

Town of Pomfret
5218 Pomfret Road
North Pomfret, VT 05053

Draft Minutes of the April 21, 2015 Special Selectboard Meeting

Present: Phil Dechert (Selectboard Member), Michael Reese (Selectboard Member), Eric Chase (Selectboard Member), Ellen DesMeules (Treasurer), Arthur Lewin, Sr. (Road Foreman), Bob Merrill, Melanie Williams, Keith Chase, Ona Chase, Jack Peters, Pam Pickett, Scott Woodward and Kevin Rice.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Phil Dechert at 6:09pm.

1. Public Comment: None.
2. State Grant Application Documents:
 - (a) Michael Reese moved, Eric Chase seconded, that the Board approve the “Town Highway Structures Program FY 2015 Agreement# BC1637.” Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.
 - (b) Michael Reese moved, and Phil Dechert seconded, that the Board approve the completed “Annual Financial Plan – Town Highways” (Form TA-60). Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.
3. Highway Speed Study: Michael Reese moved, and Phil Dechert seconded, that the Board authorize Eric Chase to represent the Board in working with Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission (Rita Seto) on a highway speed study. Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.
4. Budget Review:
 - (a) The Board and those in attendance discussed the budget and possible revisions. Topics discussed included: prior years delinquent taxes, legal and professional fees, town hall maintenance, signs and posts (911), Treasurer and Clerk Assistants, Lister software, Selectboard administrative assistant, gross pay in Highway Department, disability insurance, salt, sand, crushed stone, chloride, parts-labor-repairs, tractor lease, garage building & grounds, paving, traffic fines, and other items.
 - (b) No final decisions were made.
5. Public Comment:
 - (a) Bob Merrill believes the budget should be approved before the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1, 2016.
 - (b) Melanie Williams encouraged the Board to find savings in the FY 2016 budget proposal, because the Town does not have surplus funds to offset taxes. She noted \$60,000 worth of overbudgeting in categories discussed this evening and many reserve accounts that could be partially funded instead. There are lots of way to cut a considerable amount of money from the proposed budget and still provide the same amount of services.
6. Following motion, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:34pm.

Dated: 4/24/2015

Respectfully Submitted by Michael Reese