

# Town of Pomfret

5218 Pomfret Road  
North Pomfret, VT 05053

Draft Minutes of the August 5, 2015 Regular Selectboard Meeting

Present: Eric Chase (Selectboard Member), Phil Dechert (Selectboard Member), Michael Reese (Selectboard Member), Arthur Lewin, Sr. (Road Foreman), Ellen DesMeules (Treasurer), John Wright, Bob Merrill, Betsy Siebeck, Scott Woodward, Melanie Williams, Sherman Kent, Keith Chase, Andy Mann, John Moore, Kevin Rice, Emily Grube, Tom Gubbins, Zak Bowley, Greg Tuthill, Chris Reilly, Ray Bushey, Laura Kent and Bob Coates.

1. Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. Public Comment: None.
3. Review of Agenda: The Board agreed by consensus to the posted agenda with the following changes: 1. Section 5. Add complaints about junkyards; and 2. Section 4.a. Remove review of July 30<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes.
4. Minutes of Prior Meetings: Eric Chase moved, and Phil Dechert seconded, to approve the draft minutes of the July 15, 2015 meeting with the following changes: Section 2. Executive Session: delete “until 7:00pm” and replace with “at 6:32pm and adjourned the executive session at 7pm. No action was taken.” Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.
5. Warrants for Payment:
  - (a) Phil Dechert moved, and Michael Reese seconded, that the Board approve the following warrants for payment:
    - i. Warrant Number 15011 totaling \$334,467.92; and
    - ii. Warrant Number 15010 totaling \$5,055.80.
  - (b) Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.
6. Road Foreman's Report:
  - (a) General Update:
    - i. Paving is completed. Tomorrow (August 6<sup>th</sup>), the road crew will install hardpack between driveways and road. After next week, they will install hardpack along road shoulders.
    - ii. Grading completed on almost one-half of Town. On south end, only remaining road is Bartlett Brook Road. Then, start on north end.
    - iii. Truck broke down with minor issue.
    - iv. Radios in two new trucks and base station will be installed tomorrow. Will have same coverage in Town as fire department.
    - v. Legal trail signs needed on Hidden Ridge and other places around Town. Will order and install more signs on legal trails around Town.
    - vi. Resident's driveway culvert along a running brook within Town right of way. Referred him to State stream management division.

- (b) Driveway Access Permit Application by Tom Dodge on Wild Apple Road: Site visit yesterday (August 4<sup>th</sup>) by Eric Chase, Phil Dechert and Road Foreman. Phil Dechert moved, and Eric Chase seconded, to approve the application by Tom Dodge for a new driveway on Wild Apple Road with the condition that the driveway slope slightly down away from the road for 20 feet and the applicant may put a culvert under the driveway if he wishes. The Board unanimously approved the motion.
  - (c) Road Foreman's Report (continued):
    - i. New Pavement: Road Foreman will inspect the recent paving project, specifically a spot near the Fire Department.
    - ii. Grading: Road Foreman indicated it takes about 8 hours to grade a mile of road. About 20-30 miles are left to grade.
    - iii. Culverts: Two culverts were dug up and repositioned because they were surfacing on Joe Ranger Road and Broad Brook Brook. Another one was damaged and replaced on Wild Apple Road.
  - (d) Claim for vehicle damage on Bartlett Brook Road: The Board received letter from the vehicle owner that includes additional information. The Board discussed Town policy on paying claims and setting precedence. Phil Dechert moved, and Michael Reese seconded, to pay the claim. There were no votes in favor of the motion.
7. Fire Truck Request for Proposal:
- (a) The Board heard from fire apparatus consultant Alan Saulsbury by speakerphone who explained his draft and answered questions from the Board. Following the end of the call, the Board, members of the fire department and members of the public discussed the proposal at length.
  - (b) Michael Reese moved, and Eric Chase seconded, that we have a Selectboard member meet with the fire department representatives and Alan Saulsbury and report back to the Board. Following further discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion.
8. Administrative Assistant Job Description: The Board deferred this issue to the next meeting.
9. Vermont Overland Bike Race:
- (a) Race organizers requested a change in the race where the start and finish of the ride would be at Suicide Six. The start would then proceed on Stage Road, to Barber Hill Road, then Cloudland Road. In email correspondence, a resident asked that the race not turn left onto Galaxy Hill Road. The Board and members of the public discussed safety and traffic concerns.
  - (b) Michael Reese moved, and Phil Dechert seconded, to approve the changes to the route proposed by organizers and that Phil Dechert will coordinate specific traffic control issues with the race organizers. The Board unanimously approved the motion.
10. Revised Pomfret Town Plan: Phil Dechert noted the Board received the revised draft Town Plan on June 8, 2015. No action was taken at that time. Phil is preparing a selectboard title to the document and will arrange to post it online.
11. Antenna/Repeater Wire and Conduit Concerns: Eric Chase noted the conduit has not been backfilled and will be contacting the landowner's property caretaker. Eric is in the process of researching whether the work was part of the electrician's scope of work.

12. Delinquent Tax Collection: Michael Reese offered to reach out to the Delinquent Tax Collector.
13. Constable Advertisement on Listserv: Michael Reese will follow up with an individual who responded to the advertisement to determine his level of interest in the position.
14. Selectboard Correspondence: The Board received an email from Kevin Rice expressing concern about the interference by the Vermont 100 race with traffic at the intersection of Wild Apple Road and Stage Road. Michael Reese will communicate with the Vermont 100 race organizers to let them know of the concerns and the need to address it next year. The Road Foreman noted the requirement for someone with a traffic control certification if traffic is stopped.
15. Next Meeting's Agenda:
  - (a) Ethics Policy;
  - (b) RFP for slope/slidebank on Pomfret Road;
  - (c) Review bids on the tractor and roadside mower; and
  - (d) Concerns over property with abandoned cars.
16. Public Comment:
  - (a) Melanie Williams asked if the Board signed a contract with the Windsor County Sheriff. It did.
  - (b) Emily Grube expressed concern about backed up water damaging roads caused by fallen trees in both Mill Brook near the slidebank on Pomfret and on Allen Hill Road.
17. Adjournment: Eric Chase moved, and Phil Dechert seconded, to adjourn the meeting, which motion was unanimously approved at 9:35pm.

Date: 8/17/2015

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Reese