

TOWN OF PEACHAM
Wednesday, June 18, 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, Allen Freud, Ron Craig

Via Zoom: Molly Willard, Selectboard

Minutes

1. Call to order by Alfred at 06:40pm, on Wednesday, June 18th, 2025
2. Additions to the agenda
 - a. Peacham Pond access update – with Allen Freud
 - i. Project has been completed. It did not meet the visual specifications, so it has to be redone. The grading couldn't be done correctly due to a utilities line. Emily Finnegan, Fish and Game, and PP Association met, and have determined how to resolve it. It should be done soon.
 - b. Special Town Meeting warning approval
 - i. Already approved. It just needs to be signed.
3. Highway Department Update
 - a. Paving in South Peacham is done. Still some shoulder work and driveway repair to finish up.
 - b. First round of roadside mowing has been completed
 - c. Peacham-Danville Road construction project is going well. Should get covered next week.
 - d. Email from VTrans – we did not get the paving grant this year. Not a surprise. We'll try again next year.
 - e. FEMA correspondence provided estimated cost for Governor Mattocks and Mill Trace Bridge: 1.9 million for Governor Mattocks and \$48,000 for Mill Trace Bridge. Discussion about how to move forward.
 - i. **Peter moved to have Jeremy locate and talk to an engineer for the Mill Trace Bridge, seconded by Christian, all in favor, so moved.**
 - ii. Alfred calculated the town would be liable for \$154,000 of the \$1.9 million for Governor Mattocks. He reached out to Emily Finnegan, district manager of the Caledonia County Natural Resources Conservation District, to help find ways to further fund that project. He will be meeting with her to discuss it June 25th @1:00. A special meeting will be warned.

- f. Jeremy reported that the FEMA projects are winding down. Some of the remaining work soon to be done are the culverts on Rake Factory Rd.
- 4. Town Clerk/Treasurer Update
 - a. Special Town Meeting warning in the box to be signed
 - b. \$45,000 in the bank currently. This is typical for this time of year. Will likely need to borrow from the Tax Anticipation Note before next AP.
 - c. Office will be closed on Monday, June 23rd.
- 5. Cemetery Committee mower bid
 - a. Ron ask if he should have the mower fixed first, or put it out to bid as is. Board agrees as is.
 - i. **Peter moved to have Rebecca list the 1997 John Deere 325 with 1300+ hours, seconded by Christian, so moved.** They will open bids at the July 2nd meeting.
 - b. Ron asked about bringing down tree in cemetery. Still only bid is Snapping Turtle for \$3500. Discussion about how to fund. Alfred asked for a 5-year plan from Snapping Turtle.
 - i. **Peter moved to get the tree cut before more damage occurs, seconded by Will, all in favor, so moved.**
- 6. Disaster Recovery Auxiliary Committee update
 - a. Alfred hopes The Selectboard will officially established this committee.
 - b. Alfred has a draft charter to use, and initial members: himself as chair, Alex MacLean as Secretary, and additional committee members include Allen Freud, Ian Boswell, Rose Dedam, and Melissa Hough. The mission statement is to be "dedicated to enhancing the resilience and preparedness of the Peacham Community in the face of emergency, born out of the collective efforts during the devastating the July 2024 floods. The PDRA aims to formalize volunteer coordination and resource distribution to provide timely and effective relief for future emergencies." Alex MacLean was able to get a grant, which went into a restricted fund for buying necessary materials. Alfred got a quote from Dad's 4x4 for some of those materials. Spoke to Jeff Berwick about putting a container for storage behind the Fire Station. Alfred checked in with Bob Hanson, zoning administrator, but has not heard back.
 - i. **Peter moved to table the item until next meeting when they can adopt the edited charter, seconded by Christian, all in favor, so moved.**
- 7. Public comment
 - a. Frank Miller provided a letter advising the Selectboard of an upcoming musical event, and requested permission to us the field parking if necessary. Board is OK with it.
- 8. Approve minutes
 - a. **Peter moved to approve minutes from May 21st, seconded by Christian, all in favor, so moved.**

- b. **Peter moved to approve the minutes from June 6th special meeting, seconded by William, all in favor, so moved.**
- 9. Review and approve bills
 - a. **Peter moved to approve bills as presented by the Town Treasurer, seconded Christian, all in favor, so moved.**
- 10. Review correspondence
 - a. Will got a quote for Lyme Green Heat for pellet install at the Town Offices, switching from propane to pellet. Quote is just under \$65,000. Molly advised VEIC rebates and incentives are helpful. Public Service Department might have unobligated funds available.
 - b. Molly reported that the Cow Hill lawyer will put in 8 hours and then touch base. There is a chance it is still a town road, but she is still waiting to hear what they can determine, or if we will want them to pursue it further.
 - c. Diana Senturia on behalf of PCH regarding the easement to get up to the tennis courts/upper parking lot area. Discussion about where that was left off. Alfred will speak to Morgan Gold, current PCH president. He got verbal permission to use that access during the renovation.
- 11. Executive Session for Personnel
 - a. **Peter moved to move into executive session for personnel at 7:38pm**
 - b. **Peter moved to exit executive session for personnel with no action a taken at 7:56pm**
- 12. William moves to adjourn at 7:56pm, seconded by Christian, all in favor, so moved.

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