

# Town of Pomfret

5218 Pomfret Road  
North Pomfret, VT 05053

Draft Minutes of the December 17, 2014 Regular Selectboard Meeting

Present: Mark Warner (Selectboard Member), Michael Reese (Selectboard Member), Phil Dechert (Selectboard Member), Arthur Lewin, Sr. (Road Foreman) and a representative of an employee.

1. Call to Order of executive session at 7:00pm to discuss an individual's employment:
  - (a) Mark Warner moved, and Phil Dechert seconded, that the Board not record the meeting prior to the executive session. The Board approved the motion (Mark Warner and Phil Dechert voted yes, and Michael Reese voted no).
  - (b) Phil Dechert moved, and Mark Warner seconded, that the Board enter into executive session to discuss the employment of an individual pursuant to 1 VSA § 313.

Present: Mark Warner (Selectboard Member), Michael Reese (Selectboard Member), Phil Dechert (Selectboard Member), Arthur Lewin, Sr. (Road Foreman), Ellen DesMeules (Treasurer), Norm Buchanan (Lister), Ona Chase (Cemetery Commissioner), Jasmin Reilly (Cemetery Commissioner) and Melanie Williams.

2. Call to Order of public meeting at 7:30pm: The remainder of the Meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Warner at 7:30pm at the Town Offices.
3. Public Comment: Melanie Williams asked if the actions taken during the unrecorded session of the open meeting at 7pm will be reflected in the Minutes. Mark Warner said it will be.
4. Review of Remaining Agenda: The Board agreed to make the following change: move “*possible action relating to employee*” to before the Treasurer’s Report.
5. Action relating to employee:
  - (a) Mark Warner moved, and Phil Dechert seconded, that the Board grant a six month leave of absence for an employee based upon special circumstances. Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.
  - (b) Mark Warner moved, and Phil Dechert seconded, that the Board continue the health insurance for the employee during the leave of absence. Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.
6. Treasurer’s Report
  - (a) Review and action on warrants for payment: The Board unanimously approved the following warrants for payment: 234, 235, 236 and 237.

7. Road Foreman's Report

(a) Update on activities

- i. General Update: The road crew been plowing and sanding during recent storms. The costs of the repair the two older trucks was over \$10,000.
- ii. Record-keeping computer program: The Road Foreman is waiting for Rita Seto at Two Rivers Ottawaquechee Regional Commission to complete her work on the computer program.
- iii. On-call employees: The Road Foreman noted that recent press reports were incorrect: the Town is not paying the on-call employees \$22.00/hour.

(b) Embankment on Pomfret Road (just north of Bunker Hill Road): The Road Foreman asked for the Board's approval for bids to go out February or March, 2015 and the work to be completed by the middle of June, 2015. The Road Foreman will prepare the draft bid for presentation to state grant officials.

(c) Consider bid for diesel fuel: Mark Warner moved, and Phil Dechert seconded, that the Board accept the bid from Irving Fuel for a capped rate of \$3.0943/gallon. Mark Warner read an email from an Irving Fuel representative stating: “[Y]our price will move when the market moves. The only thing that will not change is your mark up over rack that was quoted. So depending on what the market does, your pricing will go up or down but the markup over rack will be static.” Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

8. Unfinished Business:

(a) Health insurance/compensation for Town Clerk and Treasurer: Phil Dechert moved, and Mark Warner seconded, that the Town reimburse the two exempt employees (Town Clerk and Treasurer) as follows: they can either sign up for the Town policies and pay 50% of the premium and if they don't sign up, then the Town would pay them 50% of the premium. Michael Reese noted his disagreement with this action, noting that it differs from the Town's Personnel Policy and, accordingly, the arrangement offered to the road crew workers. Phil Dechert noted he would like the Board to consider changes to this section of the Personnel Policy at a future meeting. Following further discussion, the Board approved the motion (Phil Dechert and Mark Warner voted yes, and Michael Reese voted no).

(b) Emergency Services antenna/repeater update:

- i. Mark Warner reported the following: Fairpoint Communications does not have the equipment to get to the site due to snow cover, snowstorms and a variety of other reasons. They have sent a contract out, but it's not clear if there has been any response to it. We will probably not hear from them until after January 1, 2015, because of the storms that have gone through, extending the problems from the strike.
- ii. Phil Dechert moved, and Mark Warner seconded, that in addition to the previous \$600 the Town paid Michael Barcomb for the previous twelve months, the Town pay Mr. Barcomb an additional \$50/month until the power source is moved and is no longer on his property. Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

9. New Business:

(a) Covered Bridges Half Marathon: The Board deferred the Covered Bridges Half Marathon request to a future meeting.

(b) Hurricane Riders Snowmobile Club Request: Phil Dechert moved, and Mark Warner seconded, that the Board allow the requested use of Joe Ranger Road, subject to any conditions set by the Road Foreman. Following discussion, the Board approved the motion.

10. Budget: Auditors, Listers, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Selectboard, Municipal Office, General Expenses, Extraordinary Expenses, Town Hall and Municipal Special Projects: The Board reviewed and discussed the budget
11. Minutes of prior meetings: No action taken.
12. Public Comment: None.
13. Adjournment: Following motion and second, the Board adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 1/1/2015

Michael Reese