

Town of Pomfret Selectboard
Approved Meeting Minutes
March 1, 2023

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

Public: Jenn Conley (VHB), Rose O'Brien (VHB), Pam Pickett, Betsy Rhodes (Library), Ellen DesMeules (Treasurer), Meg Emmons, Elly Pizzani, Kristina Clifford (Library), Andrew Oatway, Glenn and Mary Barbi, Neil Lamson (Lister), Charlie Kelly, Sharlene Kelly, Scott Pearce, Maura Tynes, James Kelly, Tim Dowd, Sue Heston, John Moore (Planning Commission), Lindsay Hyde, Cynthia Hewitt (Selectboard assistant)

1. Call to Order – Emily called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. Deliberative Session
 - a. Ben moved and Steve seconded that the board enter into a deliberative session pursuant to 1 V.S.A. 312(e) to discuss a quasi-judicial proceeding. Unanimous. The board entered a deliberative session at 6:31 pm.
 - b. The board exited the deliberative session at 6:57 pm.
 - c. Emily called the meeting back to order at 7:00 pm.
3. Public Comment – None.
4. Agenda Review – Steve moved and John seconded adding South Pomfret Scoping Study change in consulting personnel and municipal project manager. Unanimous.
5. South Pomfret Scoping Study Recommendations – Jenn Conley of VHB presented the results of the Scoping Study and VHB's preferred alternative after consideration of feedback received at the Alternatives Presentation and Public Meeting held on November 29, 2022. The preferred alternative most closely resembles Alternative #1 and primarily entails squaring the intersections between Pomfret Road, Stage Road and Library Street, and restriping and slightly widening certain segments to better accommodate pedestrian and bicycle traffic. For more details, see <https://pomfretvt.us/index.php/boar/sel/south-pomfret-scoping-study/>. After discussion and additional public comment, the Board thanked Jenn and the VHB staff for their excellent work. John moved and Steve seconded endorsement of the preferred alternative with the modifications discussed. Unanimous.
6. Road Foreman's Report & Highway Items
 - a. Eydt Estate Highway Access Permit – The board will continue to deliberate by email and publish a written decision on or before March 17.
 - b. Overhead Door Maintenance Agreement – Steve moved and Ben seconded to authorize Emily to sign the maintenance plan for the garage overhead doors. Unanimous.
 - c. Generator Contracts and Services – Emily will sign and return the Town Garage generator proposal with the add-ons suggested by Jim (the surge protector and snow stand). Emily will contact Kevin Rice for confirmation of the Pomfret Station generator specifications and will sign and return the related proposal if the final price is equal to or less than the price previously approved by the board.

7. Items for Discussion or Vote
 - a. Delinquent Tax Payment Agreement – Karen received a proposed agreement for payment of delinquent taxes on Parcels 4801-C and -D. The total amount due is about \$18,000 and the proposed monthly payment is \$500, which would result in a full payoff in 2026. The town’s Policy on Delinquent Tax Collection requires that payment agreements result in full payment by the final due date of the following year’s bill (in this case, by February 2024), absent special circumstances. The board will instruct the Delinquent Tax Collector to counter-propose a \$1,000 monthly payment that would result in a full payoff by late 2024.
 - b. Municipal Energy Resilience Grants – Discussion postponed to March 15, 2023 meeting.
 - c. Warrants – Ben moved and Steve seconded payment of the following warrants:

23087	\$10,217.00	Payroll
23090	56,645.96	Accounts Payable
23092	\$ 8,000.00	Accounts Payable (generators deposits)

 Unanimous.
 - d. Change in South Pomfret Scoping Study Personnel – VHB has requested that Shayna Lillis be added to the list of approved personnel to work on the South Pomfret Scoping Study. Ben moved and Steve seconded the same. Unanimous. Jon also stated that since this is his last Selectboard meeting he would like the board to consider replacing him as municipal project manager for the South Pomfret Scoping Study. The board thanked Jon for his efforts on this to date and encouraged him to remain as the municipal project manager until the study is completed in the next few weeks, if doing so would be allowed by Vtrans’ rules. Jon will speak with Nydia Lugo at Vtrans about this.
 - e. Approval of Minutes – Ben moved and John seconded that the February 15, 2023 meeting minutes be approved as presented. Unanimous.
8. Meeting Wrap Up
 - a. Correspondence – Ellen received a delinquent tax payment in full for Parcel 4608, which was previously approved for tax sale.
 - b. Review of Assignments – Ben will contact Karen regarding the Delinquent Tax Payment Agreement; Emily will finalize the generator proposals.
 - c. Agenda for Next Meeting – Selectboard reorganization, Municipal Energy Resilience Grants, 2023 appointments.
9. Adjournment – Steve moved and John seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm.