

Town of Pownal
Select Board Minutes
Monday, September 25, 2023,
5:30 pm Regular Meeting

I. **Call to Order** the regular meeting at 6:29 pm by Chair Morris

Members Present: Jon Morris, Andy O'Brien, Kate Day

Town Administrator: Becky Taylor-Chase

Road Commissioner: Matt Nielsen

Fire Chief: Jesse Peters

II. **Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6)(A) Personnel Matters**

Chair Morris motioned to enter into the Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6)(A) Personnel Matters at 5:30 pm. Selectperson O'Brien seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

Chair Morris motioned to exit the Executive Session at 5:47 pm. Selectperson O'Brien seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

III. **Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6)(E) Legal Matters**

Chair Morris motioned to enter into the Executive Session 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6)(E) Legal Matters at 5:47 pm. Selectperson O'Brien seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

Chair Morris motioned to exit the Executive Session at 6:10 pm. Selectperson O'Brien seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

IV. **Pledge of Allegiance**

V. **Accounts Payable & Payroll Warrant**

- **FY24 AP Warrant #9 in the amount of \$328,713.96.**

Selectperson O'Brien motioned to pay FY24 AP Warrant #9 in the amount of \$328,713.96.

Selectperson Day seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

- **Payroll Journal #123 in the amount of \$8514.22.**

Selectperson O'Brien motioned to pay Payroll Journal #123 in the amount of \$8514.22.

Selectperson Day seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

IV. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

• **September 11, 2023 Executive Session & Regular Meeting**

Selectperson O'Brien motioned to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2023 Executive Session and Regular Meeting as printed. Selectperson Day seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

VI. Public Comment – Non-Agenda Items

None

VI. Department Head Reports

(Department head reports can be viewed on their respective website page(s))

• **Select Board**

Chair Morris commented on a nice job done at Leighton Road. Matt Nielsen also commented that the State is expanding the parking lot at the trail on Lawrence Road.

VII. New Business

- **North Pownal Community Club** Tabled
- **Federal ARPA Grant**

The Town Administrator gave a quick update on the Communication Center work. The work is starting on September 18th and is expected to be completed by September 28th. She then presented an estimate of the cost to update all the computers at the town office along with updating the Fire Chief's computer. The cost came in at \$11890.00. The cost includes the migration of documents and programs along with the disposal of the old computers.

Selectperson O'Brien motioned to use ARPA funds to upgrade the computers. Selectperson Day seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

• **Town Planner Computer**

Tabled until new estimate comes in.

• **Volunteer Forms: Cuyler Feagles and Bill Schmidt**

Chair Morris stated that Bill Schmidt is asking to serve on the Planning Board and Board of Appeals. Selectperson O'Brien motioned to appoint Bil Schmidt as an alternate to the Planning Board. Selectperson Day seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

Chair Morris motioned to appoint Cuyler Feagles to the CIP Committee. Selectperson Day seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

• **Doyle Marchant**

Doyle Marchant introduced himself as the owner of Doyle Marchant Realty. His wife, Stephanie Marchant, is in attendance with him. In 1985 he stated two mistakes were made and he presented a map of a property on Verrill Road. The person that owned the property was in his

late 70's (now in his 90s). Wesley Kinney (owner of the property) came before the Planning Board and requested a division of his parcel of land. He chose to request a 4-lot division. The Planning Board approved. What is left is a large parcel in the back with 60 feet of road frontage. The first thing Mr. Marchant is asking for is a building permit for that back piece and he will grant an environmental easement. The other option is to clear cut the lot. Chair Morris stated this land is on the Verrill Road map 6 lot 55 for clarification. He also stated he is not sure the Select Board has jurisdiction over this request without consulting the town attorney. This would most likely need to go before the Board of Appeals for review. Mr. Doyle asked when their next meeting was. Selectperson O'Brien answered they would schedule the meeting after receiving the request for the appeal. Chair Morris will communicate with the town attorney and respond back to Mr. Doyle.

- **TIF Recommendations**

Chair Morris looked at the district recommendations and agrees with them along with adding the school property back into the district. Selectperson O'Brien motioned to approve the recommendation from IOV Community Planning along with adding the school and Randall Farm to the TIF district. Selectperson Day seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

- **Special Town Meeting Warrant**

The Town Administrator wanted to go over the intended articles so she can start to draft the warrant. Chair Morris stated the Conservation Commission article will be tabled. We will have the TIF agreement articles, two articles from the Planning Board for update on definitions and the conservation subdivision. Selectperson O'Brien stated there maybe a housekeeping item from the 2021 town meeting. Funds were included from "G" accounts as revenues. Someone looked at the line item and transposed the name. These were FEMA funds that were included but should have gone back into the departments. Chief Peters clarified that the money was from the October 2017 storm and was to be returned to the respective departments. There was also \$4400 from a fire department truck for parts and equipment left over from engine 1 purchase that got transferred. The description got transposed with the account listed below it which was a planning line. The Town Administrator stated we could have a warrant article asking for those funds to be transferred from the Unassigned Fund Balance back to the respective "G" accounts. We can do this in a Special Town Meeting as the funds do not effect taxation and we over collected revenues and under spent budgets by approximately \$700,000. We will add articles to the warrant.

- **Ice Rink Liner**

Chair Morris stated we committed seven years ago to help the school with the liner. The RSU maintains the rink. He is asking if we can approve the money. We will need to renegotiate for next year. Selectperson O'Brien stated originally we used Recreation Impact Fee money. Chair Morris stated that requires a town meeting vote. Can we take the money from supplies in the current budget? Chair Morris motioned to appropriate \$559.49 for the liner for Pownal Elementary School. Selectperson seconded with an amendment to remove the sales tax amount.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

- **Kathy Hogue Oaths**

The Town Administrator asked to approve oaths for Kathy Hogue for Deputy Clerk, Deputy Tax Collector and Deputy Treasurer through the end of the year. Susan Briggs Peters asked for clarification as to why these oaths were requested. The Town Administrator stated the Deputy Clerk resigned her position that day with no notice. Selectperson O'Brien motioned to approve the oaths to January 1, 2024. Chair Morris seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

Susan Briggs Peters asked for clarification regarding the Conservation Commission's warrant articles for the Special Town Meeting. Chair Morris stated they are not ready yet so there will be no articles.

Chair Morris asked the Town Administrator to state for the minutes the temporary office hours. She stated the Town Office would be closing at 2 pm on Wednesdays with the exception of October 4th which would be 1 pm. The Town office would also be closed on October 5th.

Chief Peters stated he had gone over a spreadsheet with the Town Administrator regarding the recent FEMA reimbursement. She will make the entries in TRIO.

Matt Nielsen recapped that Arnold Blackstone was part of the Red Men and they have since disbanded. They had some leftover money and purchased "welcome to Pownal" signs. He supplied a list of roads he thought they could be placed on. Previous discussions were entrances to town. For clarification these are not boundary signs. They will be placed in the best sightline possible.

VII. Old Business

Chair Morris stated Annie Spaulding lives over on the corner of Verrill and Merrill Roads and has a line-of-sight issue. Could Public Works go look. The Road Commissioner will look at the corner.

VIII. Correspondence

None

IX. Any Other Business

None

XI. Adjournment

Selectperson O'Brien motioned to adjourn the meeting. Selectperson Day seconded.

Discussion: None


Vote: Yes 3; No 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.

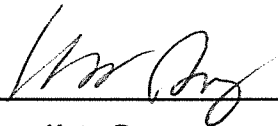
Respectfully submitted,
Becky Taylor-Chase
Town Administrator



Jon Morris



Andy O'Brien



Kate Day

