

**TOWN OF POMFRET
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2012 AT 8:00 AM
POMFRET SENIOR CENTER**

In Attendance: First Selectman Jim Rivers, Selectmen Maureen Nicholson, Peter Mann.
Also present: John Carter, Walter Hinchman, Terry Jackson

I. Regular Meeting

1. **Open Regular Meeting/Approve Minutes January 3, 2012** – J. Rivers opened meeting at 8:00 AM. P. Mann moved to approve minutes. M. Nicholson seconded. All in favor.

2. **Items to Add to Agenda** – J. Rivers stated he would like to add Bid Opening for the Purchase of 2000 Cavalier to New Business #2. P. Mann stated he would like to add a discussion of quarterly tax payments to New Business #3. M. Nicholson moved to add both items. P. Mann seconded. All in favor.

3. **Citizen Participation & Communications** – Walter Hinchman stated the Pomfret 300th met yesterday. He was here to defend their anticipated budget requests.

II. New Business

1. **Constable Rate Request** – J. Rivers read letter dated January 10th to record that requests an increase to Town Constables. The last increase was in 2007 and this request would bring them better into line with other towns. P Mann motioned to approve increase for Constables as requested. M. Nicholson seconded. All in favor.
2. **2000 Cavalier – Bid Opening** – J. Rivers stated that 2 bids were received for the sale of this vehicle. The Town recently purchased a larger vehicle at Wethersfield surplus and therefore this one is no longer needed. Bids were opened P. Mann moved to accept the bid from the apparent high bidder - David and Barbara Gagnon. M. Nicholson seconded. All in favor.
3. **Quarterly Tax Payments** – P. Mann stated that he has been repeatedly approached by citizens asking about this possibility. It seems like the smaller payments required quarterly may be easier for some people. He would like to at least look into some of the pros and cons. Some discussion. P. Mann moved to table to next meeting and M. Nicholson seconded. P. Mann will discuss with the Tax Collector and bring more information to the next meeting. All in favor.

III. Current Business

1. **Appointments** – M. Nicholson did look into proposed appointments for the ZBA. P. Mann moved to approve the appointment of Allison Gardner to a full member for a full-term as prescribed by law. M. Nicholson seconded. All in favor. M. Nicholson moved to approve the appointment of Sarah Hamby to fill the seat of alternate for remainder of term. P. Mann seconded. Sarah was the next highest vote getter in the recent

elections. All in favor. Peter Mann moved to appoint Walter Hinchman as a full member of the Economic Planning and Development Commission. M. Nicholson seconded. All in favor. Peter has sent letters to local groups and establishments to encourage interested participants. Some discussion.

2. **Review and Possible Approval of Proposed Ordinance to Establish a Pomfret Agricultural Commission** – A proposed Ordinance to establish this group was reviewed. P. Mann moved to approve and M. Nicholson seconded. M. Nicholson stated that she would like to see the proposal amended to include “Chairmen (or their designee) of any officially recognized Town of Pomfret board or commission shall serve as ex-officio members of the Agricultural Commission”. P. Mann revised his motion to include this language. M. Nicholson seconded. All in favor. Some additional discussion regarding a call Board members received from a citizen with concerns regarding this Commission and the intent of the Ordinance. P. Mann will add clarification to this with the next issue of the Pomfret Times.
3. **Senior Center – Update and Discussion of Proposed Ordinance to Establish a Senior Advocate Commission** – P. Mann presented some language for review. Brief discussion and Peter moved to table further discussion until the next meeting. M. Nicholson seconded. All in favor.
4. **Bonding Update**
 - a. **To consider and act upon a resolution authorizing the issuance of refunding bonds to refinance the \$600,000 Term Note with Putnam Savings Bank, dated July 19, 2007, maturing July 19, 2017, financing the acquisition of development rights in connection with 71 Rich Road in Pomfret** – The proposed resolution was available for review (Attachment A). M. Nicholson moved to approve the resolution authorizing the issuance of refunding bonds to refinance the \$600,000 Term Note with Putnam Savings Bank, dated July 19, 2007, maturing July 19, 2017, financing the acquisition of development rights in connection with 71 Rich Road in Pomfret. P. Mann seconded. It was noted that the resolution referred to ‘Pomfret Savings Bank’ in error and that it should read ‘Putnam Bank’ and M. Nicholson amended motion to include this correction. P. Mann amended his second. Some discussion regarding the difference in interest payments over time. P. Mann expressed concerns of the additional interest that will be paid over the 20 year note. There was some further discussion and the motion was then voted and approved with J. Rivers and M. Nicholson voting ‘yes’ and P. Mann voting ‘no’.
 - b. **To consider and act upon a resolution making certain determinations in connection with borrowings to finance the \$600,000 appropriation for the Pomfret Community Roof Replacement/School Solar Energy Project** – The proposed resolution was available for review (Attachment B). P. Mann moved to approve the resolution making certain determinations in connection

with borrowings to finance the \$600,000 appropriation for the Pomfret Community Roof Replacement/School Solar Energy Project. M. Nicholson seconded. Some discussion regarding school energy savings from the grids. J. Rivers will call PCS to request a full report. Some further discussion regarding energy credits that should be due back to the Town at some point. J. Rivers will seek further clarification regarding this. The motion was then voted and approved with all Board members voting in favor.

5. **Discussion – Application for Zoning Text Amendments** – No further information has been received at this point. Item tabled.
6. **Budget Discussion FY 2012/2013 and Possible Action** – Budget request letters will go out this week. Walt Hinchman submitted a proposed budget request for the Pomfret 300th celebration. Some money has already been put aside and they estimate a need for approximately \$10,000 in additional funding. The expectation is that most, if not all, of this will be off-set by revenues and sponsors. Some discussion regarding possible road maintenance issues. No further budget considerations at this time.

IV. Other Business

1. **Road Issues** - None
2. **General Discussion** - None
3. **Pistol Permits Issued:** None
4. **Discussion and Possible Action – NECCOG Transportation Grant** – These were distributed for review at the last meeting. The best focus for this appears to be the stretch of Air Line Trail at Holmes Road and establishing a crossing there. In absence of any objection this is the area that will be pursued. J. Rivers also noted that the next NECCOG meeting will invite Putnam to discuss their economic regional plan if Board members were interested in attending.

V. Tax Refunds/Abatements: None

VI. Citizen's Comments – John Carter stated that he will look for some feedback from the Seniors regarding the proposed Ordinance language and arrange for some time for the Selectmen to answer any related questions. He also asked if the Air Line work at Holmes Road would be done with State approval.

VII. Adjournment – M. Nicholson moved to adjourn. P. Mann seconded. All in favor and meeting adjourned at 9:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk

Date Approved_____