

**TOWN OF POMFRET – BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RESOLUTION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF POSITION OF POET LAUREATE**

**Resolved**, that the position of Poet Laureate is hereby established in the Town of Pomfret. The title of the position shall be "Pomfret Poet Laureate." The administration of the position of Poet Laureate shall be under the direction of the Board of Trustees of the Pomfret Public Library.

**Resolved**, that the purpose and qualifications of the Poet Laureate be as follows:

- The roles and responsibilities of the Poet Laureate may include, but not be limited to, the following:
- Implement in conjunction with the Board of Trustees a community outreach and education program to encourage the appreciation, writing, reading, and performance of poetry within the Town of Pomfret.
- Participate in events each year to encourage the writing, reading and performance of poetry by providing public poetry readings, workshops, lectures and/or presentations.
- Promote literacy through poetry and foster the development of a youth poetry initiative with the goal of providing a system and platform for emerging young poets to present their works in conjunction with the Pomfret Public Library and Town sponsored events.
- Commemorate the Town of Pomfret by composing poetry that speaks to, for, and of our Town.
- The Poet Laureate must be at least 18 years of age and a resident of Pomfret for at least one year.

**Resolved**, that the Poet Laureate demonstrate the following:

- Excellence as evidenced by submitted poetry samples.
- Excellence in his/her profession as evidenced by a history of publications in journals and books, awards, honors, fellowships, and/or recognition.
- Advancement of poetry in the Pomfret area as demonstrated by a history of activity in the area's literary community through teachings, readings, publications, and/or public presentations.
- Nominees may not be on Pomfret Commissioners or Staff.
- As an official representative of the Town of Pomfret, the Poet Laureate must maintain Pomfret residency during his or her term.

**In Addition**, the Poet Laureate shall serve a term of two years, with potential for one additional consecutive term, as recommended by the Board of Trustees.

**Be It Further Known**, that the position of Pomfret Poet Laureate is an honorary position, and the individual shall not receive any monetary compensation from the Library or Town. The Board of Trustees of the Pomfret Public Library shall retain the license to use, reproduce and compile any work created for the Town by the Poet Laureate in his/her official capacity; and that the selection of the Poet Laureate shall be made based on the qualifications set forth above. The selection of the Poet Laureate shall be made by the Board of Trustees. A Poet may self-nominate or be nominated by a Pomfret resident to the Board of Trustees. The Poet Laureate shall be recommended by the Board of Trustees and appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

**Now, therefore**; We, the Pomfret Board of Selectmen, do hereby approve this Resolution establishing the position of Poet Laureate during our duly held meeting of August 2, 2021.

  
Maureen Nicholson

  
Patrick McCarthy

  
Ellsworth Chase

Attest:

  
Cheryl A. Grist, Pomfret Town Clerk

