

TOWN OF PEACHAM
Wednesday, October 15, 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, Andrea Otto, Selectboard, Jeremy Withers, Road Foreman, Anna Carvalho, Selectboard Clerk, Rusty Barber, Eric Page, Ryan Chapell, Michelle Risley

Via Zoom: Janie Carle, Tim McKay

Minutes

1. Call to order by Alfred at 06:30pm, on Wednesday, October 15, 2025
2. Additions to the agenda – none
3. Highway Department Update
 - a. Grating to prepare for the cold weather and some last minute ditching projects.
 - b. Received concerns about where they were dumping some fill in East Peacham. Landowner had asked for the material. They don't push off fill, so the landowner will move it soon. Will asked if a permit is required close to the brook. It's mostly within the right-of-way. He doesn't think he's in any violation, but he will take any questions or concerns.
 - c. Mike McClellan and Mike Thomas emailed about some signage for the connector bike route. Placement is key, and Alfred's impression was that they were being very diligent. Jeremy will meet with them next week.
 - d. Jeremy asked about the transfer station project and who was the point person. Christian explained the communications he's had so far. Eric told Jeremy that prices of concrete go in Nov 1st, so they will communicate about scheduling.
 - e. Water at the garage has run out. Will need to start trucking water in.
 - f. Alfred asked about the contractor on Maple Tree Ln. Jeremy explained that they have postponed, but Jeremy doesn't want anything dug after Oct 31st. It's marked and ready to go, but they are busy elsewhere.
 - g. 5 day work schedule starts next week.
4. Town Clerk/Treasurer Update
 - a. The contract for Peacham Pond plowing and sanding is ready to be signed.
 - b. We received \$192,000 in FEMA reimbursement yesterday. She's working with Passumpsic Bank to pay off the flood repair line of credit in full.
 - c. Taxes have come in enough that we paid off what we borrowed on the tax anticipation note. We ended up having to borrow \$220,000 and paid \$2,682.47 in interest.
 - d. Thanked them for the help getting Town Hall prepped for the renovation last Friday.
 - e. Christian noted that the oil tank at the McKenzie's house is full, so someone should contact them to get it cleaned out.
5. Town Hall Renovation – Rusty Barber
 - a. Meeting with contractor Mon afternoon to discuss schedule. More info on that to come.

- b. Painters have started work.
 - c. Communicated with Post Office about moving their items to be able to start the renovation inside. It's in the works.
 - d. VHV – mechanical contractor – has submitted the request to upgrade the safety of the boiler for insurance purposes.
 - e. Monday meeting with Green Mountain Power to get the service upgrade started. GMP and Consolidated will need to remove material from back of building.
 - f. Dave Stauffer will build a the little roof we need to cover the pumps.
6. Peacham Pond Association Report – Michelle Risley
- a. Michelle is the new president and introduced herself.
 - b. Updates: greeter program-secured a new greeter for the boat launch: Robert Starbuck, and they are very pleased with his work.
 - c. Watercraft report – this season they had 238 watercraft visitors on Saturday/Sundays and majority were outboard motors.
 - d. Bid for an aquatic plant survey because draw down has changed, so there was concern about invasive species. Hired Arrowhead Environmental to do the study. Report shows no invasive species, but a ton of pond weed. Trying to navigate changes. Secured a grant to cover half the cost and the PPA covered the rest. The survey is available for anyone interested.
 - e. Boat launch underwent improvements due to a grant collaborating with Fish and Game and Caledonia Conservation District. Put in more ditching. Two collection basins before hits the pond. Met with Fish and Wildlife for operation and maintenance plan - will utilize the greeter to help with that. Planted additional vegetation around basins as well.
 - f. Alfred asked about ice fishing parking. No Parking signs have helped, but not sure how it will go.
7. Halloween permission – Email from Anna Carvalho on behalf of PTF
- a. **Peter moved to grant permission, seconded by William, all in favor, so moved.**
8. Tree Board update
- a. Christian doesn't have much to report, but is still working on it. There is an inventory, but he's waiting to see it.
9. 8.5. Public comment – (mistakenly left off of agenda, and only noticed when arrived to this part of meeting)
- a. Tim McKay commented that he spoke to Jeremy about the fill dumped in the flood plain in East Peacham, but he wants to register his concern that the floodplain is necessary to avoid damage. Jeremy spoke with Logan (from VTrans) who said that it looks overwhelming, but when it gets pushed to where the landowner wants it, it will be less of an impact. Alfred commented that he appreciated Tim bringing it to their attention. Tim explained that every yard of fill is a yard less of flood zone, and that area floods regularly, so he asked the town to take care in the future. He also noted that the landowner could be in tight stop if the state tried to enforce wetland rules.
 - b. Eric Page commented that he felt the landowner should be allowed to do what they wish.
10. Approve minutes
- a. **Peter moved to approve minutes from Wednesday, October 1, 2025, seconded by Christian, all in favor, so moved.**
11. Review and approve bills
- a. **Peter moved to pay all bills as presented by Town Treasurer, seconded William, all in favor, so moved.**
12. Review correspondence

- a. Letter from Caledonia County Sheriff's Department providing a patrol contract with the town for 2026, at \$60 per hour. Will be added to the budget discussion. Discussion about scheduling/time and costs.
 - b. Updated general highway maps – Jeremy hasn't had a chance to look at it yet.
13. William moves to adjourn at 7:15pm, 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.