

TOWN OF PEACHAM
MINUTES OF THE SELECTBOARD MEETING
Wednesday, November 18, 2020
APPROVED

Selectboard Members Present (all via phone/video conference): Mike Heath, Peter Craig, Beatrice Ring
Public (all via phone/video conference): Town Clerk Thomas Galinat, Road Foreman Jeremy Withers,
Selectboard Clerk Rebecca Washington, Bob Hansen, Jock Gill, Allison Webster, Adam Dobson, Frank
Miller, Patrice McDonough, Morgan Gold, Allison Ebrahimi Gold, Ralph Crocker, David Edwards, Josh
Kantrowitz, Nick Comerici, Ron Craig, Neil Monteith, Brian Barney

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair of the Selectboard Mike Heath at 6:29pm.
2. Additions to the agenda
 - a. No additions.
3. Highway Department update
 - a. Withers picked up the new 6-wheeler.
 - b. The road crew is ready for winter.
 - c. Discussion ensued on issues caused by beaver dams in East Peacham.
4. Stop sign at the South Peacham intersection
 - a. Gold and Miller explained that the lack of a stop sign at the southbound intersection in South Peacham causes speeding and confusion and that it is dangerous for kids and pets in the area.
 - i. The South Peacham residents in attendance at the meeting supported having a stop sign put in to make the South Peacham intersection a four-way stop.
 - b. The Selectboard and Withers agreed that it was a good idea and discussion ensued on the process for making it a legal stop sign.
 - c. Ring will work on getting the stop sign put in.
5. Covid-19 response update
 - a. The emergency response team met and is ready to help, if needed.
 - b. There is a mutual aid form on the town website that steers residents towards resources.
 - c. Information is still being sent out as it comes in from the state.
 - d. The discussion continued during agenda item number 8.
6. Town Clerk update
 - a. The land records are now live on the town website. There is currently only one book available online, but the rest of the books will be available soon.
 - b. The town is currently at negative \$3,800. There is roughly \$140,000 still coming in from the state and an estimated \$110,000 in expenditures left for the year.
 - i. The school has been paid in full and the burden of delinquent taxes falls on the town.
 - c. Galinat will meet with Ring and Withers for a preliminary budget meeting before the December 2nd Selectboard meeting.
 - d. The town received its diesel tax exemption certificate and doesn't pay taxes on fuel.
 - e. Ben and Jerry's sent coupons for free ice cream to all of the town clerks in Vermont as a thank you for the hard work that went into the election.
7. Committee update
 - a. 911 Coordinator
 - i. Barney explained that he designated three new 911 addresses in 2020 and that he also corrected a few 911 addresses.
 - ii. There are no expenses associated with the position.
8. Covid-19 response update and cold weather Transfer Station procedures
 - a. Health Officer Josh Kantrowitz gave a presentation on the local and global progression of Covid-19, recommendations for cold weather Transfer Station procedures, and the status of Covid-19 vaccines.
 - b. Recommended cold weather Transfer Station procedures included providing clear signage, arrows showing where to pay, a heated room for the attendant, supervised marking of punch cards, having a drop box for checks, having hand sanitizer gel or wipes, and having a supply of disposable gloves.
9. 2021 budgeting
 - a. Galinat will meet with Ring and Withers for a preliminary budget meeting before the December 2nd Selectboard meeting.
10. Town Gym
 - a. Discussion ensued and the Selectboard agreed that, due to new state guidelines, the Town Gym would be closed to the public.
11. 2021 Town Meeting
 - a. Discussion ensued on the logistics for the informational meeting and Australian ballot for the 2021 Town Meeting.
12. Review of DRB
 - a. The DRB held a hearing and denied Tony Burrington's application to build a 2-bay garage and office on his property on Old County Road.
 - b. Both the state and the town have issued Burrington notices of violation.
 - c. Discussion ensued on the town's enforcement options, how to get the cars moved off the property, and how to stop more cars from arriving.

- i. Options discussed included letting the state pursue enforcement, allowing Burrington to start moving cars after he is out of jail, adhering to the town's zoning bylaws and starting enforcement and fines, filing a court injunction to force removal of the vehicles, and filing an Act 250 violation.
- d. **P. Craig moved to start with the \$50 per day fines starting 60 days after Hansen issued the letter of noncompliance. Ring seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
- e. Hansen will send a letter to Burrington and copy the Selectboard.
- 13. Selectboard appointment
 - a. Alternate Representative to the NEK Broadband CUD
 - i. **Ring moved to appoint Jim Barlow as Peacham's Alternate Representative to the NEK Broadband CUD. P. Craig seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
 - b. Planning Commission
 - i. To take the place of Rick Scholes, who resigned, **Ring moved to appoint Adam Dobson to the Planning Commission. P. Craig seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
- 14. Old business
 - a. Appropriations Committee expanded responsibilities
 - i. The Selectboard reviewed a letter from Chair of the Appropriations Committee David Edwards detailing proposed changes to the appropriations process.
 - ii. The Selectboard agreed to table the discussion until 2021 since the proposed changes would not go into effect until 2022.
 - b. Keeper of the Pound research
 - i. The Selectboard is still looking for someone willing to serve as Keeper of the Pound starting in 2021.
 - c. Town Hall renovations/ADA improvements
 - i. P. Craig will get the drawings and estimate for the front entry of Town Hall before the preliminary budget meeting.
 - d. Mask policy in Town Hall
 - i. The Post Office has put up more signs but cannot enforce the statewide mask mandate.
 - e. Transfer Station property lines
 - i. Heath is working on contacting the neighboring landowners.
 - f. Cold weather Transfer Station procedures
 - i. Discussed during agenda item number 8.
 - g. Personnel Policy update
 - i. No update.
- 15. Approve minutes
 - a. **Ring moved to accept the minutes of November 4, 2020. P. Craig seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
- 16. Review correspondence
 - a. The Selectboard reviewed correspondence.
- 17. Review and approve bills
 - a. Discussion ensued on three outstanding bills from Town Attorney Bill Cobb.
 - i. **Ring moved to accept the legal fees charged in regards to the listers in the amount of \$262.50. P. Craig seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
 - b. **P. Craig moved to approve all other bills that were presented in today's AP and payroll. Ring seconded. All in favor. So moved.**
- 18. Adjourn
 - a. **P. Craig moved to adjourn. Ring seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.**

These minutes were approved as written by the Peacham Selectboard at its regular meeting on 12/2/20.

Rebecca Washington, Selectboard Clerk

