

**TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2020 AT 8:00 AM
ON-LINE VIRTUAL MEETING/POMFRET COMMUNITY CENTER**

In Attendance: First Selectman Maureen Nicholson, Selectmen Patrick McCarthy, Ellsworth Chase. Also present Attorney Talberg and citizen Lisa Delterio

I. Regular Meeting – Open Meeting – M. Nicholson opened meeting at 8:00 am.

- 1. Approve Minutes of September 8, 2020** – E. Chase moved to approve and P. McCarthy seconded. All in favor.
- 2. Items to Add to Agenda** – M. Nicholson moved to add Discussion with Attorney Paul Miso regarding Solar Array on Murdock property to Current Business, item 3. E. Chase seconded. All in favor.
- 3. Citizen's Comments and Correspondence** – Lisa Delterio thanked the Board for the virtual meeting formatting.

II. New Business

- 1. Scarecrow & Pumpkin Contest/Enrichment Fund Funding – Possible Approval** – M. Nicholson moved to approve the use of up to \$1,000 from the Enrichment Fund to promote, advertise, and miscellaneous items for the town-wide Scarecrow and Great Pumpkin Contest. E. Chase seconded. All in favor.
- 2. Board/Commission Meetings – Virtual, In-Person, Hybrid** – M. Nicholson stated that she would like to recommend the hybrid model for town Board and Commission meetings. This would allow members and citizens to attend in person if they wished, while practicing social distancing, and would also offer the meeting on Zoom for those that would prefer to not attend in person. This method would continue at least until the governor's office offers another direction. Discussion with consensus that this would be a good idea and M. Nicholson moved to approve as recommended. P. McCarthy seconded. All in favor.
- 3. Library Board Appointment – John Charest** – Mr. Charest contacted the Selectmen's office and expressed interest in this seat and will be a valuable addition to this Board. M. Nicholson moved to appoint John Charest to the Library Board with term running to the next election. E. Chase seconded. All in favor.
M. Nicholson moved to move the Executive Session up in the agenda to the next item of business as the attorney is present. E. Chase seconded. All in favor.

III. Executive Session

- 1. Executive Session regarding pending litigation**
M. Nicholson moved to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss matter of Durand vs Pomfret with Board of Selectmen and Attorney Talberg to remain present. P. McCarthy seconded and Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:12 AM.
Board came out of Executive Session at 8:24 AM with no action taken and resumed regular meeting.

IV. Current Business

- 1. Pending Litigation/Possible Action** – M. Nicholson moved to approve the proposed settlement for the pending litigation for Durand vs Pomfret. P. McCarthy seconded. All in favor.

V. Other Business

- 1. General Discussion - COVID-19 Impacts to Town Government** - There are currently no additional changes beyond what has been discussed. The Town Hall continues with regular hours and the doors locked to public access, the Senior Center remains closed but TEEG is offering drop-off lunches and activities. They are also offering a mobile Food Pantry at the Town Hall once per month. Tax Collections continue at the front porch window. Those that took advantage of the extension have until October 1st to pay before interest begins to accrue.
- 2. Project Updates – Sewer, TAP, Grant applications, Taft Pond Road Bridge, Town Hall Updates, Salt Shed** – A Sewer Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday as this project begins to wrap-up. The TAP Grant is beginning the Needles Eye abutment, Holmes and Modock Roads are ready to pave and should be complete by month end. The bridge over Route 169 is planned to install in early October and the Needles Eye bridge by October end. A second TAP Grant will be applied for that will complete grading and resurfacing of the trail from Route 169 into Putnam and access down to the River Trail. A Neglected Cemetery Grant has been applied for. Previous grants awarded have gone a long way in restoring Pomfret's many old cemeteries in terms of clearing, signage, and replication of historic gates. E. Chase moved to approve this application and allow the First Selectman to execute any and all documentation that goes with it. P. McCarthy seconded. All in favor. M. Nicholson is still exploring options for the Taft Pond Bridge. An application for the Salt Shed has been brought to Planning & Zoning. They have scheduled a Public Hearing and Special Meeting for October 6th. Money has accrued in the capital budget to cover the costs of this project. The Town Hall basement has been cleaned and sanitized. The old maps and materials that were stored down there have been sorted, organized, or destroyed.
- 3. Tax Refunds/Abatements:** Charles Bottieri, COC, \$135.07 – P. McCarthy moved to approve and E. Chase seconded. All in favor.

VI. Current Business

- 1. Solar Array at Murdock Property** – M. Nicholson stated that she will send the Board some of the information that she has regarding this project. Potential income to the Town has decreased due to sub-station distance. Further discussion will be held when Attorney Miso can be present.
- 2. Citizen's Comments** – Troop D report from past month was briefly reviewed. There is little to report. Lisa Delterio asked if basement materials were saved digitally. The Town is moving in that direction and the Town Clerk's office has ordered a large map copier. Those not yet digitized and organized and filed. She also asked about future plans of sewer line expansion. This is a closed forced main and there is no expansion except possibly PCS if needed at a later date.

VII. Adjournment – E. Chase moved to adjourn and P. McCarthy seconded. All in favor and meeting adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk

date approved_____