

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

Draft Minutes of the December 21, 2016 Regular Selectboard Meeting

Present: Michael Reese (Selectboard Member), Sheila Hopkins (Selectboard Member), Frank Perron (Selectboard Member), Emily Grube (Selectboard Member), Art Lewin, Sr. (Road Foreman), Ellen DesMeules (Treasurer), Jonathan Williams (Assistant to the Selectboard), Ona Chase (Constable), Karen Hewitt (Collector of Delinquent Taxes), Neil Lamson, John McClain, Seth Shaw, Seth Westbrook

1. Call to Order: Michael Reese called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.
2. Public Comment: (audio 0:41) The Constable made a public comment related to her impending absence for the next three months. Another comment was made related to the Cemetery Commission's elected officials.
3. Review of Agenda: No changes were made to the agenda as published.
4. Stump Dump Log Landing Proposal Presentation: (audio 4:15) John McClain of New England Forestry Foundation spoke to the Board concerning this item and there was discussion and questions generated by the Selectboard and the public. A map of the area under discussion was reviewed.
5. Snowplowing of Prosper Valley School: (audio 37:27) Michael Reese, Seth Shaw, and Seth Westbrook briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion by the Board and the public. Contracts and budgets were discussed. The School Board Association and the Bridgewater Selectboard shall be contacted.
6. Review, Discussion, and Approval of Minutes (12/06, 12/07, 12/13): (audio 57:10) Sheila Hopkins moved, and Frank Perron seconded, to approve the December 6th, 7th, and 13th, 2016 Regular and Special Selectboard meeting minutes as written and prepared. The Board unanimously approved the motion.
7. Treasurer's Report: (audio 57:53)
 - (a) Warrants for Payment (1) Accounts Payable (2) Payroll: Michael Reese moved, and Sheila Hopkins seconded, to approve the warrants (#16041, #16042, and #16043) as read. There was discussion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. There was discussion concerning temperature monitor systems for municipal buildings by the Board, the Treasurer, and the public. Emily Grube moved, and Frank Perron seconded to have the town purchase a low temperature alarm (add-on to existing fire system) for the town offices

building. There was discussion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. There was discussion concerning the Irving Energy Propane tank mix-up.

8. Delinquent Tax Collector's Report: (audio 1:11:48) The Delinquent Tax Collector Karen Hewitt briefed the Board on ongoing collection efforts, and there was discussion. Attorney fees as well as the tax sale was discussed. Michael Reese moved, and Sheila Hopkins seconded, to authorize Karen Hewitt the Delinquent Tax Collector to set the minimum bid price with guidance from Ellen DesMeules the Treasurer with regard to what next year's tax payment is going to be. There was discussion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.
9. Road Foreman's Report: (audio 1:20:01)
 - (a) General Update: The Road Foreman briefed the Board on the status of Pomfret's roads. There have been breakdowns with two of the town trucks (hydraulic hoses and fan clutch). The new driver is getting used to all the roads and is doing a good job. Winter work continues: minor repair to sand screen, chains put on grader. Six loads of salt delivered so far. Mid to late January sand will be hauled in at current use estimates. Act 64 Storm water run-off information was discussed by the Road Foreman and the Selectboard. There was discussion about Bridgewater's two loads of sand. The Road Foreman mentioned complaints about residents plowing snow across and/or into public roadways. The issue of the sanding budget was discussed by the public, the Selectboard, and the Road Foreman.
10. Traffic Ordinance Rewrite: (audio 1:29:53) Michael Reese briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion. Emily Grube moved, and Sheila Hopkins seconded to adopt the Traffic Ordinance rewrite as written. The Board unanimously approved the motion. The document was signed by the Selectboard and shall be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation, published on the town website and posted around town.
11. Road Closure Statute Requirements: (audio 1:32:00) The Assistant to the Selectboard briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion by the Board, the Road Foreman, and the public. Emily Grube moved, and Michael Reese seconded, that the town purchase and display six signs indicating the roads under discussion are not traversable in the winter. There was discussion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.
12. Selectboard Report: (audio 1:45:00) Michael Reese briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion. Sheila Hopkins moved, and Frank Perron seconded, to accept the Selectboard Report as written. The Board unanimously approved the motion.
13. Budget FY18: There was discussion by the Selectboard concerning the snowplowing budget and the surplus.

14. Budget Narrative: The budget narrative was briefly discussed. This item shall be placed on the next Regular Selectboard meeting agenda.
15. Fire Department Insurance: (audio 1:47:00) The Assistant to the Selectboard updated the Board on this item and there was discussion.
16. Selectboard Correspondence: (audio 1:48:46) The Selectboard received correspondence from TRORC.
17. Next Meeting's Agenda: (audio 1:49:00) 'Budget Narrative', 'Budget FY18' were items scheduled for the first January Regular Selectboard meeting. The Budget was discussed by the Selectboard.
18. Closing Public Comments, Review of Assignments: There was discussion concerning the plowing/sanding of the municipal offices parking area/grounds. There was discussion by the Board concerning soliciting public comment on the budget. The Selectboard Assistant shall remind Frank Perron to send him budget documents to post on the town website.
19. Adjournment: Sheila Hopkins moved, and Michael Reese seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Date: 12/22/2016

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Williams, Assistant

Approved by the Board at _____ Meeting