

**TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 16, 2016 AT 8:00 AM
POMFRET COMMUNITY/SENIOR CENTER**

In Attendance: First Selectman Craig Baldwin, Selectmen Barry Jessurun, Donna Smith.
Also present: Gail McElroy, JoAnn Baldwin

I. Regular Meeting – Open Meeting – C. Baldwin opened meeting at 8:00 AM.

1. **Approve Minutes of May 2, 2016** - B. Jessurun moved to approve minutes. D. Smith seconded. All in favor.
2. **Items to Add to Agenda** – C. Baldwin stated he would like to add Acceptance of FEMA Generator Grant to Current Business. So moved by D. Smith. B. Jessurun seconded. All in favor
3. **Citizen Participation and Communications** – G. McElroy stated that the first Monday Senior Association meeting went very well and all participants seem happy with Mondays. They are currently planning a lunch at Grill 37 and a Whale Watch in July.

II. New Business

1. **Re-Appointments – Agricultural Commission** – Postponed to next meeting.
2. **Appointment – Recreation Commission** – C. Baldwin read a letter from the Recreation Commission into the record that requested Diane Simu be appointed to the Board. So moved by D. Smith. B. Jessurun seconded. All in favor.
3. **Discussion & Possible Action – Roads Designated as Unsafe for School Bus Travel** – M & J Bus Co. approached C. Baldwin with some concerns regarding safe school bus passage on some local roads. He has reviewed the same with Superintendent Cullinan. S. Cullinan drove each of these roads and reviewed the same with the Board of Education. The Superintendent's office then sent a letter to the Selectmen's office that listed the roads designated as unsafe for school bus travel. C. Baldwin asked to approve this request as presented. So moved by D. Smith. B. Jessurun seconded. All in favor. Brief discussion about some of the school bus stop signs around town that have been in the same location for many years and likely no longer needed. C. Baldwin will speak with the DOT and BOE regarding these signs to inquire if any can be removed.

III. Other Business

1. **Road Issues** – Longmeadow resurfacing is underway. C. Baldwin working toward discussing the process with street residents. He has also recently traveled Cotton Bridge Road and sees no need to pave it.
2. **General Discussion** – C. Baldwin stated his appreciation to Pomfret School students who worked with Ann Miller in completing the Senior Center plantings and spreading of mulch. They also cleaned up the

basement area. He also stated his thanks to the Conservation Commission who hosted a clean-up at the Route 101 canoe launch and some other locations in town.

3. **Project Updates** – C. Baldwin is waiting to hear back from Syl Pauly at NECCOG about finishing the design for the sidewalk project. He has spoken with the attorney for the diocese regarding the maintenance of the walk in front of Most Holy Trinity. He will take this to the Bishop for approval. Ed Higgins is working on easements needed for the Sewer Project. The next Sewer Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday the 18th at 1:00 PM. The State has begun marking the roads for signage as they move forward with the Wappaquoi Bridge replacement. Two more meetings are scheduled for the Firehouse Extension and it will be ready to move to a bid package and building committee. They EOC will move forward as this happens.
4. **Tax Refunds/Abatements:** David Frost, COC, \$21,69 – B. Jessurun moved to approve as presented. D. Smith seconded. All in favor.

IV. Current Business

1. **Discussion: Local Option/Veteran's Exemption** – Proposal as received from the Assessor was discussed. This proposal would help to protect the most vulnerable groups of Veterans. It allows for assessment adjustment and in increase to the income limit. Some discussion and C. Baldwin asked for a motion to approve the proposal indicating a \$10,000 assessment adjustment allowed and adding \$10,000 to the maximum income level. So moved by D. Smith. B. Jessurun seconded. All in favor. A local Ordinance will need to be drafted reflecting this exemption and taken to a Town vote.
2. **Acceptance of FEMA Generator Grant** - - this application went in some time ago. It has been modified for one generator at the Town Hall as Pomfret School has already purchased and installed theirs. FEMA was unable to modify the funds to reimburse or to use for other shelter enhancements. D. Smith motioned to accept the grant as received from FEMA. B. Jessurun seconded. All in favor.

V. Citizen's Comments - G. McElroy asked for some clarification regarding the Veteran's Exemption that she could pass on to Garry Brown who could not be present.

V. D. Smith seconded. All in favor and meeting duly adjourned at 8:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk

date approved_____