

Town of Pomfret
5218 Pomfret Road
North Pomfret, VT 05053

Approved Minutes of the August 6, 2014 Regular Selectboard Meeting

Present: Mark Warner (Selectboard Member), Michael Reese (Selectboard Member), Phil Dechert (Selectboard Member), Arthur Lewin, Sr. (Road Foreman), Katie Savage (Vermont Standard), Hazel Harrington, Joanna Long, Bob Merrill, Melanie Williams, Betsy Seibeck, Laura Kent, Sherman Kent, Paula Schwenk, Harold Schwenk; Gerry Fields, Art Lewin, Hazel Harrington, Emily Grube, John Moore, Ellen Desmeules, and Kevin Rice

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Warner at 7:03pm.

1. Review of Agenda: The Board agreed to add a request from Harold and Paula Schwenk to discuss Totman Hill Road; and a request from Joanna Long to discuss wild parsnips along roadsides.
2. Public Comment:
 - (a) Melanie Williams requested the Board provide the reasons for entering into executive session during last meeting. The Board will provide the reasons at the next meeting.
3. Treasurer's Report (7:13pm):
 - (a) The Board unanimously approved the following warrants for payment: 189, 191 and 192.
 - (b) The Board reviewed and discussed financial statements from January 1st through June 30th, 2014. The Treasurer noted the Town was \$110,000 under-budget.
 - (c) Michael Reese will follow up with Bergeron's Service Center for reimbursement of a payment mistakenly sent to them.
 - (d) Phil Dechert moved, and Mark Warner seconded, that the Town change the employee retirement program from Group A (30 years) to Group C (20 years) to be effective July 1, 2014. Following discussion (including reference to the Board's decision at its September 26, 2013 meeting), the Board unanimously approved the motion.
 - (e) Following inquiry from a member of the public, the Treasurer offered additional observations of the six month budget.
4. Road Foreman's Report (7:41pm):
 - (a) Harold Schwenk requested the Town to improve culverts and waterbars on the legal trail section of Totman Hill Road. Using the E-911 map, he described where he believed the class 4 road ends and the legal trail begins. Mr. Schwenk will prepare a letter describing his request.
 - (b) Joanna Long, on behalf of the invasive species committee, noted the Town was successful in addressing the wild chervil and that we need to address the wild parsnip next year.
 - (c) Update on Activities (8:05pm):
 - i. The road crew has been fixing roads following the rainstorm including reshaping ditches, installing waterbars, and cleaning out culverts.
 - ii. Sessions Meadow Road project will commence Monday, 8/11/14.
 - (d) Phil Dechert moved, and Mark Warner seconded, that the Town accept the bid from Hook Construction, contingent upon approval of a contract, verification that the Town has the funds, and verification that the grant will be available. Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

5. Unfinished Business (8:39pm):

- (a) Following extensive discussion, the Board agreed to hold a special selectboard meeting next Wednesday, 8/13/14, invite Mike Barcomb and discuss the options to power the antenna/repeater.
- (b) (9:14pm) Phil Dechert reported his efforts to reduce computer support and backup services by identifying new service providers.
- (c) (9:30pm) Bill Cole noted additional roofing that needs to be completed. Michael Reese agreed to contact the roofing contractor to discuss.
- (d) (9:39pm) Phil Dechert presented an estimate to address short term fire code issues at the Town Hall. The Board agreed he should arrange the work without further input from the Board.
- (e) (9:48pm) Mark Warner noted the Town buildings are now locked in on a fuel contract.
- (f) Mark Warner noted the best option for telecommunications services in the short term is to continue with Fairpoint Communications and ensure we are paying for the appropriate services.

6. Approval of Minutes of prior meetings: The Board agreed to postpone discussion of prior meeting minutes.

7. Public Comment: Melanie Williams asked the Board to ensure that Town policies are posted on the website.

8. Following proper motion, the Board adjourned the meeting.

Approved by Selectboard on 8/20/2014

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael Reese, Selectboard Clerk