

**Town of Pomfret
5218 Pomfret Road
North Pomfret, VT 05053**

Approved Minutes of the July 12, 2016 Special Selectboard Meeting

Present: Michael Reese (Selectboard Member), Sheila Hopkins (Selectboard Member), Melanie Williams (Selectboard Member), Frank Perron (Selectboard Member), Art Lewin, Road Foreman; Ellen DesMeules, Treasurer; and the following members of the public: Leah Skypeck; Matt Bouteiller; Betsy Seibeck; Darren McCullough, Phil Dechert

1. Call to Order: Michael Reese called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
2. Public Comment: None
3. Pomfret Slope Project Bids: (approx. 3 minutes into recording) Michael Reese introduced the topic of the Pomfret Slope Project Bids. The bid opening was cancelled on the advice of Chris Bump of VTRANS due to a question raised by a bidder. The bidders were notified and Chris Bump will be sending the bidders a clarification today regarding the lump sum question. Sheila Hopkins noted that the Road Foreman was not on the email and requested he be included on any future emails regarding this project. It was moved by Melanie Williams and seconded by Frank Perron that the Slope Project bids be opened at the August 3rd, 2016 regularly scheduled meeting. This was unanimously passed by the board.
4. Caper Street Intersection: (approx. 6 minutes into recording) There was some discussion about information Jonathan Williams had shared with the board from his search for a prior study of the Caper Street and Pomfret Road intersection referred to by Neil Lamson. Neither the State nor TRORC could locate such a prior study. Rita Seto of TRORC had suggested to Jonathan that she could request VTrans perform a Road Safety Audit of that area for the town. Sheila Hopkins moved and Frank Perron seconded that the Board authorize Jonathan Williams to contact Rita Seto to let her know the Board would like VTrans to perform a Road Safety Audit of the Pomfret Road and Caper Street intersection area. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Road Hazard Mitigation at 3862 Pomfret Road: (approx. 10 mins into recording) Michael Reese introduced the topic of Road Hazard Mitigation at 3862 Pomfret Road. Leah Skypeck; Matt Bouteiller, owners of the property at 3862 Pomfret Road, were in attendance for the discussion. Time frames were discussed in relation to the paving of the section of road between Bartlett Brook and Johnson roads. Two options discussed for addressing the drainage issue were a drainage ditch or a stone retaining wall. There was also discussion as to whether there are other options. Questions about the source of the runoff and the history of any prior mitigation efforts were raised. There was some consensus that the runoff is largely due to surface water. Darren McCullough, a stone mason the property owners have used, discussed with the board, mechanics of stone wall construction with regards to proper and long-term drainage. There were discussions regarding the financial aspects of different options and feelings about what level of responsibility for the current situation is born by the town. Melanie Williams moved and Sheila Hopkins seconded, to authorize Frank Perron to gather information regarding profile survey and various costs involved in options considered and report back to the board. The motion passed unanimously. Sheila Hopkins suggested that in moving the stone out

of the way that is currently there, to allow prep and road paving, that the Road Foreman move the stone back to the town garage.

6. Tax Rate: (approx. one hour and eight minutes into recording) Michael Reese introduced the topic of setting the 2016 Tax Rate. The Treasurer briefed the board and answered questions regarding the process of calculating this year's tax rate. Michael Reese moved and Sheila Hopkins seconded that the board vote to set the tax rate for local agreement of .0004 to raise \$998.99 and a town tax rate of .3852 to raise \$961,907.11. This tax rate is assessed per \$100.00 of assessed valuation. The motion passed unanimously. The total tax rate, including the school tax, for non-resident is 1.8415 and the total tax rate, including the school tax for residents is 1.8315.

6. Closing Public Comments and Adjournment: There were no public comments. Sheila Hopkins moved, and Frank Perron seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Date: 07-12-16

Respectfully Submitted,

Melanie Williams, Clerk

Approved by the Board at 7/20/16 Meeting