

February 19, 2020

## Pomfret Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Present: Emily Grube, Steve Chamberlin, Scott Woodward, John Peters, Frank Perron

Public: Bill Emmons (Planning), Nelson Lamson (Planning), Carol Lamson, Neil Lamson (Lister), Karen Hewitt Osnoe (ZBA), Kevin Geiger (Moderator), Cy Benoit (Planning& Trees), Seth Westbrook, Ellen DesMeules (Treasurer), Betsy Rhodes (Library), Ben Brickner (Zoning& Audit), Nancy Matthews (Auditor), Betsy Siebeck, Christine Cole, Tim Reiter (Suicide 6), George Calver (Standard), Kevin Worden, Cynthia Hewitt (SB Assistant)

1. Emily called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm
2. Public Comment (none)
3. Review of Agenda: Steve moved and John seconded that Kevin Geiger's Pre-Town Meeting item was moved to the top of the list. Motion carried
4. Items for Discussion or Vote:
  - a. Pre-Town Meeting – Moderator Geiger talked through the Warning. Mr. Emmons asked for clarification of Article 9 -- Regional Energy Coordinator Position. Mr. Geiger and the Board explained this was a proposal introduced by Nick Clark, SB chair from Thetford. Discussion ensued. This is not in the budget, but presented as a separate article for the voters to decide; Scott posted the job description [http://pomfretvt.us/files/1115/8215/6133/Regional\\_Energy\\_Coordinator\\_-\\_Draft\\_6.2-1.pdf](http://pomfretvt.us/files/1115/8215/6133/Regional_Energy_Coordinator_-_Draft_6.2-1.pdf) Mr. Clark was asked for updated information which has not been provided.
  - b. Road Forman Report:
    1. Truck Repairs and Highway Expenses: Truck #2 recently underwent routine maintenance and it was determined it had some serious issues which need addressing; However, none of them pose a safety issue, nor are maintenance related. Jim has decided, with consent of the crew, to continue running Truck #2 with minimal use of 4WD, which should eliminate the urgency of the repairs. Additionally, Truck #3 is going for service and Jim feels it has some serious issues as well, due to problematic power steering. It remains to be seen if this will require an expensive repair. Emily wanted the Board to be aware of these potential expenses in advance.
    2. Howe Hill Bids – 3 bids were submitted; Jon Harrington will create a spread sheet comparing these and a joint meeting will be held with Sharon next week for determination of an award. 02/27 at 6:30 pm Sharon Town Offices.
    3. Jim and Cy Benoit have been riding around town marking high priority trees for removal. Cy has a basic scope of work re: chipping, firewood, traffic etc., which he will submit for bids. Scott moved and Frank seconded to authorize Cy to petition 2-3 vendors for estimates and to then send the estimates to Emily for Board consideration. Unanimous vote.
    4. Laboury Road RFP. Since both Chris Bump and Scot Jenson are interested in this project Emily suggested they be contacted for possible engineering input prior to issuing an RFP.

5. Sill repair, Town Garage. Emily continues to contact both carpenters and painting contractors for bids on garage repairs.
- c. Teago Store Renovations. Kevin Worden, the engineer for the Teago Store renovations presented his plan. The main concerns are with the highway ROW, especially on Pomfret Road and Stage Road, curbing, handicapped access, and parking. Frank also raised the issue of having an ice cream window. The new plan will increase “seating” capacity from 6 to 15. They have eliminated a bed and bathroom from upstairs to conform with the sewage requirements for the State. It was decided a site visit would be necessary. Emily, Frank, Jim, Steve, and John will perform the visit on Thursday; a special meeting is convened for further discussion. Tuesday Feb 25 Pomfret Town offices 6:00PM
- d. 2020 Census: Elvira Otero has sought permission to post road side signs for soliciting census workers. The Board decided she could post 6 signs and must be responsible for collecting them as well.
- e. Schedule Joint meeting with Sharon Selectboard for Howe Hill Bids. Thurs, 02/27/2020 at 6:30 pm.
- f. Zoning By-law Progress: Mr. Emmons read the letter to the Select Board regarding Industrial vs. Heavy industrial matters; and sound ordinance. The draft Zoning By-law does provide these definitions and distinctions, consistent with the Regional Plan prepared by the Two Rivers- Ottaquechee Regional Commission. The Planning Commission believes these definitions and distinctions in the draft by-law represent an improvement upon the 2016 Town Plan, as they carefully circumscribe the scope of “Light Industrial” in a manner that makes these uses appropriate for consideration in the Rural District. Moreover, as with “Light Industrial” uses in the Village District, these uses, in the Rural District, are subject to the general standards for all land development in Section 4.1, general conditional use standards in Section 4.2, special standards in *Section 4.5*, and ZBA review. After much discussion, John moved and Frank seconded Planning Commission’s recommendation to ‘Prohibit Heavy Industrial Use’ in the Rural District.” Passed—4/1. Regarding sound ordinance, John moved and Steve seconded there be no sound ordinance; unanimous vote.
- g. Outline of necessary Post-Town Meeting actions. Scott prepared this list and posted to Sharepoint.
- h. Emily moved and Scott seconded the following Warrants for payment. Unanimous
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|-------|-------------|------------------|
| 19083 | \$34,257.87 | accounts payable |
| 19082 | 6,730.79    | payroll          |
| 19081 | 1,063.25    | accounts payable |
- i. Events in Town with inadequate parking; Emily has received two complaints regarding parking at private functions which nearly cause the roads to close. Further discussion is necessary.
- j. Documenting personnel decisions regarding employee performance reviews. Emily stated she had completed, and had signed by employee, the standard form. Though all board members were issued the same form, no others were forthcoming. Scott has prepared a letter. Second issue needs to be further documented.

k. Reimbursement of work provided at the time of 2017 Flood/FEMA payments. This is a troubling situation. Scott moved and John seconded payment of invoice. Vote was 3 yes, 1 no, 1 abstained. Motion carried; invoice will be paid.

5. Meeting wrap up

a. No correspondence

b. Review of Assignments – Town meeting; arrive at 8 to set up chairs. John and Scott will set up sound system. Norm will turn on the water.

6. Agenda items for next meeting: Approve 02/05/2020 minutes, other items to be determined.

7. Adjournment 9:50 PM