

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

Draft Minutes of the March 1, 2017 Regular Selectboard Meeting

Present: Sheila Hopkins (Selectboard Member), Frank Perron (Selectboard Member), Melanie Williams, (Selectboard Member), Emily Grube (Selectboard Member), Michael Reese (Selectboard Member), Ellen DesMeules (Treasurer), Art Lewin, Sr. (Road Foreman), Jonathan Williams (Assistant to the Selectboard), Karen Hewitt (Collector of Delinquent Taxes), Norm Buchanan, Neil Lamson, Joanna Long, Norwood Long, and Kevin Geiger

1. Call to Order: Michael Reese called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. Public Comment: (audio 0:34) There was a question regarding the scheduled 03/02/17 Special Selectboard meeting.
3. Review of Agenda: (audio 1:50) Neil Lamson noted that he had several questions for the Selectboard; these questions were incorporated under agenda item 5C: Town Meeting Warning/Surplus Funds – Rainy Day Reserve Articles Review.
4. Review, Discussion, and Approval of Minutes (2/1/17, 2/15/17, 2/21/17): (audio 2:48) Sheila Hopkins moved, and Melanie Williams seconded, to approve the 2/1/17 Regular Selectboard meeting minutes as written and prepared. The Board unanimously approved the motion with Michael Reese abstaining. Sheila Hopkins moved, and Melanie Williams seconded to approve the 2/15/17 Regular Selectboard meeting minutes, and the 2/21/17 Special Selectboard meeting minutes as written and prepared. The Board unanimously approved the motion.
5. Treasurer's Report: (audio 3:48)
 - (a) Warrants for Payment (1) Accounts Payable (2) Payroll: Frank Perron moved, and Sheila Hopkins seconded, to approve the warrants #16060, #16061 and #16062. There was discussion. The motion was withdrawn. Frank Perron moved, and Sheila Hopkins seconded, to approve check warrants #16060 and #16061. The Board unanimously approved the motion. There was discussion by the Selectboard and the Treasurer. Frank Perron moved, and Michael Reese seconded, to approve motion #16062 which outlines the process of delinquent tax collection to the Board. The Board unanimously approved the motion.
6. Delinquent Tax Collector's Report: (audio 09:04) The Delinquent Tax Collector briefed the Board on the day's tax sale, ongoing delinquent tax collection efforts and there was discussion by the Selectboard. No bidders attended the tax sale and the town of Pomfret purchased the two properties, those being a portion of the land and premises as conveyed to James A. Salmon and Lynne T. Salmon as

located in Book 31 at page 153-154 by the Warranty Deed of Marie V. Pratte, dated June 9th, 1972 and recorded June 12th 1972 in Book 30, at page 499 of the Pomfret Land Records; and the land and premises described in the Vermont Quit Claim Deed from James F. Dunn to Joan M. Dunn, dated March 31, 1993 and recorded in Book 42 Page 241-242 and as described in the Warranty Deed of Lorraine Baxter, dated June 19, 1970 and recorded at Book 30, Page 188-189 of the Land Records of the Town of Pomfret. The Salmon parcel was purchased for the minimum bid by the town at \$10,212.55. The Dunn Parcel was purchased for the minimum bid by the town at \$20,933.67 Updating the properties list was discussed. Comments were provided by the public and there was further discussion by the Board.

7. Road Foreman's Report: (audio 16:20)

- (a) General Update: The Road crew has finished winging snow with the truck. Truck #1 and #2 are still waiting to get fixed. Truck #3 had a 'thrust screw' replaced. Roads have been posted. Some of the roads have been smoothed. Some road signs were fixed. Individuals tried to steal some road signs in town but were unsuccessful. Sand is still being hauled in and the salt shed is full. Snow banks are disappearing on the spring roads. Road closures were discussed by the Selectboard and the Road Foreman - Two class three roads and one class four road are under consideration. Sheila Hopkins moved, and Michael Reese seconded, to approve the Road Foreman closing the discussed spring roads at a time and manner of his choosing, at his discretion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. The idea of a right of way policy was discussed.
- (b) Crack Sealing RFB Approval: Michael Reese and the Assistant to the Selectboard briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion with the Road Foreman. Michael Reese moved, and Sheila Hopkins seconded to approve the Request for Bids document with an issuance date of March 2nd and the edits Melanie Williams proposed incorporated. The Board unanimously approved the motion.
- (c) Better Roads Grant Application(s): Emily Grube briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion. A slide bank on River Road as a possible Category C grant application project was discussed. River Road reclassification was discussed. A culvert extension on Allen Hill was also considered as category D grant application project. The Assistant to the Selectboard shall generate two draft Better Roads grant applications concerning the aforementioned projects with the assistance of the Road Foreman, with potential supporting documentation to be obtained from TRORC and ANR, to be approved at the next Regular Selectboard meeting. Paving projects were discussed.
- (d) VTrans Highway Grant Application(s): The Road Foreman briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion. Potential paving projects were

discussed.

- (e) Certification of Compliance/TA 60 Financial Plan: Michael Reese briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion. This item shall be added to the next Regular Selectboard meeting agenda.
8. Town Meeting Warning/Surplus Funds – Rainy Day Reserve Articles Review: (audio 52:40) Michael Reese briefed the Board on this item and there was discussion. Kevin Geiger addressed the Board on this subject and there was further discussion by the Selectboard, the Treasurer, and the public. Components of the Town Meeting Warning were reviewed article by article. Neil Lamson posed multiple questions to the Selectboard which were discussed. The Special meeting scheduled for tomorrow March 2nd, 2017 was canceled due to a quorum of Selectboard members not planning on attending the meeting with the accountant. Town meeting logistics and the requirements of the Selectboard were discussed.
9. Selectboard Correspondence: Received correspondence was briefly reviewed. Additional Selectboard business was discussed.
10. Next Meeting's Agenda: 'The Better Roads Grant', 'Certification of Compliance/TA 60 Financial Plan', 'VTrans Highway Grant Application(s)', and the 'Pomfret Selectboard Organizational Meeting' were items scheduled for the second March Regular Selectboard meeting. 'Schedule Fire Department Contract Work Session' was also added to the second March Regular Selectboard meeting agenda.
11. Closing Public Comments, Review of Assignments: There was no public comment.
12. Adjournment: Melanie Williams moved, and Sheila Hopkins seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:50pm. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Date: 03/03/2017

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Williams, Assistant

Approved by the Board at _____ Meeting