

**TOWN OF POMFRET  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2019 AT 8:00 AM  
POMFRET COMMUNITY/SENIOR CENTER**

In Attendance: First Selectman Maureen Nicholson, Selectmen Patrick McCarthy, Ellsworth Chase. Also present – Tom Garrett

- I. Regular Meeting – Open Meeting** – M. Nicholson opened meeting at 8:00 am.
- 1. Approve Minutes of November 4, 2019** - P. McCarthy moved to approve as presented. E. Chase seconded. All in favor.
  - 2. Items to Add to Agenda** – M. Nicholson moved to add Blight Ordinance discussion as part of Branding Study. P. McCarthy seconded. All in favor
  - 3. Citizen’s Comments and Correspondence** – Tom Garrett asked if anything has been considered for area along Mashamoquet Road/Route 44 where vehicles pull off road. He offered some suggestions to block area. He also asked that minutes be posted to the web site within a week as he has found that some Boards take longer than that and that acronyms used in minutes be spelled out.

**II. New Business**

- 1. Appointment of Assessor** – M. Nicholson moved that Gail Gwiazdowski be appointed as Pomfret Assessor for a 4-year term. P. McCarthy seconded. All in favor.
- 2. 2020 Meeting & Holiday Schedules-Review/Possible Approval** – P. McCarthy moved to approve and E. Chase seconded. M. Nicholson stated that the early closures for the day before Thanksgiving and Christmas be changed to noon. P. McCarthy moved to approve with revision and E. Chase seconded. All in favor.
- 3. Branding Study – EPDC Recommendations** – Recommendations that came from the Branding Study included review of land use regulations and consideration of a Blight Ordinance. Land use regulations will be reviewed by an outside party. A sample Blight Ordinance was distributed. Brief discussion regarding enforcement options for such an ordinance. The Board will review proposal for conciseness and further review at the next meeting.

**III. Other Business**

- 1. Road Issues/Discontinue Quarry and Swedetown Roads** – North Road has been completed with good results. Sections of Quarry/Swedetown Roads are not kept up by the town but have not been officially discontinued. Some discussion and M. Nicholson asked for a motion to discontinue Quarry/Swedetown Road from the intersection of said roads heading approximately 670 feet (.13 miles) north to the Woodstock town line and approximately 1600 feet (.3 miles) west to the Eastford town line, and to bring the same to the next Town Meeting for consideration. So moved by E. Chase and seconded by P. McCarthy. All in favor.
- 2. General Discussion** M. Nicholson stated that the Town of Putnam has a large amount of office furniture that is available at no cost to furnish the new Emergency Response Center. The grant for this Center has closed-out

and a few small items are being completed. A new Director of Public Works has been hired and will begin on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. There are several vacancies on town boards and something will be posted to the web site to help identify volunteers. The Fire District has volunteered to complete flagging training for those Constables that have not yet been trained. The floor in the Food Pantry has been completed and will be waxed soon. The Environmental Depot is on hold and NECCOG is seeking additional grant money to complete a study of the same. Wreaths Across America has been scheduled for December 14<sup>th</sup> at noon on the Town Green. The Tree Lighting Ceremony date is yet to be determined.

3. **Project Updates** – M. Nicholson has met with DOT representatives, B&W representatives and Syl Pauley to review the sidewalk ramps. There are 15 ramps in need of replacement due to their slope and ADA compliance. The Sewer Project is 98% completed. Testing is underway on the pumps and lines and the connection to Putnam has been completed. This project will be bonded within the next few weeks.
4. **Tax Refunds/Abatements:** CAB East, LLC, COC, \$374.68 – P. McCarthy moved to approve as presented. M. Nicholson seconded. All in favor.

#### **IV. Current Business**

1. **Constable Policy – Update & Possible Approval** – Revisions to this policy was reviewed and discussed. E. Chase stated that he would like clarity regarding ‘official duty’. It was agreed that the reference under item 17 would be removed and replaced with ‘...while performing responsibilities and duties as Constable...’ E. Chase moved to approve policy as amended. P. McCarthy seconded. All in favor.
2. **Citizen’s Comments** – Tom Garrett stated that a representative from Vision Appraisal recently accessed his property. He could not find information on the web site that these representatives would be working in town. He also asked about fixing the surface of the Air Line trail. He had some additional comments regarding the recently discussed 4-year terms, land maps not being legal descriptions and some recent discrepancies and asked if the new ERC would be open during power outages. He had some comments about cities using non-porous lots to capture water run-off and disperse it.

**V. Adjournment** – E. Chase moved to adjourn and P. McCarthy seconded. All in favor and meeting duly adjourned at 9:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk

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