

Town of Pomfret

5218 Pomfret Road
North Pomfret, VT 05053

Minutes of the January 13, 2015 Special Selectboard Meeting

Present: Mark Warner (Selectboard Member), Michael Reese (Selectboard Member), Phil Dechert (Selectboard Member), Arthur Lewin, Sr. (Road Foreman), Jon Fredholm (Constable), Ron Rhodes, Betsy Rhodes, Neil Lamson, Emily Grube, Betsy Siebeck, Melanie Williams, Katie Savage, Sherman Kent and Laura Kent

1. Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.
2. Public Comment:
 - (a) Betsy Siebeck requested that a bonus be added to the budget for Treasurer, Ellen DesMeules to reflect her efforts.
3. Budget FY 2016: The Board discussed and drafted the budget for fiscal year 2016. Members of the public participated in the discussion.
4. Public Comment:
 - (a) Betsy Rhodes asked 1). if there are any plans to pursue options to share police resources with South Royalton. Mark Warner said he check on it. 2). whether there will be an informational meeting regarding the law enforcement activity by the Constable.
 - (b) Melanie Williams asked about the process to explore the costs and benefits of down-sizing the Town fire department. She suggested combining the study of sharing police resources departments with studying the sharing of fire departments.
 - (c) Neil Lamson said that having a pre-town meeting would be a good idea if the Board plans to raise the budget at a 12-15% increase or if the fire department is seeking to purchase a \$355,000 fire truck.
 - (d) Laura Kent requested clarification of the job description for an Administrative Assistant to the Board. She noted the Board could begin preparing the budget 6 to 10 months before the it is due, and that certain administrative tasks that could be accomplished by an Administrative Assistant.
 - (e) Betsy Siebeck suggested the appointment of a finance/budget committee to start the budget work early, and the Board could perform the final review.
 - (f) Betsy Rhodes asked if there was any discussion about an assistant to the Town Clerk, because it is sensible to have someone else to fill-in.
5. Adjournment: Following motion and second, the Board adjourned the meeting at 9:32pm.

Date: 1/20/2015

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Reese

Approved at February 18, 2015 Meeting