TOWN OF PEACHAM
Wednesday, November 18, 2026
Selectboard Meeting
Hybrid meeting in the Peacham Town Hall Meeting Room and via Zoom

Attendance

In-person: Alfred Dedam, Selectboard Chair, Selectboard, William Kempton, Selectboard, Christian Snow, Selectboard, Andrea Otto, Selectboard, Christina Rumery, Selectboard, Anna Carvalho, Selectboard Clerk, John Parsons, Steve Engle, Dave Edwards, Greg Lockhart, Donal Gordon, Karen Gordon, Joe Notini

Via Zoom: Karen Lewis, NEK News, Neil Monteith, Carol Fox, Janie Carle, Laurie Kozar, Doug Morton, unidentified attendee: bobpatblake@comcast.net

Minutes

1. Call to order by Alfred at 06:32pm, on Wednesday, November 18th, 2026
2. Additions to the agenda
    a. Tree Board update
        i. Reviewed inventory and are working on a pilot project on Willow Brook Road to be presented at the next meeting. Will provide more budget information soon. Reviewing other town data and seeing average budget of about $200 per tree. Will get some equipment from the state in order to do the cemetery inventory. Discussion of process of GIS, budgeting, and collecting data.
        ii. Tree trimming of Cherry and Crab Apple tree near Town Hall
        iii. Dave Edwards reported that Dave Stauffer found some Black Ash to move to the Abenaki compound.
3. Highway Department Update – email from Jeremy Withers
    a. Mill Trace Bridge is complete. Just need guardrails installed.
4. Town Clerk/Treasurer Update – none
5. Cemetery Deed
    a. Andrea moved to approve and sign the cemetery deed, seconded by Christian, all in favor, so moved.
6. Speed Study discussion – Doug Morton
    a. Doug summarized the results of his speed study discussion, but can make a more detailed breakdown available as well. The average speed from the study showed 25mph in a 30mph zone, but there were speeders as well. Doug noted support by law enforcement writing tickets, but the study did not suggest significant speeding. 95% of vehicles were 34mph or below. Residents of the village expressed concern about the few who are not following the posted limit and are very concerned about safety for pedestrians and bikers. Not many have been

ticketed by the sheriff. Doug clarified the location of the study was at the crosswalk by the school. Alfred noted that he has advised the sheriff to focus on the village. During the count period of the vehicles measured going over the limit, 2 vehicles drove between 50-55mph, 7 vehicles drove between 45-50mph, 22 vehicles drove between 40-45mph, 148 vehicles drove between 35-40mph, and 748 drove between 30-35mph. Discussion about study results while sheriff was present. John Parsons expressed that safety should be our highest priority. Steven Engle felt 20% of the vehicles being over the limit is not acceptable. Steve Engle asked if the speed study done about 10 years ago is available for comparison, suggesting there are far more vehicles now, which would warrant new measures. Doug explained that he sees these concerns around the Northeast Kingdom through is work, and agrees that speeding is an issue. He encouraged the board to consider the return on investment to whichever effort they pursue and noted that the average has met the goal. Community asked whether 2027 budget will continue to include funds for law enforcement. Board has not finalized budget, but will plan to include. Discussion of the radar signs. Joe Notini pointed out that a sidewalk exists, despite it not being obvious. Laurie Kozar noted that the village tax is meant for the sidewalk and village lights.

7. Town Hall Renovation update – Rusty Barber – none
8. Public comment none
9. Approve minutes
    a. **William moved to approve minutes from Wednesday, November 4, 2026, seconded by Christina, all in favor, so moved.**
    b. **Christian moved to approve minutes from the special meeting Monday, November 9, 2026, seconded by Christina, all in favor, so moved.**
10. Review and approve bills
    a. **Christian moved to approve bills as presented by the Town Treasurer, seconded Andrea, all in favor, so moved.**
    b. Sheriff bill noted that 6 vehicles going between 40-50mph were ticketed.
11. Review correspondence
    a. Letter from Sheriff – request for new contract with information about services. To be discussed at a later meeting.
    b. Molly Doctor NVDA – Land use review board hearing on Dec 16th at 1:00pm information.
    c. Karen Lewis – cemetery tree cables last inspected 4 years ago, according to previous sexton, Ron Craig. He also advised they should be inspected every 3 years.
    d. Allen Freund – Peacham Pond Association newsletter
    e. Dead light bulb outside gym door – has been fixed.
12. Christian moves to adjourn at 7:40pm., 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.