. **Richard moved for an executive session for personnel at 7:28, seconded by Alfred, all in favor, so moved.** No action taken. Board came out executive session at 7:42pm.
 - b. Richard commented that the board received documents from the Town Clerk to ensure the town report is completed, which may or may not need to be addressed.
3. No Highway Department update
4. Town Clerk/Treasurer update
 - a. Town Clerk wrapping up end of the year by getting organized and tie up loose ends.
 - b. Treasury ended the year at \$-277.59, so with boards motion from Dec. 30th, 2022, Tom transferred the negative amount from the Working Capital fund, leaving account at \$0.00.
 - c. Tom noted his appreciation for John Sheehan for his work collecting \$20,000-\$30,000 in delinquent taxes. That action along with the \$12,000 transferred from the Child Care fund and the work of the department heads and Selectboard allowed the town to break even.
 - d. 2023 Budget
 - i. The final increase for the town is 26.68%, which equates to a \$165.30 increase per \$100,000 home value.
 - ii. The overall increase is 7.5% for homestead, 7.7% for non-homestead. Tom noted that it is anticipated to drop some because the school budget is going down. He noted that the ratio is 1:3.5, so percent decrease in school budget will affect percent increase in overall budget.
 - iii. Richard asked for clarification that the list of reports is up-to-date.
 - iv. Laurie Kozar asked for clarification about tax values, and Tom confirmed that the current tax bill states \$619.60 per \$100,000 value, and that it is increasing to \$784.90 per \$100,000 which is a \$165.30 increase.
 - e. Peter and Richard commented on finalizing appropriations and selectboard reports.

5. Recreation Committee
 - a. Richard suggested starting a conversation about the recreation committee. Richard suggested establishing responsibilities, which might include scheduling and maintenance of the gym and Fletcher field. Peter suggested including the fireworks and other outdoor activities. Richard commented on town picnic on Macks Mountain. They agreed that each selectboard member will bring suggestions for committee responsibilities to next meeting.
 - b. Dave Edwards asked about a charter and how establishing duties, responsibilities, and requirements are established for town committees. Richard and Peter clarified that historically, some committees have charters, and others are defined by state statute, but at the moment only the Tree Board has a charter. They also clarified that this discussion is meant to gather the ideas to establish the duties and responsibilities and that they would not be appointing members at this time.
6. No report on 2022 Town Report
7. Public comment
 - a. Laurie Kozar noted her appreciation for the Selectboard minutes.
 - b. Harry Vann asked that the gym closure gets updated on the town gym calendar. Richard said he would reach out to Rachael Moragues. Harry noted that the tape on the gym floor will come up on Friday. Peter noted that the cleaning would start on Saturday.
8. Approve minutes
 - a. **Alfred moved to approve minutes from December 21st, 2022, seconded by Richard, all in favor, so moved.**
 - b. **Alfred moved to approve minutes from December 30th, 2022 Special meeting, seconded by Richard, all in favor, so moved.**
9. Review and approve bills
 - a. **Richard moved to extend 8.7% cost of living increase to Amber Lowell, transfer station attendant, retroactively effective January 1st, 2023.**
 - b. **Richard moved to approve bills as presented, seconded by Alfred, all in favor, so moved.**
10. Review correspondence
 - a. **Richard moved that the board accept Bruce MacLean's resignation from the Planning Commission, seconded by Alfred, all in favor, so moved.**
 - b. **Richard moved to sign certificate of highway milage, seconded by Alfred, all in favor, so moved.** This certificate indicates the town's milage of class 2, 3, and 4 roads and legal trails that must be submitted to the state every year. It is the basis for state highway funding. Generally, it does not change.
 - c. Equalization study results: The town will not get penalized, so another reappraisal is not necessary for 24 months.
11. Richard moved to adjourn at 7:42, seconded by Alfred, all in favor, so moved.

Documents provided to the Selectboard and discussed at this meeting are available by request to the Town Office