

TOWN OF PEACHAM  
Wednesday, November 20, 2024  
Selectboard Meeting  
Location: Hybrid In-person at the Peacham Library Community Room and via Zoom

Attendance

In-person: Alfred Dedam, Selectboard Chair, Andrea Kane, Selectboard, Molly Willard, Selectboard, William Kempton, Selectboard, Peter Craig, Selectboard, Jeremy Withers, Road Foreman

Via Zoom: Molly Willard, Selectboard, David Stauffer, Janie Carl

Minutes

1. Call to order by Alfred at 06:30pm on Wednesday, November 20th, 2024.
2. Additions to the agenda
  - a. Andrea Kane – due to medical reasons, she will unfortunately need to resign. Discussion about how to replace her seat. She can stay until they find a replacement.
  - b. Correspondence from Fire Dept – request for permission to apply for 2 different FEMA grants. If accepted by the Town, the Town would be responsible for 5%.
    - i. **Peter moved to approve the Peacham Fire Department applying for the FEMA grants, seconded by Andrea, all in favor, so moved.**
3. Highway Department Update from Jeremy Withers
  - a. Not a lot to update. In between seasons. Marking and flushing culverts. All plow equipment is on the trucks.
  - b. No word from Dan St Cyr about new truck, except still no body on it. Still expecting it end of December.
4. Town Clerk/Treasurer Update email from Rebecca Washington
  - a. Cemetery Deed needs to be signed.
    - i. **Peter moved to approve the cemetery deed, seconded by William, all in favor, so moved.**
  - b. Budget meeting confirmed for Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:30pm at the Town Clerk's office.
  - c. Request for mowing bid was posted. Bids due Dec 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
  - d. Zoning bylaws needs to be addressed.
  - e. Working on setting up Peacham on VT Alerts, a system used to send emergency alerts via email, phone, and/or texts. Alfred volunteered to be a manager on that account.
  - f. 20'x40' tent is on sale, allowing for the purchase of some of the accessories. It would be a total of **\$1,854.64** for the tent, ground cover, leg covers, and PE sidewall kit.
    - i. **Peter moved to request that Rebecca place the order for all the items except the ground cover, seconded by Andrea, all in favor, so moved.**
5. Public comment - none
6. Approve minutes
  - a. **Peter moved to approve minutes from Wednesday, November 6th, 2024, seconded by William, all in favor, so moved.**
7. Review and approve bills
  - a. **Peter moved to approve bills as presented, seconded by William, all in favor, so moved.**
8. Review correspondence

- a. Marit Danielson - letter to Molly, Peter, Andrea and Will– She feels her road is too wide and too close to her property line. She would like to request placing stakes demarcating the 14' width and permission to spread mulch hay to encourage regrowth of vegetation. She said the town policy is to maintain the road to a travel surface of 14', but is being maintained with staymat and grading to a width of 18'-20'. Jeremy will look into the regulations because he understood it to be 18' standard for a class 3 road, but he would have concerns about his equipment fitting anything less. Merit's concerns are that she feels her property is being encroached by the right-of-way which is affecting the vegetation on her property and cars speeding. Molly asked for clarification about the right-of-way, and Jeremy confirmed that they have a 25ft of right-of-way from the center of the road. He also explained that he's aware of her concerns about the vegetation and takes significant precaution to avoid hitting the trees with equipment. He has concerns about the rocks and fiberglass whips that have been put very close to the travel path, but after speaking with them, they were moved. They have been asked to remove them before. He explained there is nowhere for a road to move, and that roads do not move left or right. Regarding her concern for speeding on the road, Jeremy clarified that the speed limit on any unmarked gravel road is 35mph. More discussion on widths of roads and most recent regulations. The board does not feel the road needs to or should be narrowed.
  - b. Laurie Kozar letter to Molly and Andrea – requesting to present the idea of a committee to identify problem or risk homes related to drainage or runoff, map them, assess the scope of work to reduce risks, and create a priority scale in order to find funding to resolve issues with housing that are at risk in town. She referred to the Hazard Mitigation Funding which would require sponsorship from the town. Selectboard agrees that such a committee might be better suited for the Historical Society, and if individual risks are found, those homeowners can bring them to the Selectboard to request sponsorship.
  - c. Anna Rubin on behalf of the Planning Commission– updates to amendments to bylaws, and requested Selectboard look at it again. Discussion about previous meetings and how document will still need a lot of work to correct the flaws, but still needs to be updated regardless.
    - i. **Molly moved to consider the proposed amendments that addresses Act 47 after having it reviewed by the town lawyer, seconded by Peter, all in favor, so moved.**
9. Entered executive session for legal matter – highways at 7:22pm.
    - a. Left executive session at 8:03pm, no action taken.
  10. Peter moved to adjourn at 8:03pm, seconded by William, all in favor, so moved.

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