

**TOWN OF POMFRET  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES  
MONDAY, MAY 2, 2016 AT 7:00 PM  
POMFRET COMMUNITY/SENIOR CENTER**

In Attendance: First Selectman Craig Baldwin, Selectmen Barry Jessurun, Donna Smith.  
Also present: Assessor Bonnie Duncan, and approximately 6 citizens and interested parties.

**I. Regular Meeting – Open Meeting – C. Baldwin opened meeting at 7:00 PM.**

1. **Approve Minutes of April 18, 2016** – B. Jessurun moved to approve minutes of April 18, 2016. D. Smith seconded. All in favor.
2. **Items to Add to Agenda** – C. Baldwin requested to add a discussion of the Agricultural Lease Agreements to New Business, Item 3 and move the Veteran's Exemption Discussion to item 4. So moved by B. Jessurun. D. Smith seconded. All in favor.
3. **Citizen Participation and Communications** – Maureen Nicholson asked about the April 18<sup>th</sup> minutes church reference. It should reflect Most Holy Trinity and not Christ Church. She also had comments regarding: The Sidewalk Project, there is interest in this project by Pomfret School. Syl Pauley has started the design work; Firehouse and EOC Projects, there seems to have been no movement and talented resources are available in town to work on these projects; Nora Lane, improvements. C. Baldwin provided some feedback on where the Town stood on each of these projects.

**II. New Business**

1. **Re-Appointments – Senior Advocate Commission** – C. Baldwin stated that most terms were up for the Senior Advocate Commission and they have requested the following reappointments: Elizabeth Cartier, 4-year term to 2020, Cathy Grant, 3-year term to 2019, Gail McElroy, 2-year term to 2018, Debi Thompson, 2-year term to 2018, Ann Hinchman, 1-year term to 2017, and alternates Tom McGrath, 2-year term to 2018 and Monique Caron-Krug, 1-year term to 2017. All terms to run to the first of May. So moved by B. Jessurun. D. Smith seconded. All in favor.
2. **Re-Appointments – Agricultural Commission** – Postponed to next meeting to allow time for feedback from Agricultural members. So moved by B. Jessurun. D. Smith seconded. All in favor.
3. **Agricultural Lease Agreements** – Two parcels of the three will be put to bid this year. Board reviewed the maps depicting each parcel and reviewed the proposed Lease Agreement. D. Smith has been working closely with the Agricultural Commission and Attorney Ed Higgins in developing these agreements. Input has also been received from the Eastern Conservation District. B. Jessurun moved to approve the agreements and maps as presented. D. Smith seconded. All in favor.
4. **Discussion: Local Option/Veteran's Exemption** – Assessor Bonnie Duncan distributed information regarding this additional, State allowed,

exemption for Veterans. She explained the various options the Town would have in moving forward with this exemption. Some additional discussion. C. Baldwin asked the Board to consider this proposal for further discussion at the next Selectmen's meeting.

### **III. Other Business**

1. **Road Issues** – C. Baldwin stated that there is a pine tree at the corner of Valentine Road and Route 169 that Eversource has marked as critical. B. Jessurun asked about Rich Road being paved. Some residents want it, some don't. This is not something currently planned but will be re-graveled this year. The Longmeadow project is starting with the new material planned to go down in the cul-de-sacs next month.
2. **General Discussion** – Nothing further.
3. **Project Updates** – B. Jessurun stated that as the time has already been paid this year, he would like to see the NECCOG engineer complete the sidewalk plans. If they are not used then the Town would still have them completed for future use. C. Baldwin stated that there are a few easement issues being worked on with regard to the Sewer project. These need resolution before the project goes to bid. NECCOG will participate in the next Sewer Meeting as they have already developed some plans for the road crossings. There is a meeting on Thursday regarding the Firehouse Extension grant and a Building Committee will be re-established. There is a meeting regarding the EOC buildings in late May. The CT Siting Council met at the Woods Hill property today. There is no update regarding the solar array at the Murdock property.
4. **Tax Refunds/Abatements:** Ronald Mathewson, COC, \$126.70 – Move to approve as presented by B. Jessurun. D. Smith seconded. All in favor.

### **IV. Current Business**

1. **Discussion/Possible Approval Five-Year Capital Plan** – Review and discussion. This plan is used as a guide when considering future projects. B. Jessurun moved to approve. D. Smith seconded. All in favor.
2. **Approval of Articles for Annual Town Meeting** – C. Baldwin stated that he was proposing a revision to the Purchase and Sale Ordinance that states the bid thresholds. The State has increased the minimum amount. Some discussion. This would increase the required Invitation to Bid minimum to \$25,000; the three quote requirement for purchases between \$2,500 - \$25,000; town sale of used equipment required by sealed bid at estimated value of \$5,000 or more. B. Jessurun moved to approve this proposal as stated. D. Smith seconded. All in favor. C. Baldwin stated he would like the budget vote to be by paper ballot. There was some discussion and it was determined that since both budgets have come in at under this current year that a paper ballot would not be necessary. The Call for the Annual Town Meeting scheduled for May 17, 2016 was reviewed and B. Jessurun moved to take all to Town Meeting as presented. D. Smith seconded. All in favor.

**V. Citizen's Comments** – Doug Hopkins stated that there is tree near the generator outside of the Senior Center that has caused some concern and people have asked it be taken down. G. McElroy asked for clarification of Debi Thompson's term to the Senior Advocates. A woman present asked about the determined life expectancy of the current PCS septic system. M. Nicholson asked about the current State revenue projections for next fiscal year and where the revenue from the Agricultural Leases will go. She also asked that the Building Committees be put back into place to jump start some of the planned projects. D. Hopkins stated that he had previously proposed a Bell Choir activity at the Senior Center to work in conjunction with the private schools and PCS but has received little feedback from the schools.

**V. Adjournment** – B. Jessurun moved to adjourn. D. Smith seconded. All in favor and the meeting duly adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Ryan, clerk

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