

TOWN OF PEACHAM  
Wednesday, June 5, 2024  
Selectboard Meeting  
Hybrid meeting in the Peacham Library Community Room and via Zoom

Attendance

In-person: Alfred Dedam, Selectboard, Peter Craig, Selectboard, Molly Willard, Selectboard, Ian Boswell, John Reiss, Robert Bartel

Via Zoom: Andrea Kane, Selectboard, David Stauffer, Janie Carle, Amy Nixon

Minutes

1. Call to order by Alfred at 6:31pm, Wednesday, June 5, 2024
2. Additions to the agenda - none
3. Highway Department Update – email from Jeremy Withers
  - a. Breakdown of equipment – working on it
  - b. Matt should be back mid-June
  - c. Mowing will happen next week. Discussion of invasive species. Cannot take to the transfer station.
  - d. Working on ditching.
  - e. David Stauffer asked about the road between the cemetery and fire station and if the road by the gate could be adjusted to eliminate the triangle of grass. Peter will discuss it with Jeremy.
4. Town Clerk/Treasurer Update – email from Rebecca Washington
  - a. Most recent land record books will be available online soon.
  - b. We have about \$86,000 still available in funds until property taxes come in. She will need to borrow from the TAN.
  - c. Recommended locksmith for gym door and cleaning services for gym to be discussed later.
  - d. Invoice from Snapping Turtle TreeWorks for tree removal in cemetery that got rescheduled from last year. Budgeted \$3,000, but cost \$7,500. Cemetery Committee aware of this and is planning to make up the difference. It was three days of work.
5. Fall Fondo – Ian Boswell
  - a. Seeking approval for the 6<sup>th</sup> Peacham Fall Fondo use of the town spaces
    - i. **Peter moved to approve the Peacham Fall Fondo, seconded by Molly, all in favor, so moved.**
6. Pump Track – Alfred and Ian Boswell
  - a. Final design still in the works, but they've identified where the septic system is and have identified the best place to put the track. Alfred outlined a scope of work. Tasks include delineate the parking area with boulders, cut back brush between field and school tree line to tidy up and provide shade, install picnic table and grill, install a welcome kiosk with proper signage with rules and important information. Long term goals and ideas include developing a trail between the school and soccer field, turn the soccer field into a hub for outdoor recreation, Peacham pathways jump off point, frisbee golf, tune up soccer field, develop walking paths.
  - b. Alfred had a meeting about the effect on insurance premium due to liability, and was told the existing insurance should cover it with no increase in premium. Molly asked about long-term

maintenance and the protocol for process for choosing how to delegate the use of the space. The maintenance would be overseen by Recreation Committee. Molly asked to make sure that is clear. She asked if the Rec Committee has established a way to assess if someone comes to the town with ideas, in order to ensure equity. Andrea commented projects have begun and been abandoned before, but that the process is to come to the Selectboard for approval first. Discussion on responsibility for maintenance. Ian explained the roll of the Fall Fondo funds and how he envisions continuing the maintenance and the future of the space, including involving the school. Andrea commented she would like to see maintenance of the field too, as it's being overrun by ants. Discussion about the possibility of proposals needing to be sponsored by a committee.

- c. **Peter moved to accept the pump track proposal, seconded by Molly, all in favor, so moved.**

#### 7. Town Gym door

- a. Peter investigated the report that the gym door wasn't closing, and he was able to lock it, despite it being in not great condition. Someone unlocked it, but didn't relock it. It needs to remain locked, as the main access should be the keypad door below. The door will get replaced during the renovation.
- b. Gym cleaning – volunteer cleaning is not sufficient. Peter will reach out to the previous cleaner for a quote. Rebecca provided information on a previous quote as well in her email update. Discussion about collecting payment per session. Andrea commented that she does not agree with the idea of payment for use. Discussion about only charging for use that makes money. Peter commented that he thinks Rachael will need to enforce the rules. Andrea commented that the communication from Rachael about the cleaning and use of the space is extremely clear and that there is nothing more Rachael can do and that she is very grateful for the works she does. Molly commented that it should be an item for next year's budget. Selectboard will look into quotes and plan to add it to the budget next year.

#### 8. Lawyer for Cow Hill discussion

- a. Alfred and Peter gave a brief review of the situation regarding Cow Hill and the gate. The Selectboard had previously decided that they were not in a position to accurately assess the situation and have been working with lawyer, Toby Balivet, to get a clear determination. Alfred brought the name Mike Tarrant to the meeting as a potential new lawyer to contact due to his expertise in this area. Robert Bartel provided some background information about the history with regard his property. John Reiss commented that he does not want the town to hire a lawyer, referring to a previous case that utilized "way of necessity" at Martin's Pond, and that he also wants both gates taken down. Alfred clarified that he is not willing to make an official statement dictating any type of action or right of access until it's been clarified by a lawyer and that he is only requesting an initial inquiry with this lawyer.

- i. **Molly moved to reach out to Mike Tarrant, seconded by Peter, all in favor, so moved.**

#### 9. Stump Dump Discussion

- a. Andrea explained that it was brought up to her that the stump dump is getting large and that there are ticks. Peter clarified that he has been working on finding a solution. Alfred brought up a request he'd received about taking a large number of stumps to the Peacham transfer station, but Peter clarified that if the property is in Danville, the stumps would need to be taken to the Danville stump dump.

10. Approve minutes
  - a. Peter recused himself as he was absent.
  - b. **Molly moved to approve minutes from May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, seconded by Andrea, all in favor, so moved.**
11. Review and approve bills
  - a. Selectboard signed bills.
12. Review correspondence
  - a. NRCS signature- landowner needs permission to utilize town field for pasturing and haying.
    - i. **Peter moved to sign the NRCS document, seconded by Molly, all in favor, so moved.**
13. Adjourn
  - a. **Peter moves to adjourn at 7:49pm, seconded by Molly, all in favor, so moved.**

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