

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

Approved Minutes of the August 3, 2016 Regular Selectboard Meeting

Present: Michael Reese (Selectboard Member), Sheila Hopkins (Selectboard Member), Frank Perron (Selectboard Member), Melanie Williams (Selectboard Member), Emily Grube (Selectboard Member), Art Lewin, Sr. (Road Foreman), Ellen DesMeules (Treasurer), Jonathan Williams (Assistant to the Selectboard), John Moore, Alan Graham, Andy Mann, Joanna Long, Nancy Randall, Norwood Long, and Leah Skypeck

1. Call to Order: Michael Reese called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.
2. Executive Session:
 - (a) Michael Reese moved, and Sheila Hopkins seconded, that the board finds premature public knowledge of communications with the town zoning attorney relating to the town's response to an appeal by an applicant in the Chipper's case would place the Selectboard at substantial disadvantage. There was discussion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.
 - (b) Sheila Hopkins moved, and Frank Perron seconded that the board enter into executive session for the purposes of confidential attorney-client communication regarding the Chippers appeal case pursuant to 1 VSA § 313(a)(1)(F). The Board unanimously approved the motion. Jonathan Williams was present for part of the executive session.
 - (c) Sheila Hopkins moved, and Melanie Williams seconded, that the Board exit Executive session. The Board unanimously approved the motion at 7:40pm. The Board has hired an attorney to represent the town of Pomfret in this matter.
3. Public Comment: (audio 0:02) a member of the public made a comment related to tax parcel mapping support, and there was discussion.
4. Review of Agenda: (audio 0:03) The Board approved the agenda as written.
5. Consideration of Appointment of New Selectboard Member: (audio 0:04) Michael Reese briefed the Board on this item, and there was discussion. Sheila Hopkins moved, and Melanie Williams seconded, to nominate Emily Grube as a member of the Pomfret Selectboard. There was discussion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. Emily Grube then swore the Vermont Oath of Allegiance and was confirmed as a member of the Pomfret Selectboard.
6. Review, Discussion, and Approval of Minutes (7/20): (audio 07:25) Melanie Williams moved, and Sheila Hopkins seconded, to approve the 7/20/16 minutes. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

7. Treasurer's Report: (audio 08:00)
 - (a) Warrants for Payment (1) Accounts Payable (2) Payroll: Michael Reese moved, and Sheila Hopkins seconded, to approve the warrants (#16008, #16010) as read. There was discussion, and the Board unanimously approved the motion.

8. Road Foreman's Report: (audio 13:00)
 - (a) General Update: The Road Foreman briefed the Selectboard on ditching and the recent windstorm cleanup efforts. Trees/branches are still being cleaned up after the storm. Roadside mowing, and ditching is continuing. Culvert replacement at Sugarbush to occur 8/4/16. The Road Foreman is pleased with the recent paving efforts in town; they came in under bid. The Selectboard asked questions concerning hardpack, and there was discussion.

 - (b) River Roads/Better Roads Culvert: The Road Foreman and the Assistant to the Selectboard briefed the board on this item, and there was discussion. The culvert size estimates has been revised, and work can begin.

9. Salt Purchase Decision: (audio 19:05) Michael Reese and Melanie Williams briefed the Board on this item, and the bid values were read aloud again, and discussed. The Assistant to the Selectboard shall contact the bidders and ask for an extension, and have questions answered.

10. 3862 Pomfret Road Hazard Mitigation: (audio 32:41) Michael Reese and Frank Perron briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion by the Selectboard and the public.

Frank Perron moved, and Sheila Hopkins seconded, that the road crew shall do all the necessary excavating and provide materials to provide a ditch and the foundation for a subsequent stone wall at 3862 Pomfret Road. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Frank Perron moved, and Sheila Hopkins seconded, 'that the town provide up to \$3,000 to a quarry of the homeowner's choice for stone, that the town will provide the stone for the backfill, and that the landowners will agree to provide the labor and have the stone put up, and at the end the town bring back some of the fill to be used to landscape the wall.' Michael Reese then offered a friendly amendment: '...and that the Road Foreman is to coordinate his work with the stone builder and that the Road Foreman monitor the work such that it does not interfere with drainage or the right of way generally.' The amendment to the motion was approved unanimously. There was discussion by the Selectboard and the public. The Board then unanimously approved the full, amended motion.

11. Road Safety Audit: (audio 1:06:00) The Assistant to the Selectboard and the Road Foreman briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion. The speed limit petition shall be put on the next Regular Selectboard meeting's agenda.

12. Excess Funds Balance Discussion: (audio 1:10:00) Michael Reese and the Treasurer briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion by the Selectboard and the public.
13. USDA Invitation to Comment Letter: (audio 1:17:00) Michael Reese briefed this Board on this item and there was discussion by the Selectboard.
14. Emergency Access to Town Offices: (audio memory full) Melanie Williams briefed the Board on this item, and there was discussion.
15. Selectboard Correspondence: Michael Reese received a bill of \$904 for the Woodstock dispatch fee services.
16. Next Meeting's Agenda: 'Stage Road Speed Limit Petition,' 'Tax Parcel Mapping,' and 'Salt Purchase Decision' were items placed on the agenda for the next Regular Selectboard meeting.
17. Closing Public Comments, Review of Assignments, & Adjournment: Frank Perron moved, and Melanie Williams seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:16pm. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Date: 08/05/2016

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Williams, Assistant

Approved by the Board at 08/17/16 Meeting