

Approved as
written
24Oct22

Town of Pownal
SELECT BOARD MINUTES
October 11, 2022

Present: Andy O'Brien, Jon Morris, Heidi Cushman Curry
Public: Dick Hogue, Paul Schumann, Susan Briggs Peters, John Libby
Notetaker: Kathy Hogue

- I. Chair Morris called the meeting to order, 6:30pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. AP Warrant #11 in the amount of \$239,631.45 was approved.
Payroll Journal #97 in the amount of \$5,814.28 was approved.
- IV. The minutes of September 26, 2022, were approved as written.
- V. Public Comment / none.
- VI. Department Head reports were submitted electronically; copies attached. The Select Board had nothing additional to report.
- VII. New Business
 - a. The North Pownal Community Club was able to complete their project with volunteer labor – their request for \$2,000 from the Town was withdrawn.
 - b. Fee Schedule – TABLED until a Planning Board member is able to attend.
 - c. A. O'Brien moved that the Town Hall office be closed on Election Day (November 8); the motion was 2nd and all voted in favor.
 - d. A workshop to discuss change of Town Government has been set for November 14 at 5:30pm, before the regular Select Board meeting. It will be important to have a good attendance at the workshop; Constant Contact, email boards and committees, and post it on the website will be used to publicize. Chair Morris suggested that we invite Mr. Kendall, a former Denmark official and now a volunteer for MMA, and Peter Joseph, Freeport Town Manager, to the next Select Board meeting on October 24 to help to prepare and build a framework for the November 14 workshop. What forms of town government are there? What would our base line be? Using goals and strategies from our newly-adopted Comprehensive Plan would be a good place to start. Paul Schumann suggested that the Board define what is working well now and what improvements could be made for the Select Board to better serve the Town? Would a bigger Select Board help or hinder? What are the roles and what are the concerns? S. Peters suggested that there could be conversations with Town staff and committee members for their feedback on any interactions with the Select Board – what are their experiences/feedback? J. Libby reiterated that having Mr. Kendall and Mr. Joseph weigh in/advise would be helpful.

- e. The Town has received 2 letters of Irrevocable Credit from TD Bank regarding Spruce Hollow. It is a bit confusing as to the purpose of these letters, no projects were listed. A. O'Brien asked the Planning Board what projects were the letters referring to; they said there were no projects. The Board will need to talk with the Town Attorney regarding this. A. O'Brien will make copies of the 2 letters available and will ask Matt Altieri to attend the October 24 Select Board meeting to discuss.

VIII. Old Business / None

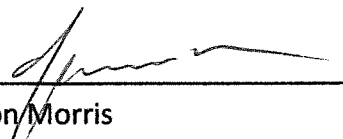
IX. Correspondence / None

X. Any other business / None

XI. The Board entered in to Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) (A) Personnel Matters at 7:00pm. Executive Session was adjourned at 7:20.

Meeting adjourned 7:21pm.

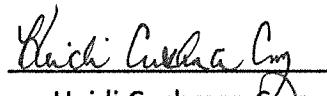
Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen A. Hogue / Deputy Town Clerk



Jon Morris



Andy O'Brien



Heidi Cushman Curry



Town of Pownal

Independent Unto Itself
Public Works

Road Commissioners Report October 11, 2022

September 26-29

- Graded roads as needed and hauled gravel.
- Fixed washouts and started shouldering on Lawrences and Fickett Road.
- Checked Road and cleaned up Several trees and debris on the road side.
- Toured New Gloucester and Durham Public safety and Public serves Facilities.

October 3-6

- Ditching and erosion Control on Sweetser Road.
- Replaced a culvert and added gravel to Sweetser and Wilson Road.
- Graded roads as needed.
- Work on plow gear for this winter.
- Cleaned the shop and sand shed.

In the next few weeks the Public works will be hauling winter sand, shouldering roads and wrapping up road projects. As well as getting our equipment ready for this coming winter.

Good evening – I come to you tonight as a member of the Economic Development and Sustainability Committee.

As you know, we have a very dedicated group of people on this committee. We have had discussions about the needs of the town as we move forward. In those discussions we have questioned whether it is time for our town to consider a new form of government.

As you know, we have a Board with three Select members who put in numerous hours while still working other jobs and taking care of families. We feel the Board does an excellent job, however, we also feel that unfortunately the Board, due to necessity, spends the majority of its time putting out fires rather than addressing current and future town needs such as zoning, financial, and capital improvement issues.

We would like to propose that the Board appoint a separate committee to investigate the options of adopting a new form of government for Pownal.

As we move forward, we will need a dedicated person who is a town employee or subcontractor and who has the time, resources, education, and experience in town government to move Pownal forward.

Susan Briggs Peters – 09.26.2022