

**TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2015 AT 8:00 AM
POMFRET COMMUNITY/SENIOR CENTER**

In Attendance: First Selectman Craig Baldwin, Selectmen Barry Jessurun, Donna Smith. Also present: Peter Mann, Rita Conrad, JoAnn Baldwin, John Carter, Monique Caron-Krug, Joyce Bigelow, and approximately five other citizens and interested parties.

I. Regular Meeting

1. Open Regular Meeting/Approve Minutes of November 30, 2015 – C.

Baldwin opened meeting at 8:00 AM. C. Baldwin motioned to approve minutes of November 30, 2015. B. Jessurun seconded. D. Smith noted the name should be Hanlon in Ad Hoc Committee listing. All in favor.

2. Items to Add to Agenda - None

3. Citizen Comments – P. Mann stated that he would like to voice support in the appointment of Ray Wishart to the Planning & Zoning Commission and Monique Caron-Krug to the Senior Advocate Commission. Also, as a member of the Seely-Brown Board he was familiar with work done using previous grants. All items were unable to be completed and he recommended that the Board consider moving forward with the new grant opportunity for Seely-Brown.

J. Carter stated he was there in four different capacities. First, as a member of the Historical Society he wondered if the sign-post could be positioned closer to the road as it was difficult to see as it currently stood. As a Grange member he stated some of the ice-dam on roof damage that happened last winter. Water seeped into their storage room and there was wall and tile damage. As a taxpayer he had questions about the legality of a teacher or teacher-aide being on the Board of Education, and lastly, as a member of the Senior Center he voiced concerns about the Senior Association. It was a private group with a membership fee. There were concerns about those not paying the fee using the Senior Center while they held their meetings and their use of the Center during the Senior Center hours.

M. Nicholson stated that she had some background regarding J. Carters concerns. There has been some extensive repair work done to the Senior Center. A contractor was brought in and identified cause of ice dams and completed a variety of repairs. He could not complete the Grange repairs as the door to that room was locked. She wanted to comment on the Ad Hoc and Building Committees regarding upcoming projects. Quite a bit of work has already been done and she would like to see some of the people involved previously to work on these new Committees – most notably DPW as they will be using some of the space in the EOC building. She reviewed the work that has been done on these projects to date.

II. New Business

- 1. Acceptance of Resignation: ZBA –** A resignation letter has been received from David Smutnick. D. Smith moved to accept resignation with regret and thanks for service. B. Jessurun seconded. All in favor.

2. **Appointments: Planning & Zoning Commission, Inland Wetlands, Conservation, Senior Advocate Commission** – C. Baldwin stated that he has recommendations to appoint Ray Wishart as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission through remainder of term to 11/21/17; reappoint James Rowley and Nancy McMerriman to four year terms as regular members of Inland Wetlands, through to January 1, 2020 and John Bergendahl as an alternate member through January 1, 2020; to appoint Monique Caron-Krug as an alternate member of the Senior Advocate Commission to fill term to May 1, 2016; and to reappoint Richard Telford, William Lewis, and Marcia Lewis to the Conservation Commission all for four year terms to January 1, 2020. D. Smith moved to approve as presented. B. Jessurun seconded. All in favor.
3. **Update on Seely-Brown – DOH 2016 Grant Application** – C. Baldwin wanted to update the Board regarding costs to the Town for this grant application. Estimated upfront costs are approximately \$8,000 – consisting of grant writing, environmental review, and advertising. \$3,000 of this will be recovered by the Town if the grant is awarded. The Board previously approved \$6,000 but were unaware of the additional costs. B. Jessurun moved to approve the additional costs to apply for this funding. D. Smith seconded. All in favor. Some additional discussion regarding Seely-Brown, their difficulty in sustaining costs, and the number of units and how they impact sustainability.
4. **Discussion: Leasing of Town property for agricultural land** – C. Baldwin stated that some of the Town-owned land is currently farmed and/or leased by different people. He recently signed a new lease agreement with a local farmer for the McLaughlin property. He is considering putting the other town-owned, agricultural pieces out to bid. He will provide the Board with future updates but would like to move forward with this by the end of January.

III. Current Business - None

IV. Other Business

1. **Road Issues** – There is a speed limit sign on Valentine Road that is beginning to fall apart. The Pomfret and Rectory Schools are looking into putting up new crossing signs that light up and flash.
2. **General Discussion** – The borings for the Sewer Project are being staked out and borings should start December 29th. Weston and Sampson has met recently with Pomfret School, Rectory School, and Loos. They are still working design. Some additional discussion including the desire to tie the Pomfret Public Library into this system. C. Baldwin stated that the Eastern Conservation District has come in. They have completed studies regarding the pond at Mashamoquet State Park. There is some limited grant money available for homeowners to replace failing septic systems. Some additional discussion. B. Jessurun asked about plans for the Sidewalk Grant. C. Baldwin will be meeting with the schools along the route to

clarify maintenance. B. Jessurun noted that people have been asking him about a sidewalk along this route for many years. The proposed extension toward the Xtra Mart would also be very beneficial.

3. **Tax Refunds/Abatements:** Vault/Ally, COC, \$196.19; ARI Fleet LT, COC, \$48.99 – B. Jessurun moved to approve as presented. D. Smith seconded. All in favor.

V. Citizen's Comments – P. Mann asked about the piece of sidewalk that would go near the church as the frontage is not owned by either school. He also asked if there was a known timeline regarding the closure of Wappaquoi bridge. M. Nicholson stated that if the schools are ordering new crossing signs they should consider an additional one for the library as a crosswalk is planned for that area when the sidewalk goes in. She also asked if there was an update to the Solar Project. She stated that discussions would TEEG would be helpful regarding what had been planned regarding the question of the Association and dues. M. Caron-Krug stated that the seniors had understood that all dues money would go to the Town and the Association would disband but that isn't what happened.

V. Adjournment B. Jessurun moved to adjourn. D. Smith seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:54 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk

Date approved_____