

TOWN OF PEACHAM
Wednesday, September 2, 2026
Selectboard Meeting
Hybrid meeting in the Peacham Library Community Room and via Zoom

Attendance

In-person: Alfred Dedam, Selectboard Chair, Selectboard, Christian Snow, Selectboard, Andrea Otto, Selectboard, Rebecca Washington, Town Clerk Jeremy Withers, Road Foreman, Anna Carvalho, Selectboard Clerk, Melissa Hough, Karen Lewis, Charlotte Mooney, Dave Edwards, Patrice McDonough

Via Zoom: Janie Carle

Minutes

1. Call to order by Alfred at 06:30pm, on Wednesday, September 2nd, 2026
2. Additions to the agenda
 - a. Bruce Westcott – Email about a nuisance dog. Alfred responded and copied the animal control officer and advised working with him.
 - b. Carlie Withers – Email about organizing a Touch a Truck Parade at PCA for the students and staff. Jeremy Withers is willing to help with traffic and safety. Jeremy clarified that there is still some planning to do, and most likely the trucks will be parked, not a parade. They are looking at Oct 9th. Jeremy will ask his crew to volunteer.
 - i. **Christian moved to permit the Town highway department involvement in the Touch a Truck event and grant Jeremy to use the resources he needs to make it happen, seconded by Andrea, all in favor, so moved.**
3. Highway Department Update – Jeremy Withers
 - a. Mill Trace Bridge – steel work has been completed, timber work should be here in a couple weeks.
 - b. Trucks & Equipment – 1 tandem-axle sensor replacement and electrical issue being fixed.
 - c. Building – Town Garage door problem again, company coming tomorrow to fix it.
 - d. Ewell Mill grant project is complete. Jeremy is pleased with the result.
 - e. He provided the grader bid document.
4. Bid invitation for grader
 - a. Jeremy is interested in a John Deere or a Caterpillar. He provided the specs to the Selectboard. He noted due to the FEMA funds, it has to be a straight purchase, whereas there would normal be a trade, but both companies said they may buy back our current grader. We could also sell or auction it.

i. Andrea moved to use the language for the invitation to bid on a new motor grader, seconded by Christian, all in favor, so moved.

5. Town Clerk/Treasurer Update – Rebecca Washington
 - a. Taxes coming in, which has helped cash flow.
 - b. BCA agreed to install a ballot box outside the Town Hall building, so she got a grant to pay for that, and it's been ordered.
 - c. Question about reserving the tent to be used outside of Peacham.
6. Town Hall update – Rusty Barber – not present
 - a. Alfred noted that dirt is being moved outside.
 - b. There was a carpet fume issue, but the it is now done.
7. Cemetery Endowment Fund Policy
 - a. Town Treasurer is responsible for how fund is invested, so Rebecca has been working with members. Policy describes how the fund should be invested and used. The fund is growing, currently at approximately \$189,000. The principal, which they want to protect, was hard to find original information. They spoke to Passumpsic Bank, which was \$94,000 when it was transferred there, so they are treating that as the principal, although it was likely much less. Private donors provided the original amount, but documentation is lacking for exact original language, other than the original amount was about \$5,000. Dave Edwards initiated discussion about spending policy and the terms for calculating the amount available each year. Endowment discussion was tabled until a decision could be finalized.
8. Fall Foliage Day – Melissa Hough
 - a. Requesting that Fall Foliage be designated a town sponsored event, so she can sent out a solicitation letter. Peacham Fall Foliage is part of the Northeast Kingdom Fall Foliage event, which is advertised as one. However, each town is responsible for creating their own event. When she took the lead of the event, some new activities and organization developed. She provided some details about the different type of events and activities. Now that the event has expanded, there are more costs associated with event, including printing the fliers, the signage, general supplies, musicians, food supplies, totaling about \$2000. She would like to be able to send a letter to request donations in order to offset the costs she has been footing. Alfred asked for confirmation about insurance coverage for these types of events, and Rebecca confirmed they are covered.
 - i. **Christian moved to adopt the Peacham Fall Foliage as a town event, seconded by Andrea, all in favor, so moved.**
9. Transfer Station price posting discussion
 - a. Next meeting will review, update and approve the fee schedule for the dump and make a list about the signs needed.
10. Public comment

- a. Christian will go up to the Groton Cemetery and mow and trim it.
 - b. Janie Carle asked about the possibility of sharing the roadside mower, but Christian explained most towns already have their own or already share one. Also, the FEMA funds would restrict how we spend it.
11. Approve minutes
- a. Neither set of the last two minutes could be approved because there were not enough members present at the meeting who were present at the previous meetings.
12. Review and approve bills
- a. Christian **moved to approve bills as presented by the Town Treasurer, seconded** Andrea, **all in favor, so moved.**
13. Review correspondence
- a. Request for correspondence
 - b. Laurie Kozar emailed about a grant opportunity for tree planting. Most require a match, but there are few mini grants that don't require a match.
 - c. Rebecca asked about the school transfer process because she'd received some
14. Christian moves to adjourn at 7:39PM, seconded by Andrea, all in favor, so moved.

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