

TOWN OF PEACHAM
Wednesday, August 19, 2026
Selectboard Meeting
Hybrid meeting in the Peacham Town Offices Meeting Room and via Zoom

Attendance

In-person: William Kempton, Selectboard, Christian Snow, Selectboard, Andrea Otto, Selectboard, Rebecca Washington, Town Clerk, Jeremy Withers, Road Foreman, Anna Carvalho, Selectboard Clerk, Rusty Barber, Eric Bach, David Roth, Nancy Saidi

Via Zoom: Janie Carle, Laurie Kozar

Minutes

1. Call to order by William at 06:31pm, on Wednesday, August 19th, 2026
2. Additions to the agenda
 - a. Governor Mattocks Road update – Christian Snow
 - i. Finished the demolition of the houses, graded off, stone walls up, seeded and mulched. Approved by State. Now a place for water to go if there is every any other high water. Took out all of the concrete.
3. Highway Department Update – Jeremy Withers
 - a. Roads are doing well. Some slight wash-boarding. Crew and equipment are good.
 - b. Ewell Mill grant project is underway and going well. Should be done by Monday or Tuesday.
 - c. Mill Trace Bridge update – spoke with Robco that is doing the welding. They are booked, but told him they'd be done by the end of the month.
 - d. FEMA update – met yesterday about the funding to spend. They advised not to spend the money on any road projects. Rebecca noted that the State could not support it because it wouldn't be approved in time. The equipment purchases are a quicker transaction. Jeremy encouraged a grader. He also suggested a new trailer, pricing out a 20' dual axle pull behind trailer for \$8,000-12,000 for a 2026. It could be useful for a majority of projects. Jeremy does not have all the specs from John Deere and Caterpillar yet, but he will get back to the board. He'd like to make sure he has the correct information before it goes out to bid. He's been trying to scope out some other graders to help him provide the best recommendation.
4. Town Clerk/Treasurer Update – Rebecca Washington
 - a. Sent out tax bills last Wednesday. She had to borrow the full \$500,000 from the TAN, but taxes are coming in now, so she's feeling safer about it.
5. Draft invitations to bid for new highway equipment
 - a. Roadside mower: William read an email from Alfred with the suggested request to bid with the specifications for a Roadside Mower to be returned by

Wednesday, September 2nd, which the present members then agreed to adjust to September 16th. For the FEMA purchases, 75% would be funded by FEMA, 7.5% would be funded by the State, and 7.5% would come from our Capital Equipment Fund. Will gave a ballpark estimate of \$200,000, but noted that price excludes a loader. Jeremy noted that there are loaders on other pieces of equipment, so it may not be necessary. Jeremy noted that one reservation he has about the roadside mower is that it will sit outside for quite a bit of the year when it's not in use. Leasing it out would not likely be an option as most towns already have mowers. Discussion about other uses for the equipment. Rebecca noted that VEM needs a proposal sooner rather than later.

i. Andrea moved to put out to bid a roadside mower, seconded by Christian, all in favor, so moved.

6. Tree Board appointment

a. Andrea moved to appoint Dave Jacobs to the Tree Board, seconded by Christian, all in favor, so moved.

b. The would be to replace the remainder of Joe Layn's position until 2027.

7. Eric Bach – VT House of Representatives candidate

a. Running for House of Rep for Peacham, Danville, and Cabot. Introduced himself and provided some information about himself and his schedule.

b. Rusty thanked the candidates for running, recognizing the effort needed.

8. David Roth – VT Senator candidate

a. Running for VT Senate from Caledonia district. Introduced himself and provided some background information. He explained his platform and reason for running.

9. Public comment

a. Rusty Barber – regarding Town Hall renovation: painters came, there are some flooring issues that will be corrected, fire safety people have started their work, AV system will get corrected, occupancy is coming. Contractor said the concrete guys are coming eventually. Timberworks advised timbers will be cut when we are ready for it, which will be when the concrete guys is ready. Upstairs work is still underway. Board thanked Rusty for all his hard work.

10. Approve minutes

a. Item tabled due to not enough members present who attended.

11. Review and approve bills

a. Christian moved to approve bills as presented by Town Treasurer, seconded Andrea, all in favor, so moved.

12. Review correspondence

a. Peacham PTF email regarding electrical outlet at firehouse green. Anna explained that PTF is looking into the idea of installing power on the Firehouse green, but certain questions remain, including rules for the green and who would be charged for the electric bill. Laurie Kozar made some suggestions. Rebecca will

look into it. Anna clarified that PTF was trying to gather information in order to make a budget decision as soon as possible.

- b. Invitation for VLCT for the Town Fair in September, which is same day as a Selectboard meeting. If members want to attend, Rebecca suggested moving a meeting. Board agreed to move the Oct 7th meeting to Sept 30th.
13. Andrea moves to adjourn at 7:36pm, 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.