

TOWN OF PEACHAM
Wednesday, November 1, 2023
Selectboard Meeting
Hybrid meeting in the Peacham Library Community Room and via Zoom

Attendance

In-person: Richard Browne, Selectboard, Peter Craig, Selectboard, Alfred Dedam, Selectboard, Jeremy Withers, Road Foreman

Via Zoom: None

Minutes

1. Call to order by Richard at 06:30 pm, Wednesday, November 1, 2023
2. Additions to the agenda - none
3. Highway Department Update from Jeremy Withers
 - a. FEMA project on Mack's Mountain Road is complete. Rebecca and Jen have been a huge help with all of the paperwork.
 - b. Finishing up last minute grading and ditching
 - c. Next few weeks will be marking with whips
 - d. Getting trucks and personnel ready for snow.
 - e. Had electrician at the garage to replace battery packs on exit signs per request from VLCT
 - f. Jeremy will be working on budget. He asked the Selectboard if they expect to include any paving in the budget. To answer Peter, Jeremy thinks next grant needs to go towards Peacham/Danville Rd by Ewells Pond. Jeremy also thinks Peacham/Groton Rd and parts of Bayley Hazen need work. Peter asked for some pricing and suggested it could be a line item for the town to vote on. Jeremy reminded the Selectboard that we have 10 miles of pavement, and that he thinks we should get on a 10-year plan of paving a mile a year. Discussion on how paving has affected tax rate.
 - g. Town pickup truck is almost 5 years old with 100,000 miles. Jeremy asked about trading it in while it still has value. Jeremy will reach out to get prices for the budget meeting. Discussion on specification needs, and significance of choosing diesel vs gas.
4. Town Clerk/Treasurer Update via email from Rebecca Washington
 - a. Taxes were due Nov. 1st. Next meeting will have a report on delinquent taxes.
 - b. Received a highway payment from the State for more than \$36,000. Trying to determine if it's extra or early for next year.
 - c. AP has annual school district check as well as all the appropriations.
5. Schedule Peacham Pond Meeting
 - a. November 9th, 2023 at 08:00am at Peacham Pond boat launch.

6. Public comment - none
7. Approve minutes
 - a. **Peter moved to approve minutes from October 18th, 2023 seconded by Alfred, all in favor, so moved.**
8. Review and approve bills
 - a. **Peter moved to pay all bills as presented by Treasurer, seconded by Alfred, all in favor, so moved.**
9. Review correspondence
 - a. Insurance rates going up next year. Health insurance going up by 12% next year too.
 - b. Participation in Vermont semi-quincentennial will be decided next meeting.
 - c. Peter texted with member of mowing team who felt raking was not part of the contract. Peter referred to the minutes when the contract was presented. Peter feels the last payment on the contract should not be done until the fall cleanup is complete. Richard agrees.
 - d. Laura Tobin invited members of Selectboard to meeting on November 6th at 4:00pm to discuss the future of the Windsong observatory. Richard will plan to attend.
 - e. Julie Lang provided information on grants for possible tree work. Alfred will reach out to tree board about it.
 - f. Regarding red store, Richard shared correspondence with other Selectboard members and explained that based on conversation with State, he feels there is little else they can do. They will wait to hear more.
10. Peter moved to adjourn at 07:02 pm, 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.