

Town of Pomfret Select Board
Approved Minutes
July 6, 2022

Present: Emily Grube, Steve Chamberlin, John Peters, Jon Harrington, Ben Brickner
Public: Christina Dolan (VT Standard), Allyn Ricker, Cynthia Hewitt (SB Asst), Kevin Rice (Fire Chief), Marjorie Wakefield (Trustee of Public Funds), Alan Graham (Dpty Tree Warden), Cy Benoit (Tree Warden)

1. Emily called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm
2. Public Comment – Fire Chief Kevin Rice wanted to alert the Board to a potential opportunity presented to him from Mac Mountain a communications company. They wish to erect a secondary 40-foot cellular tower on Teago FD property, which they feel will improve cellular communications for North Pomfret, Barnard, and Woodstock. Additionally, they will lease the property from the Fire Department. Further negotiations are pending. Kevin also reported the Highway antenna need adjustment. Steve will continue to communicate with Mike Barcomb regarding the necessary adjustment.
3. Agenda Review – Need to determine the FY 2023 tax rate.
4. Road Foreman’s Report
 - a. Allyn reports that completion of the Cloudland Bridge Project will be delayed due to issues with the box culvert fabrication and difficulty securing a crane on the later date when the completed culvert is expected to arrive on site. Construction and the road closure may last until July 15th; he will know more soon. Allyn will be available to supervise the August paving project
 - b. Grant Acceptance – Emily has received verbal confirmation of a paving grant but no paperwork. Once the paperwork arrives and the grant is accepted, she will approve the Pike RFP for the paving as previously approved by the board.
 - c. Caper Street Speed Limit – Jim will remove or relocate the 40-mph sign at the southbound approach to Caper Street, since it stands in front of the 25-mph yield sign.
 - d. Dental Insurance - Discussion postponed to July 20th meeting. The board would like Jim’s input about whether there is interest in this benefit among the road crew.
 - e. Secondary Road Speed Limit – Suggestions including flashing warning signs for speeding, budgeting more sheriff time, etc. to be continued
 - f. Prosper Valley Plowing – Bob Crean asked if the town crew would be able to the remove snow from the PV School. We do not have the manpower to take on that job. Emily will notify Mr. Crean.
 - g. Truck & Loader RFP. Steve and Jim will work up an order for a Ford 550; pricing to be discussed at next meeting.
5. Items for Discussion or Vote
 - a. Tree Policy – Mr. Benoit and Mr. Graham presented an amended tree policy. Further discussion with the Board included additional editing. Mr. Graham will resubmit and present for July 20th Meeting.
 - b. Brick Building – Emily moved and Ben seconded John Barnes be contracted to perform masonry repairs on the Brick Building and add drainage. Mr. Barnes expects to do the work in August 2023

- c. Ambulance Contract and School Lot Access will be discussed in Executive Session, following conclusion of the public portion of this meeting.
 - d. School Lot Access – See above
 - e. ROW Crossing – Steve moved and Jon seconded approval of this document with suggested changes, as well as the related permit fee schedule update. Unanimous vote
 - f. Permit Fee Schedule Update – See above
 - g. Employee Handbook – was returned from Stitzel Page just yesterday; their suggestions will be reviewed and discussion postponed to the 07/20/22 meeting
 - h. VMERS – no response yet – Ellen will follow up with the state Retirement Office.
 - i. Set the Tax rate. Ben moved and Emily seconded that the FY 2023 tax rate be set as follows: \$0.4084 (town) and \$0.0007 (local agreement) per \$100 taxable value. Unanimous vote.
 - j. ARPA – postponed to 07/20/22 meeting
 - k. Picnic Area Deed – Ben presented the deed revised by Stitzel Page. Jon will take to Nancy Bassett.
 - l. Catering permit ratification. John moved, Ben seconded and Board unanimously agreed that the Town Clerk or (in her absence) the Assistant Town Clerk may approve request-to-cater permit applications for recurring events (same applicant and venue; similar start time, end time and expected attendance) where no complaints have been received for prior iterations of the proposed event. New requests will still need to come before the board
 - m. Emily moved and Ben seconded approval of the following warrants:

22120	\$ 4,066.65	A/P
22123	11,215.01	Payroll
22126	69,199.15	A/P
23002	26,317.85	A/P

 Unanimous Approval
 - n. Approve 06/15/2022 Minutes – Ben moved and Steve seconded approval after a minor correction. Unanimous Vote
6. Meeting Wrap Up
- a. Correspondence – Mike Doton reminder of Vermont 100 race
 - b. Review of Assignments – Emily contact Mr. Emmons and List serve re: possible extension of Cloudland Road closure; speak with Mike Doton, Caleb, Bob Crean, Ellen; Jonathan following up with Mr. Flynn (Caper ST. speed limit) and Nancy Bassett.
 - c. Agenda Items for next meeting: Tree policy, Employee Handbook, Truck/Loader, Dental Insurance, ARPA, VMERS
7. Executive Session called to order at 9:50 pm
8. Executive Session adjourned at 10:25 pm, and no decisions were made therein
9. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 pm.