TOWN OF PEACHAM
Wednesday, September 16, 2026
Selectboard Meeting
Hybrid meeting in the Peacham Library Community Room and via Zoom

Attendance

In-person: Alfred Dedam, Selectboard Chair, Selectboard, William Kempton, Selectboard, Christian Snow, Selectboard, Andrea Otto, Selectboard, Christina Rumery, Selectboard, Jeremy Withers, Road Foreman, Rebecca Washington, Town Clerk, Anna Carvalho, Selectboard Clerk, Michael Howrigan United Equipment, Mark Clough, School Board

Via Zoom: Janie Carle, Rebecca Washington, Town Clerk, Amber Lowell

Minutes

1. Call to order by Alfred at 06:31pm, on Wednesday, September 16th, 2026
2. Additions to the agenda – none
3. Highway Department Update – Jeremy Withers
    a. Trucks and equipment in good shape.
    b. Roadside mower rental in second week. Almost finished.
    c. Mill Trace Bridge – still waiting on lumber, but should arrive next week.
    d. Building maintenance – regarding garage broken overhead door: attempted to fix, but opening motor needs to be replaced. Estimated cost $2000.
4. Open grader bids
    a. One bid arrived.
    b. Alfred advised that the other expected closed bid did not arrive on time. He noted that they should be very diligent of the process due to the price, and that it's with FEMA funds. Jeremy expressed his frustration about not having a comparison to work with. Will asked for confirmation about the purchasing policy requiring number of bids. Rebecca clarified that there is no requirement, but that board reserves the right to rebid. Andrea asked if there would be time to rebid. Jeremy felt it could be pushed out to next meeting, that he respects the effort from the bidder we received, but that he wants to be able to compare options to best fit the town needs. Anna asked about the process of declining a bid if necessary and rebinding. Christian felt that despite the other salesman dropping the ball, the choice is important since it's a piece of equipment the town will have for years to come. Alfred reiterated his concern about the amount of money and the respecting the process. Andrea noted the collective responsibility on the behalf of the town to spend such a large sum.
    c. Christian moved to rebid the motor grader: to put the invitation to bid back out with all the same terms with sealed bids due at 2:30pm on September

30th, 2026, seconded by Will, Andrea and Christina in favor, Alfred opposed, so moved.

5. Open roadside mower bids
    a. 8 envelopes, but 5 bids, because one company provided multiple.
        i. Champlain Valley Equipment – 3 offers, but one did not meet the specs in the bid, so only 2 were considered.
            1. Kubota -$182,641.23
            2. New Holland - $207,781.48
        ii. United Ag & Turf
            1. John Deere - $174,418.80
        iii. Town Line –
            1. Kubota -$200,770.00 with additional equipment included compared to the Champlain Valley Equipment bid.
        iv. Tri-Country Tractor supply –
            1. Tiger – at our specs at $201,503.07.
        v. Mower Max – specs not apples to apples, as it's a specialized piece of equipment. $256,220.66
    b. Discussion about lead time, specs, and preferences. Jeremy noted they should consider service and parts.
    c. Christian moved to accept quote number 2516170 from United Ag & Turf on a 2026 John Deere 6105E Cab Tractor with a 22 foot diamond mower and a 60 inch rotary boom head for $174,418.80, seconded by Will, all in favor, so moved.
6. Town Clerk/Treasurer Update – Rebecca Washington
    a. Tom Bryer has offered to fix the window at the transfer station. He would not charge for his service, just the materials. He also offered to include window inserts. Rebecca just suggested he sign the volunteer waiver. Board supports.
    b. Library planning survey – would like permission to put on town website. Board agrees.
    c. 2 special event permits approved: Fall Fondo and for Great Pumpkin Fest.
7. Peacham School building transfer – Mark Clough
    a. Lawyers are still in discussion. Alfred received a draft lease including the right of first refusal. Town needs a quote for insurance from VLCT. Alfred has sent lease to VLCT and Ed Adrian for review. Alfred will follow up when he hears back.
8. Town Hall update – Rusty Barber – not present
    a. Alfred read an email about an HVAC change order that Rusty declined.
    b. Front door should be available again next Monday.
9. Transfer Station price and sign discussion
    a. Stump Dump inspection requires new signs
    b. Price list sign needs to be updated – but adjustable because new price list comes out quarterly

c. Prices list on website needs to be updated.
d. No cash and no trespassing signs
e. Amber noted some cases we are losing money, and new charge for Freon items. Casella price list doesn't account for the town's additional costs. Board agrees a more in depth review is needed. Next meeting they will adopt a new price list after Christian has reviewed. Rebecca noted the town's loss from last year exceeded $14,000.

10. Public comment – none
11. Approve minutes:
    a. September 2nd, 2026 meeting: Christian, Andrea, and Alfred were present.
        i. **Christian moved to approve minutes from Wednesday, September 2, 2026, seconded by Andrea, Alfred in favor, Will and Christina abstained, so moved.**
    b. August 19th, 2026 meeting: William, Andrea, and Christian were present.
        i. **William moved to approve minutes from Wednesday, August 19, 2026, seconded by Andrea, Christina in favor, Christina and Alfred abstained, so moved**.
    c. August 5th, 2026 meeting: Christian, Alfred, William, and Christina were present.
        i. **Christian moved to approve minutes from Wednesday, August 5, 2026, seconded by William, Christina and Alfred in favor, Andrea abstained, so moved.**
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. Email from Bruce Westcott regarding the Churchill dogs. Animal control officer was copied in email.
    b. Christian spoke with Neil Monteith about the cemetery trees to encourage progress.
    c. John Reiss emailed about taking action on an addition to an agenda and not approving the minutes.
    d. Town Forest event with NVDA about forest management.
    e. Rusty Barber email about timber frames availability
    f. Ron Craig told Will that there is some brush on the edge of the tennis court.
    g. Jock Gill resigned from Energy Committee. Need a replacement.
14. William moves to adjourn at 8:33pm, 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.