

**Town of Pomfret  
Selectboard Meeting Agenda  
Town Offices  
5218 Pomfret Road, No. Pomfret 05053  
December 7, 2022, 7:00 pm**

*Zoom instructions below*

Business Items	
1. Executive Session (Attorney-Client Communications)	6:00 pm
2. Public Session – Call to Order	7:00 pm
3. Public Comment	
4. Agenda Review	
5. Road Foreman’s Report & Highway Items a. New F550 Truck Purchase	
6. Items for Discussion or Vote a. Ryan Palmer, Windsor County Sheriff-elect b. Zoning Violations c. Delinquent Tax Account Status d. LHMP Review Committee Appointment e. Town Hall Electrical Renovations f. Dog Ordinance Complaint g. Ordinance Enforcement h. FY 2024 Municipal and Highway Budgets i. Warrants j. Approve 11/16 & 11/29 Minutes	
7. Meeting Wrap Up a. Correspondence b. Review of Assignments c. Agenda for Next Meeting	
8. Adjournment	
<i>Time frames are approximate. Members of the public wishing to attend for specific business items are encouraged to arrive before the time indicated</i>	

- Join Zoom Meeting via Computer or Smartphone  
Click <https://zoom.us/j/95395079923?pwd=ZjBEd3ZuZWgvWmx2MotpOE8zbjg2dz09> to start or join a scheduled Zoom meeting
- Join Zoom Meeting via Mobile Phone +19292056099,,95395079923#,,#306922#
- Join Zoom Meeting via Landline or Mobile Phone Dial +1 301 715 8592, followed by the Meeting ID: 953 9507 9923 and Password: 306922

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██████████'s barking dogs

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**From:** Ellen D <██████████>  
**Date:** November 14, 2022 at 5:07:16 PM EST  
**To:** [steve.chamberlin@pomfretvt.us](mailto:steve.chamberlin@pomfretvt.us), [jon.harrington@pomfretvt.us](mailto:jon.harrington@pomfretvt.us), [john.peters@pomfretvt.us](mailto:john.peters@pomfretvt.us)  
**Subject:** ██████████'s barking dog

Dear Pomfret Selectboard, I regret to send this letter, but I have reached my limit.

This afternoon I went up the Pomfret Road about 2 or 3 telephone poles from my house to pick up trash. The entire time I was out the dogs at ██████████'s home barked at me. It was the last straw. For the past 2 years these 2 dogs have barked at me and my husband every time we are in the front yard to work on the lawn or to pick up the mail. Although our garage faces the back field, the dogs bark as soon as they hear the garage doors open; there need not be anyone in sight. They bark daily at Charlie as he delivers the mail. They bark at every passing bicycle, and at every person out for a walk or run, whether with or without an accompanying dog. I have heard them bark at 10 at night, and 6 am. When I have gone for walks up Galaxy Hill I have heard them bark until I am past the Neustadt's house.

Upon my return they often start barking when I reach our property line with the former Adelson property. In the past 2 years I have never once heard the neighbor speak to the dogs or make even the slightest effort to correct their barking. I believe the Pomfret dog ordinance considers peace and quiet a resident's right, especially with regard to ill-trained dogs that bark. I would respectfully ask that the town officially notify ██████████ of this provision of the ordinance, noting that a complaint has been filed in protest of the daily barking of her dogs.

Sincerely, Ellen DesMeules, ██████████

Ellen DesMeules  
██████████

TOWN OF POMFRET SELECTBOARD  
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
11/16/2022

Present: Emily Grube, Steve Chamberlin, John Peters, Benjamin Brickner, Jon Harrington  
(arrived at 7:45 PM)

Public: John Moore (Planning Commission), Nancy Matthews (Auditor), Neil Lamson (Lister),  
Andy Mann, Cathy Emmons, Bill Emmons (Planning Commission), Jacob Astbury, Scott Pearce,  
Jack Pearsons, Cathy Peters, Cynthia Hewitt (Selectboard Assistant)

1. Emily called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm
2. No public comment.
3. Review of Agenda – Emily moved and Steve seconded add Audio/Visual update, Lister correction, Road Foreman stipend issue. Unanimous.
4. Road Foreman’s Report
  - a. Marson Driveway Permit – Jimmy, Emily, Ben and Steve attended a site visit on Tuesday; we are awaiting additional information from Gurney Brothers regarding drainage work that may be needed outside the applicant’s easement area.
  - b. Highway ordinance – after discussion, Ben moved and John seconded the ordinance be adopted with changes discussed during the meeting. Unanimous. Ben will prepare a legal notice of amendment for publication in next week’s *Standard*.
  - c. Dinsmore Road Driveway Modification – Andy Mann reports that Hillary and Alison are in agreement on a proposed plan. The Fire Department did a site visit and reported that the only vehicle able to make the existing turn (without turning around beyond the driveway to approach from the other direction) is the new mini pumper. The board previously delegated to Jim the authority to review and approve the driveway modifications.
  - d. The town will reimburse the Road Forman’s use of his personal vehicle on a mileage basis; Jimmy will begin logging and reporting his miles for this purpose.
5. Items for Discussion or Vote
  - a. Budget Preparation – Neil led the Board through a line-by-line review of the budget; adjustments were made. Ellen and Becky will prepare a budget proposal for the municipal offices; the Fire Department and Library budgets are due by December 1. To be continued . . .
  - b. Warrants

23043	\$328,495.15	Pike Industries replacement check
23045	8,651.87	Payroll
23406	706.74	Tax refund
23047	942,736.19	A/P

Ben moved and John seconded payment of these warrants. Unanimous.
  - c. Listers Error and Omission Certificate – Ben moved and Jon seconded approval of the Listers’ errors and omissions certificate correcting a manifest error in the assessed valuation of SPAN 489-154-10095 on the 2022 grant list. Unanimous.

- d. Audio/Visual update – Since the person who contracted to do this job is not available, John will prepare an estimate to purchase an Apple TV and compatible Apple laptop for use with the projection screen.
  - e. Minutes – Ben moved and Steve seconded minutes of the 11/02 & 11/09/2022 minutes. The motion carried with 4 ayes and 1 abstention.
6. Meeting Wrap Up
- a. Correspondence – The board received one written complaint and one verbal complaint regarding dogs on Pomfret Road that allegedly have been disturbing others by frequent and persistent barking. For the last several years, while the Office of Constable (the enforcement official under the town’s Dog Ordinance) has been vacant, the Board has responded directly to such complaints by sending the dog owner a form letter enclosing a copy of the ordinance. This will be the second such letter sent to this particular owner. Now that the Office of Constable is no longer vacant, the Board will consider referring future complaints to that official for follow up as she or he thinks appropriate. Steve moved and John seconded that a form letter be sent. The motion carried with 3 ayes and 1 nay (Ben did not vote).
  - b. Review of Assignments – Emily will speak with Ellen and Becky re: municipal office budget, with Karen re: Zoning and Delinquent Tax hourly wage billing; and Jim about the Pike payment. Ben will finalize the Highway Ordinance Amendment and submit a legal notice for publication in the *Standard*.
  - c. Agenda for next regular meeting (12/07/2022) – Sheriff-elect Palmer to be invited, continue budget deliberations, Two Rivers Report.
7. Executive Session
- a. Ben moved and John seconded that the Selectboard enter executive session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. 313(a)(1)(F) to discuss confidential attorney-client communication. Unanimous. The Selectboard entered executive session at 10:09 pm.
  - b. The Selectboard exited executive session at 10:30 pm, no decisions having been made therein.
8. Eydtt Estate Driveway Access Matter – Ben moved and John seconded that the Selectboard take no further action Eydtt Estate driveway access matter at this time. Unanimous.
9. Adjournment – Ben moved and John seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 10:31.

Town of Pomfret Selectboard  
Draft Special Meeting Minutes  
11/29/2022

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

Public: Annie Bower (Library), Jim Potter (Road Foreman), Vern Clifford, Glenn Barbi, MaryAnn Barbi, Ellie Pizzani, Shawn Pickett, Pamela Pickett, Sharlene Kelly, Jack Peters, Neil Lamson, Betsy Rhodes (Library), Doug Tuthill (Constable), Joanna Long, Nancy Matthews, Sue Heston, Jocelyn Randles, Cory Smith (Library), Jenn Conley (VHB), Rose O'Brien (VHB)

1. Emily called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.
2. Public Comment – None.
3. Agenda Review – Ben moved and John seconded adding warrants. Unanimous.
4. Road Foreman’s Report and Highway Issues
  - a. Marson Driveway – The permit satisfies all requirements and acceptable to Jim Potter, Road Foreman. Ben moved and John seconded approval. Unanimous.
  - b. Pressure Washer – The current equipment is 20 years old and the water pressure is no longer sufficient. John moved and Ben seconded that Jim be authorized to obtain two quotes and advise the board on which option to purchase. Unanimous.
5. Items for Discussion or Vote
  - a. South Pomfret Village Scoping Study Alternatives Presentation – Jenn Conley and Rose O’Brien of consulting firm VHB presented four South Pomfret Village Scoping Study Alternatives. Based on questions posed by and feedback received from the public during the presentation, VHB will prepare a composite proposal for the board’s review at a later public meeting. Additional information may be found at <https://pomfretvt.us/index.php/boar/sel/south-pomfret-scoping-study/>.
  - b. Correspondence
    - i. Dog Ordinance Complaint – Doug Tuthill, Constable, reported on his email and telephone conversation with the alleged violator. Doug will continue his investigation and report to the board at a later public meeting.
    - ii. Bartlett Brook Road Noise Inquiry – The writer will be informed the matter is under the jurisdiction of the State Police.
    - iii. Fire Warden Stipend Request – This will be considered during FY 2024 budget preparation.
    - iv. Recurring Charitable Contributions – The board will consider a discrete project (possibly a significant Town Hall renovation) for these funds and send a “thank you” note to the anonymous donor via her or his accountant.
  - c. Warrants – John moved and Ben seconded the warrants be paid. Unanimous.

23048	\$ 64,827.00	New F550 Truck Purchase
23049	1,365.62	J. Potter Personal Vehicle Use Reimbursement
23052	1,027.80	C. Hewitt Staff Holiday Gifts Reimbursement
23053	10,974.22	Payroll
23057	241.52	A/P
6. Adjournment – Ben moved and John seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 PM.