

**TOWN OF POMFRET  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2016 AT 7:00 PM  
POMFRET COMMUNITY/SENIOR CENTER**

In Attendance: First Selectman Craig Baldwin, Selectmen Barry Jessurun, Donna Smith.  
Also present – Approximately 35 citizens and interested parties.

**I. Open Meeting** – C. Baldwin opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

1. **Approve Minutes of August 1, 2016** – D. Smith moved to approve minutes of August 1<sup>st</sup>. B. Jessurun seconded. All in favor.

**II. Current Business**

1. **Tax Refunds and Abatements:** Christopher Cournoyer, COC, \$5.86; Donna and Derek Santerre, COC, \$84.13 – B. Jessurun moved to approve as presented. D. Smith seconded. All in favor.
2. **Longmeadow Road Project – Discussion** – C. Baldwin thanked the Longmeadow Committee for the work they have done in compiling the list of questions that has been submitted to the Board. He then provided a brief timeline that lead up to the use of the Longmeadow product. It seemed to be a good fit for the road as it was not beyond repair. The two main questions that have come before him are the health and environmental concerns and the aesthetic concerns of the residents. The health and environmental concerns are continuing to be discussed and are still being investigated. The aesthetic concerns are still under discussion but should see a resolution when a complete lay-over and curbing is completed. The budget has been building over years to cover the costs of Longmeadow road work. This project was very cost effective. It is a rejuvenator, not a sealant, and contains a small amount of coal tar which gives it the black appearance. It seals the cracks and is frozen into the asphalt. A number of people have come out to evaluate this product and he will make their credentials available to anyone who wishes to review. The feedback he has received from them to date has been positive. Data received from all of the studies being done will be released to everyone. He provided some background information regarding the application process, how the rejuvenator is working with the crack sealant, money spent, upcoming costs, and the possibility of completing the lay-over and installing curbs in the spring instead of the anticipated 3 years. D. Smith thanked C. Baldwin for the time being taken in looking into this. She stated she did not know much about rejuvenators but felt the engineer looking into the material is credible. She also thanked the Longmeadow committee for taking the time and compiling the questions they have submitted.

**III. Citizen's Comments** – John Bergendahl stated that he believed this was a surface application with a high percentage of coal tar. He asked the Selectmen to

consider the risks to people and the nearby stream. He believed that as cars traveled over the roads some of this material is mobilized. He felt that a resolution would ultimately be a judgement call and asked the Board to ensure their facts were correct. John McCusker asked if the rejuvenator application to be followed by an over-lay of paving was the plan from the beginning. A man stated he is continuing to hear that this is better than sealant but it contains more coal tar. Another man asked about how an over-lay would affect entrance onto driveways as it will raise the road to a height higher than it currently is. It was asked that this product not be used again. Kim Bergendahl asked why the engineer hired by the Town would need access to the samples taken by USGS. Why wouldn't they be taking their own samples. There were additional questions about the crack sealant and why it was used and what would be done if the studies came back showing that this material is a health hazard. Concerns were voiced about the current lack of remediation and potential problems if the road were dug up. John Bergendahl stated again that ultimately the next course of action was going to be a judgement call. C. Baldwin stated that he respected the comments. Work that had been planned for Tyrone Road has been stopped. There is still data being collected and once as much information as is available is collected an informed decision will be made. He would consider what was best for the Town. There were concerns voiced about well water and a woman asked about the material continuing to sink down from the asphalt, into the dirt below, and ultimately into well water. Questions were submitted from the committee that were not yet fully answered and credentials for the consultants brought in to date were asked about. C. Baldwin stated he would complete a written response to the list of questions this week. Credentials of any consultants will be made available to anyone who wishes to review them. One woman spoke about trust and the difficulty she was now having in trusting any of the testing results. There were continuing questions regarding test results and how they might affect an over-lay, concerns with health effects, cost of the project, the effect of snow plows on this surface over the winter, and the timeline for an over-lay. One woman asked if test results could be published. The Town will post on the web page. Charlie Tracy asked about the many tires that were disposed at Bulky Waste and if the Highway Dept. picked them up from private property. Debi Thompson asked about the bid process and adherence to the Town Ordinance. Her experience has been to advertise, review possible respondents, and then look at sole source bid. There were no additional comments or questions.

**VI. Adjournment** – B. Jessurun moved to adjourn. D. Smith seconded. All in favor and meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk

Date approved\_\_\_\_\_