

# Town of Pomfret

5218 Pomfret Road  
North Pomfret, VT 05053

Minutes of the January 21, 2015 Regular Selectboard Meeting

Present: Mark Warner (Selectboard Member), Michael Reese (Selectboard Member), Phil Dechert (Selectboard Member), Becky Fielder (Town Clerk), Ellen DesMeules (Treasurer), Arthur Lewin, Sr. (Road Foreman), Laura Kent (Auditor & Lister), Sherman Kent, Melanie Williams, Emily Grube, Jon Fredholm, Amanda Metevier and Andrew Mann.

1. Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to Order.
2. Review of Agenda: The Board agreed to the following changes to the Agenda: 1. Move review of recent Constable bill to be considered before the Treasurer's Report; and 2. Consider appointment of Health Officer when Dr. Hugh Hermann arrives.
3. Public Comment:
  - (a) Laura Kent expressed the following concerns: 1. The expense categories described in the spreadsheet being considered by the Board differs from the Town's accounting system; and 2. Because the finalization of the budget is very late, the Auditors may encounter challenges in completing the Town Report.
4. Constable Issues:
  - (a) Mark Warner moved, and Michael Reese seconded, to accept Jon Fredholm's resignation as Constable with regret and appreciation for the time and work he has put in for the Town. Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.
  - (b) The Board postponed review of the Jon Fredholm's latest statement for services to its next regular meeting.
5. Treasurer's Report:
  - (a) Mark Warner moved, and Phil Dechert seconded, that the Board approve warrants for payment numbered 247 and 248. Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.
  - (b) The Treasurer noted receipt of a statement of unreimbursed costs by Woodstock Ambulance. She also noted her request for reimbursement from the state for the Barber Hill Road bridge work.
6. Road Foreman's Report:
  - (a) Update on activities:
    - i. Ice has accumulated on the pavement in certain locations, especially in North Pomfret. The road crew will address it when the weather warms up.
    - ii. The new plow/dump truck is expected to be ready in about 65 days, with no additional costs for addressing fuel tank adjustments.
    - iii. The Road crew has used \$61,000 worth of sand this winter.
  - (b) Mileage Certificate: The Board deferred the Road Mileage Certificate to the next regular Board meeting.
  - (c) Weight Restrictions: Phil Dechert moved, and Michael Reese seconded, that the Board authorize the Chair to sign the Vermont Agency of Transportation document that certifies the Town has no weight restrictions more stringent than the limits set by state statute. Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

- (d) Computer Program: Mark Warner reported that Rita Seto of Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission has completed updates and other improvements to the materials and timekeeping computer program.
- (e) Fire Department Tanker Truck: The Road Foreman assisted the Pomfret-Teago Fire Department when its tanker truck sheared a u-bolt on the way to the gas station. The truck was towed to Sabils, because driving it further would have risked substantial damage to the back end of the vehicle.

7. New Business:

- (a) Town Health Officer: Mark Warner moved, and Michael Reese seconded, that the Board recommend to the state the appointment of Dr. Hugh Herman as the Town Health Officer. Mark Warner noted that Dr. Hermann is a long-time resident of Pomfret and is a Vermont licensed Primary Care Physician and Clinical Professor of Medicine with the Dartmouth Medical School. He has practiced medicine in Woodstock for 57 years and has been the Health Officer of Pomfret for 55 years. His background also includes 40 years as a Regional Medical Examiner (retired) for the State of Vermont. Dr. Hermann recounted some of his past activities in Town which included a serious typhoid epidemic resulting in three deaths and seven illnesses stemming from inadequate septic systems off Bartlett Brook. Following further discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.

8. Unfinished Business:

- (a) 2016 FY Budget and items relating to Town Report:
  - i. Town Meeting Warning: Michael Reese moved, and Mark Warner seconded, that the Board approve the final draft of the Warning, subject to minor typographical and grammatical changes. Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.
  - ii. Capital Budget for Highway Equipment: Mark Warner moved, and Michael Reese seconded, that the Board accept the final draft of the Capital Budget for Highway Equipment. Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.
  - iii. 2016 FY Budget: The Board reviewed and discussed the budget with participation from members of the public. The Board deferred a final vote until the calculations of the numbers are further reviewed.

9. Public Comment:

- (a) Laura Kent requested the timeframe for completion of the Budget.

- 10. Adjournment: Following motion and second, the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting.

Dated: 1/23/2015

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Reese

Approved at February 18, 2015 Meeting