

TOWN OF PEACHAM
Wednesday, March 19, 2025
Selectboard Meeting
Hybrid meeting in the Peacham Library Community Room and via Zoom

Attendance

In-person: Alfred Dedam, Selectboard Chair, Peter Craig, Selectboard, William Kempton, Selectboard, Christian Snow, Selectboard, Jeremy Withers, Road Foreman, Anna Carvalho, Selectboard Clerk,

Via Zoom: Molly Willard, Selectboard, Jonathan Kaplan,

Minutes

1. Call to order by Alfred at 06:33pm, on Wednesday, March 19th, 2025
2. Additions to the agenda
 - a. Kevin Hudson – Peacham Pond Rd – not present, but Alfred explained that he understood from his correspondence that he has done some maintenance and is looking for retroactive reimbursement. However, since it was unsolicited, there is no budget for it.
 - b. Jonathan Kaplan – The Fire District needs an appointment to the Prudential Committee to finish out a term.
 - i. **Christian moved to appoint Greg Lockhart to the Prudential Committee, seconded by Peter, all in favor, so moved.**
3. Highway Department Update from Jeremy Withers, Road Foreman
 - a. Mud season has arrived, but they're ready for it. Trucking material where needed. Frost has done some damage, but they are working on it.
 - b. Jeremy had his meeting with Norm Patno from Pike. Jeremy asked for some price quotes for asphalt when he returns. Maple Tree Lane to 4-way intersection may be over price. Not sure what the price of asphalt will do, but still trying plan and prepare as much as possible. Alfred asked about doing the shim and overlay for an extra mile on the Danville-Peacham Rd. Christian asked about the spot in front the Mill Trace Bridge. Jeremy suggests maybe waiting since there might be big equipment working on the bridge. Discussion about what section makes sense to do first, considering other projects that are planned.
 - c. He's scheduling to meet with contractors about the Yules Pond section. Alfred asked about negotiating with Pike. Jeremy will update them after they've met again.
 - d. Annual meeting scheduled with Logan from VTrans on Friday. He will send back the annual financial plan, which will need to be signed.
 - e. Site visits with FEMA were ok, but they couldn't see much due to the snow. They checked out Mill Trace Bridge. They measured the planks and felt what is there would be sufficient. They are putting together some information for us about that. Jeremy continued to nudge the Selectboard to make a decision about Mill Trace bridge and Gov Maddocks. Alfred and Will checked out Gov Maddocks to see if it was ready to schedule a site visit with the Rivers and Streams person and VTrans. William asked about a dammed up culvert on Gov Maddocks that washed out. Jeremy is not sure yet.
4. Town Clerk/Treasurer Update – Email update from Rebecca Washington, Town Clerk
 - a. Tax Anticipation Note of \$500,000 needs approval

- a. **Peter moved to approve all bills as presented by the Town Treasurer, seconded Christian, all in favor, so moved.**
10. Review correspondence
 - a. Email from Mr. Danielson – Molly offered to ask Mike Terrant, as she already has a meeting with him. Alfred can provide some correspondence from VLCT. Molly explained that even if the width of the road exceeds the definition for that class of road, her understanding is that it would still fall within the town legal right-of-way, giving the town legal authority to maintain it as they see fit. She can look for the legal language to explain that. William asked Jeremy to confirm that the 14 feet is the minimum, which the board agrees was expressed already. Alfred feels the 0-25 cars a day definition is speculative. Jeremy explained that as it is a low maintenance road, there is not a lot of road crew traffic. Alfred shared that the MRGP database states as of June 16th, 2024 that the road was inspected and found to be compliant with the municipal road general permit. Regarding the concern for the trees, he is not certain the roots of the trees are under the compacted part of the road, and gave some examples of other locations where the trees are closer to the road. Jeremy stated that he would like it to be finalized it one way or another. Molly expressed that in order to finalize this situation, she feels they want a legal response. The board agrees they are confident that the road is legally maintained. William asked whether the residents should have try to prove that it is illegal. The board agrees that maybe an attorney’s response would be better received, so Molly will speak with Mike Terrant.
 - b. Email to Alfred from Michelle Pomeroy regarding the Rural School Alliance. PTF proposed a meeting with School Board and Selectboard to discuss potential joining forces and a joint contribution or fund raising. Alfred asked them to be invited some members to the next meeting.
 11. Executive session for personnel
 - a. **William moved to go into executive session at 7:40pm, seconded by Peter, all in favor, so moved.**
 - b. Came out of executive session at 7:57pm, no action taken.
 12. Christian moved to adjourn at 7:57PM, seconded by Peter, all in favor, so moved.

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