

**TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 4, 2020 AT 7:00 PM
ON-LINE VIRTUAL MEETING**

In Attendance: First Selectman Maureen Nicholson, Selectmen Patrick McCarthy, Ellsworth Chase. Also present – four citizens/interested parties.

I. Regular Meeting – Open Meeting – M. Nicholson opened meeting at 7:02 PM.

- 1. Approve Minutes of April 20, 2020** - P. McCarthy moved to approve minutes as presented on-line. M. Nicholson seconded. All in favor.
- 2. Items to Add to Agenda** - None
- 3. Citizen's Comments and Correspondence** – There were no comments. M. Nicholson had a few pieces of correspondence for record. Any discussion will be at next meeting as they are not yet posted on-line. Raynham, Inc. submitted a letter stating that they have gifted 160 acres in Pomfret to the Windham Land Trust. Correspondence has also been received regarding resident suggestions for Rich Road. Drainage improvements and pipe replacement is planned for that road in the next few weeks and notice to abutters has gone out.

II. New Business

- 1. Per Governor's Executive Order 71, Section 13 – Give the Board of Finance permission to approve the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget and set the mill rate** – According to Executive Order 71, Section 13 the Board of Selectmen must give the Board of Finance permission to approve the fiscal year 2020/2021 budget and set the mill rate without scheduling a Town Meeting. This is due to on-going preventative measures regarding coronavirus concerns. M. Nicholson moved to give the Board of Finance permission to approve the fiscal year 2020/2021 budget and set the mill rate in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order 71, Section 13. P. McCarthy seconded. All in favor.

III. Other Business

- 1. General Discussion - COVID-19 Impacts to Town Government** – M. Nicholson stated that she has been considering measures to be taken when the Town Hall can again open to the public. She is meeting with a carpenter tomorrow to discuss splitting some of the doors, adding plexi-glass in some locations and other considerations. All town buildings are currently closed to the public and the Recreation Park is closed. State Parks are closing, and golf courses have been over-run, often with out-of-state visitors. There is concern that the Recreation Park would experience the same if opened, therefore the park opening has been delayed. Some discussion.
- 2. Project Updates – Sewer, TAP Grant updates** – The Sewer Project is winding down. There was an alarm over the weekend that has been corrected. Excavation at Modock and Holmes Roads is underway for the TAP grant. The Pomfret Street site is being prepared to start the abutments. Road closure there is not anticipated, however there will be instances of single-lane closures. The bridge installation is planned for

August. That section of trail is currently closed to the public due to hazardous conditions.

- 3. Sewer Ordinance Discussion/Possible Action - Tabled**
- 4. Tax Refunds/Abatements: None**

IV. Current Business

- 1. FY 2020/2021 Budget Discussion/Approval** – Selectmen budget reduction suggestions were incorporated to cut additional funding from the General Government budget. The proposed budget was distributed to Board last week and was reviewed by the Board of Finance at their last meeting. It is available on-line. This proposal is for a General Government budget for FY 2020/2021 of \$2,788,236, representing a 1.9% increase over last year or \$32,810. M. Nicholson reviewed the additional \$25,000 in cuts that were taken to reach this number. P. McCarthy moved to approve this fy 2020/2021 budget as presented. M. Nicholson seconded. All in favor.
- 2. Citizen's Comments - None**

V. Adjournment – P. McCarthy moved to adjourn. M. Nicholson seconded. All in favor and meeting duly adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk

Date approved_____