

Town of Pomfret Select Board
Approved Meeting Minutes
10/19/2022

Present: Emily Grube, John Peters, Benjamin Brickner, Steve Chamberlin, Jon Harrington

Public: Pamela Pickett, Ned Crowley, Cathy Peters, John Morley, Kerry Hermann, Jamie Ziobro, Annie Abbott, Doug Abbott, Gerry Fields, John Moore, Alan Graham, Kris Graham, Stephen Oatway, Nina Hunnewell, Andrew Oatway, Patrick Potter, Bob Haydock, Tom Gubbins, Keith Chase, Michael Doten, “Chris”, “groups@wellspringworship.org”, “Samsung SM-5901U”

1. Emily called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm
2. Public Comment – Ona presented the Cemetery Commission’s budget request.
3. Agenda Review – Add salt and ClearLane purchases to public agenda; add Pomfret Associates and Eydt Estate Driveway Access to Executive Session, Steve moved and Ben seconded approval of these changes. Unanimous.
4. Road Foreman’s Report – The Road Crew continues with grading and blowing leaves. Jim has had opportunities to purchase Ford F550 truck, but no F600. The board leaves the decision up to Jim. The state has no salt contract yet. Steve moved and John seconded that Jim accept the quotations for 200 tons of white sand and 700 tons of ClearLane. Unanimous. The Wild Apple Road culvert replacement will be finished this week. Residents requested signs posted on both ends of the road to avoid needing to turn around at the work site and potentially having to backtrack a significant distance. A contractor on Webster Hill Road asked permission to bury power lines under the town highway. Jim will direct the owner to the town’s new right-of-way crossing permit application. Andy Mann recently made improvements to his shared driveway located in the highway right-of-way. After feedback from other users of the driveway, Andy would like to make additional changes. John moved and Steve seconded that Mr. Mann be permitted to (1) remove the existing wood posts and rock at the intersection of Dinsmoor Road and Bartlett Brook Road, and (2) replace the existing grass with 3” stone at the existing grade; and that the foregoing when completed be subject to approval by the Road Foreman. Unanimous.
 - a. Fences in the Right-of-Way – Jim reports many instances of fences placed in the town right-of-way. He would like the town to adopt a policy against such fences to protect the town from liability should fences be damaged during routine roadway maintenance and/or wintertime snow removal. Cathy Peters pointed out this is also a safety issue for pedestrians and cyclists who in some locations cannot move off the traveled lane because a fence is in the way. Emily will post a notice on the list serve.
 - b. Wintertime Plowing of the Prosper Valley School – The town cannot commit to plowing the school property early enough in the school day. It was also noted that the school no longer belongs to the town but rather was transferred to the union school district several years ago.
 - c. Sleepy Hollow Traffic – The sheriff reported that traffic appeared to flow more smoothly with the one-way traffic pattern. However, he still needed to divert cars attempting to drive against the flow. Mike Doten also felt things were substantially

improved. He suggested that large vehicles such as campers and buses be prohibited entirely. Residents of Barber Hill Road noted increased dust caused by the extra traffic and asked that the town avoid re-grading the gravel road immediately before foliage season in future years. Mike has been in touch with Woodstock Economic Development Commission and Google Maps to deemphasize or delist Sleepy Hollow as a tourist attraction. Emily suggested that the board should consider closing the road to all but local traffic next year and seeing if a local business such as the Woodstock Inn might run a paid bus service to the location instead.

- d. Eydt Estate Driveway Access – Tom Gubbins would like the board to consider approving the new residential driveway at the existing gravel access location even though it is steeper than allowed; requiring the driveway to switch back would cover more of his land. Andrew Oatway noted there is a trail easement in favor of his adjacent parcel and asked the board to be guided accordingly.
 - e. TH 24 Relocation – the record file for this project has been located, however, a final survey was never recorded. As a result, the relocation process needs to start over. Emily feels the town should have the survey work revised to ensure a sufficient portion of the old right-of-way is retained to allow space for town vehicles to turn around. Jim will accompany the surveyor for this purpose. Jon will follow up with potential surveyors to begin work.
 - f. Highway Ordinance – postponed to next meeting.
5. Items for Discussion or Vote
- a. Bogburn Race – Bob Haydock attended with plans for the Bogburn Race scheduled on January 7, 2023. He presented plans for parking, to keep automobiles off of town roads, parking attendants, and no parking signs on town roads. Steve moved and Ben seconded approval with conditions as discussed. Unanimous.
 - b. Zoning Violations/Penalties – Karen will send notices of violation to the Broad Brook and Caper Street property owners. Further discussion postponed to next meeting.
 - c. ARPA Funding – Emily asked for updates on the audio/visual set up and handicapped access to town offices. John will look into hiring an electrician.
 - d. Wolf Tree Catering Permit – Ben moved and John seconded approval of this permit. Unanimous.
 - e. Hazard Mitigation Plan – Ben circulated a spread sheet comparing the vendors who had bid on this project. Jon moved and John seconded the choice of Two Rivers, who were involved in the last plan. Unanimous.
 - f. Town Plan Transportation Chapter Update – Postponed to next meeting.
 - g. Budget Scheduling – Emily would like to complete the FY 2024 municipal and highway budget by early January to enable the Auditors to print the town report in a timely fashion. Department budgets will be requested by no later than December 1. The following is tentatively scheduled: 11/09 – Highway Budget; 11/16 Municipal Budget.
 - h. Warrants – Steve moved and John seconded approval of the following warrants. Unanimous.

23035	Payroll	9,999.99
23037	A/P	\$26,926.89

- i. Approval of 10/05/2022 Minutes – Ben moved and John seconded approval of the 10/05/2022 minutes with minor changes to the Wild Apple Road discussion. Unanimous.
6. Executive and Deliberative Session.
 - a. Ben moved and John seconded that the board enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(1)(F) to discuss confidential attorney-client communication, and deliberative session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. 312(e) to discuss deliberations in connection with a quasi-judicial proceeding. Unanimous. The board entered executive and deliberative session at 9:38 pm.
 - b. The board exited executive and deliberative session at 10:44 pm, and no decisions were made therein.
7. Eydt Estate Driveway Access – Ben moved and John seconded that the application by the Eydt Estate be denied because it does not promote the safety of the traveling public as required by 19 V.S.A. 1111(b). Unanimous. The applicant will be encouraged to submit a new application at the existing gravel access location.
8. Meeting wrap up
 - a. Correspondence – None.
 - b. Assignments – Emily contact Bob Crean regarding TPVS plowing, and Neil to prepare spreadsheets for budget planning. Jim to accept the salt and ClearLane contracts with Cargill. Ben to notify the LHMP RFP bidders and follow up with Andrew Oatway regarding the trail easement.
 - c. Agenda for Next Meeting – Highway Ordinance update, Town Plan Transportation Chapter, Zoning Violations Penalties, TH 24 Relocation
9. Adjournment Steve moved and John seconded adjournment at 10:46 pm. Unanimous.