

Town of Woodstock
Select Board Meeting
June 20, 2023
6:00 pm
Town Hall & Zoom
Minutes

Draft minutes are subject to approval.

Present: Vice-Chair Ray Bourgeois, Mary Riley, Keri Cole, Susan Ford, Eric Duffy, Nikki Nourse, Tom Ayres, Wendy Marrinan, Tess Hunter, Judith Dossett, Benjamin Brickner, Michael Caduto, Tom Weschler, Tom Phillips, Lydia Locke, Steven Bauer, Leo Werner, Jill Davies, Mark Hunter, Brian Horbal, Samuel Musson, Michael Green, Jim Robinson, Byron Kelly, Kathy Emmons, Meg Emmons, Scott Smith, Annie Mears Abbot

A. Call to order

1. Vice-Chair Bourgeois called the Select Board Meeting of June 20, 2023, to order at 6:00 pm.

B. Conservation Commission interviews

1. Lauren Dorsey – no show.
2. Judith Dossett

Motion: by Ms. Riley to appoint Judith Dossett to the Conservation Commission.

Seconded: by Ms. Ford.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

C. Additions to & deletions from posted agenda

1. Addition – July meeting

D. Citizen comments

1. Mr. Weschler stated that he is a property owner in Woodstock and an Ottawaquechee River Trail volunteer. 500 people per week use their trail. Their universal access project will now enable all people to be able to enjoy the Ottawaquechee River and nature. ORT has just received their conditional permit from VDRB. They are now in the 30 day comment period. Their project calls for control of invasives that are there on the 1.23 acre along with the replanting of native vegetation. ORT has greatly enhanced the parcel that is

their trail head from a forgotten property to a vibrant companion piece to East End Park through a limited budget a very active volunteer group and support from the EDC. He wants to know why the Town is still considering buying the 1.23 acre parcel.

E. Manager's report

1. General report

- a. Mr. Duffy stated that he is working with the Woodstock Resort, Sustainable Woodstock, and ORT on the issue mentioned above. He is confident that soon they will have a solution that benefits everyone. The July 4th fireworks will be happening as usual at the High School on July 4th.

2. Financial report

- a. The Town should end the year with a small surplus.

F. Permits – none.

G. Old business

- 1. Town Hall Building Committee update – tabled.

H. New business

- 1. Permit fees for P&Z

Motion: by Ms. Riley to approve the FY 24 Zoning permit fees as presented.

Seconded: by Ms. Cole.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

- 2. Request for Class 4 TH57 be terminated – Werner

Motion: by Vice-Chair Bourgeois to approve the termination of Class Four TH57 and to be turned over to the Old Mill Marketplace Association as their driveway.

Seconded: by Ms. Cole.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

- 3. ESHQUA BOG sign at the intersection of Hartland Hill Road & Garvin Hill Road – tabled.

- 4. Loan RFI-322-1.0 - \$105,000 – Preliminary engineering for the Town's Main WWTF Upgrade Project

Motion: by Ms. Riley to approve the loan agreement with the Vermont State Revolving Fund for loan RFI-1-322-1.0 for the amount of \$105,000.

Seconded: by Ms. Ford.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

5. Woodstock sewer line agreement – tabled.

6. Potential closure of Cloudland Road during foliage season

a. Letter from Chair of Pomfret Select Board included in minutes.

b. Letter from Janet Bourne included in minutes.

c. This will be on the next agenda. The Select Board wants to hear more regarding Pomfret's decision.

7. Carlton Hill Road bid proposals

Motion: by Ms. Cole to approve the bid proposal from Northwoods Excavating Inc for the total cost of \$325,000.

Seconded: by Ms. Riley.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

8. IT RFP

Motion: by Ms. Cole to approve the RFP from Town of Hanover for IT services for the cost of \$30,000 year one and \$24,000 yearly after that.

Seconded: by Ms. Ford.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

9. July meeting

a. The July meeting will be rescheduled to July 11th at 10:00 am.

I. Other business – none.

J. Board of Sewer Commissioners

1. Sewer abatement request – 4 Swain Street – McGowan

Motion: by Mr. Bourgeois to deny the sewer abatement request for 4 Swain Street.

Seconded: by Ms. Ford.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

2. Sewer permits

a. 2748 East Woodstock Road – Small

b. 708 East Woodstock Road – DeMas

Motion: by Ms. Riley to approve the sewer permits for 2748 East Woodstock Road and 708 East Woodstock Road.

Seconded: by Ms. Ford.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

K. Approval of minutes

1. 5/16/23 minutes
 2. 5/23/23 minutes
 3. 5/31/23 joint minutes 1
 4. 5/31/23 joint minutes 2
- a. All tabled

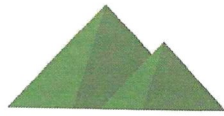
L. Adjournment

Motion: by Ms. Cole to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm.

Seconded: by Ms. Riley.

Vote: 4-0-0, passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Nikki Nourse



TOWN OF POMFRET, VERMONT

SELECTBOARD

June 7, 2023

Encouraging Fall Foliage Visitors to Respect Our Community

To whom it may concern:

We write because you are a business/organization involved in tourism for our beautiful State of Vermont. The fall foliage season, which you may already be promoting, is one that attracts many visitors and is a boon for local business. Though this has many benefits, it also negatively impacts certain locations in our small rural town of Pomfret, Vermont.

We are a small community with mostly unpaved, gravel roads, families that still farm the land, and a small number of employees and volunteers who care for the needs of our town. With the advent of internet marketing, social media, and influencers, word of our picturesque, rural town of Pomfret has spread far and wide. Private homes have been tagged as "tourist attractions" despite having no facilities to accommodate parking or other needs of the influx of visitors.

The result has been hundreds of vehicles with thousands of tourists parking on our gravel roadsides to take photos, making roads impassable, and creating safety concerns for emergency vehicles that cannot access residents. It has also resulted in trash being left on our roadsides and visitors walking, picnicking and disturbing livestock on private properties in these neighborhoods.

To help us address these issues, **we ask that you please not promote Sleepy Hollow Farm on Cloudland Road, or other private properties for tourists to visit or photograph.** We also ask that you remind visitors to respect our community so that others may also enjoy its scenic beauty.

Fall foliage traffic has been a costly and time-consuming issue for Pomfret. There are many nearby tourist attractions that are open to the public and have facilities and parking areas to accommodate them. We encourage you to promote places like these instead.

Thank you for understanding. We appreciate your help keeping Pomfret safe and beautiful.

Very sincerely,



John Peters Jr., chair

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Woodstock : Town Select Board :

Tom Bourne and I, Javier, have no objection to your closing of Clondland Rd during the fall foliage season.

We live at 4651 Clondland Rd - four house on the right above the cemetery. While we are not directly affected by the foliage "perpore" there is a great deal of traffic.

We, however, have caregivers for Tom who will be coming to the house Monday through Friday. Our son, Brian will come Saturdays and Sunday.

Javier Bourne