

Town of Pownal
Public Hearing & Select Board Minutes
Monday, June 6, 2022 6:00 pm

I. Public Hearing: Planning Board Ordinances called to order by Planning Board Chair Matt Altieri at 5:00 pm.

Chair Altieri recapped that the sign ordinance needs to be changed to accommodate changeable signs. This came before the Planning Board from the Recreation Committee. They looked at amending to provide for municipal messaging. He opened the floor to questions. There were none and the public hearing was ended at 5:02 pm.

II. Public Hearing: Town Meeting Warrant Called to order by Chair Morris at 6:35 pm.

Members Present: Jon Morris, Andy O'Brien, Heidi Cushman Curry.

Town Administrator: Becky Taylor-Chase

Fire Chief: Jesse Peters

Road Commissioner: Matt Nielsen

The Town Administrator summarized the edits made from the first public hearing and read articles 18 and 26 which were new articles along with the narratives. Matt Nielsen explained that they would like sell the plow that came with the new dump truck and use the money towards forks which they would use much more. Paul Schumann from the CIP Committee is interested in how this affects the CIP allocation. Chair Morris explained that we are not going to use the plow but there are other pieces that we could use. We wanted to come to town meeting and be transparent. We just want to refine the purchase without adding to the purchase price. Mr. Schumann asked if this was an accessory to the dump truck? Mr. Nielsen stated yes, we don't intend on spending more than we receive. Bo Chesney asked if any excess funds would go back to CIP. Chair Morris said if there are any excess funds they would go back to CIP. He suggested we add that to the narrative. Mr. Chesney asked which is a priority: the forks or the snow pusher? Mr. Nielsen stated the forks.

Susan Briggs Peters asked for clarification on article 21. Chair Morris read the article and Selectperson O'Brien read the narrative. She asked if the article is specific to growth? Chair Morris commented this article is specific to Mr. Schumann's questions about what Pownal will look like in the future. At the next town meeting there would be another article to move us forward. Mrs. Peters asked if the wording could be edited so we could spend excess on something else. Selectperson O'Brien said this is to benefit many committees to look at growth and future. Marcia Bowen stated maybe we should have an article for funding. Chair Morris responded that this is a good question but the Budget Committee did not have a chance to review so trying to limit these articles. Mr. Schumann stated this article will satisfy multiple uses. Ms. Bowen asked for clarification that we would not have any funding until next Town Meeting? We need to start with outside help now. Chair Morris answered if the process moves forward, we could have a special town meeting. We can ask for funds from the Undesignated Fund Balance. Selectperson O'Brien commented that we will need to start working on public outreach. Mrs. Peters asked if we could add in the 2006 Comprehensive Plan and 2010 Needs Assessment to the narrative. The Town Administrator will make that edit.

Mr. Schumann asked if we have always done article 24? Chair Morris stated we appropriate from taxation. This is a way to rebuild the fund from unexpended balances. Mr. Schumann asked if we could add a cap to the balance.

The Town Administrator explained that after a conversation with the town attorney this was the correct wording for the article 30. Carry forward is any incomplete projects that started in one fiscal year and will continue into the next. The narrative offers further explanation. Mr. Schumann asked if department heads know what the carry forward amounts will be. Mr. Nielsen commented that we don't know cost of items until after the bill arrives. We use the phrase "up to" in the request. Chair Morris clarified that the project has to have started in this fiscal year to request funds in the next fiscal year. Mr. Chesney asked if we could use wording from the narrative in the article as it is clearer. Chair Morris said we will edit the article to use the narrative wording. Ms. Bowen commented to add that the Select Board recommend after the article.

Ms. Bowen stated on article 24 to add a space between the words Select and Board.

III. **Call to Order** by Chair Morris at 7:15 pm.

IV. **Pledge of Allegiance**

V. **Accounts Payable & Payroll Warrant**

AP Warrant #57 in the amount of \$40,111.17

Selectperson O'Brien motioned to approve AP Warrant #57 in the amount of \$40,111.17.

Selectperson Curry seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

Payroll Journal #341 in the amount of \$8,428.80

Selectperson O'Brien motioned to approve Payroll Journal #341 in the amount of \$8,428.80.

Selectperson Curry seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

III. **Minutes of Previous Meetings**

- **Minutes of Regular Meeting May 23, 2022**
- **Minutes of Regular Meeting May 31, 2022**

Selectperson O'Brien motioned to approve the minutes for both regular meetings on May 23, 2022 and May 31, 2022 as written. Selectperson Curry seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

IV. **Public Comment – Non-Agenda Items**

Susan Briggs Peters asked if there was any update on the mess on Allen Road. Chair Morris stated the police are involved and the town has done what it can. State and County police are aware.

Chair Morris recognized Kathy Hogue for stepping up and helping the town office. She has agreed to help the Deputy Clerk during the Town Administrator's absence.

V. **Department Head Reports – Submitted Electronically**

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

- **Select Board**

Selectperson O'Brien reported normal PCWA check ins, lots of meetings and attended the RSU5 Tri-town meeting.

Chair Morris and Selectperson Curry had nothing new to report.

VI. New Business

- **Town Meeting Warrant – General Government Budget Recommendation**

The Town Administrator explained with the addition of the part time clerk article it changed the General Government FICA and Medicare lines and needs the Select Board to approve the new amount for the warrant.

Selectperson O'Brien motioned to approve the amount of \$443,287 for the General Government Budget recommendation to appear on the warrant. Selectperson Curry seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

- **Comprehensive Plan Report/Updates**

Chair Morris reported he met one more time with the CFO and Superintendent of the RSU and has gotten zero answers. He also commented that we had made reference to the 2021 Comprehensive Plan in the Town Meeting Warrant narratives.

- **Oaths**

See attached.

- **Ordinance Review Committee**

Chair Morris received an email from the Chair of the Ordinance Review Committee, Tom Hall, and he is feeling overwhelmed by the definitions. Susan Briggs Peters commented that the committee had a meeting and determined the definitions need to be done by a professional. The committee felt we should be looking at professional resources and this is more of a job for North Star Planning. It's too big a job for this committee. Any change in the definitions can make changes to the Land Use Ordinance. So, the committee wonders if they can be of help to the Planning Board and Select Board for smaller things. She used the example of the recently changed animal ordinance. The committee could easily fix those. She also asked about the impact fee. North Star Planning had sent some documents but she never received them. Chair Morris stated that the impact fee was tabled. Selectperson Curry commented that after the recodification impact fees is on the list to update. We haven't started on any other changes as the recodification has taken a year. Once this has been adopted, we can look at the next priorities. Mrs. Peters stated that Todd Mellin is on the Planning Board and can keep a list of areas that need updating. Selectperson Curry agreed that the Planning Board should be keeping a list of troublesome areas.

Chair Morris asked Dick Hogue for an update on the rooster situation. Mr. Hogue stated he sent an email out with the solution. He suggested that the owners reduce to 3 roosters. That is more appropriate. The owner readily agreed to reduce the number of roosters. Mr. Hogue reported to the complainant who was not happy with the decision. Recently one rooster was shot while it was in the pen. The Cumberland County Sheriff's office is investigating.

- **County ARPA Funds**

The Town Administrator received an email from Sandra Warren asking if we would be willing to use any of our Federal Funds towards the Communication Center project. She stated that when other applicants did this their applications were approved. The Committee will be reviewing our application tomorrow (June 7, 2022). Selectperson Curry felt we should use a percentage

number rather than a dollar figure. Chair Morris recapped the project to those in attendance. Selectperson Curry clarified that we had to hit a minimum total to apply for the grant. We included some things like the elevator upgrade to get to this number. Bo Chesney suggested using an "up to percentage". Selectperson Curry suggested up to 25%. Chair Morris and Selectperson O'Brien agreed. The Town Administrator will reach out in the morning with this information.

VII. Old Business

None

VIII. Correspondence

None

IX. Any Other Business

None

XI. Adjournment

Chair Morris motioned to adjourn the meeting. Selectperson O'Brien seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote: Yes 3; No 0

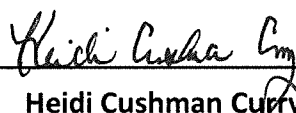
The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Becky Taylor-Chase
Town Administrator



Jon Morris

Andy O'Brien



Heidi Cushman Curry

Name	Committee	Term Start	Term End	Motined	Seconded	Discussion	Vote
Richard Hogue	ACO	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	Chair Morris	Selectperson O'Brien	None	Yes 3; No 0
Matthew Nielsen	Deputy ACO	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	Chair Morris	Selectperson O'Brien	None	Yes 3; No 0
Clifford Ruprecht	Board of Appeals	7/1/2022	6/30/2025	Chair Morris	Selectperson O'Brien	None	Yes 3; No 0
David Steckler	Board of Appeals	7/1/2022	6/30/2025	Chair Morris	Selectperson O'Brien	None	Yes 3; No 0
Angela King Horne	Conservation Commission	7/1/2022	6/30/2025	Chair Morris	Selectperson O'Brien	None	Yes 3; No 0
Richard Hogue	Conservation Commission	7/1/2022	6/30/2025	Chair Morris	Selectperson O'Brien	None	Yes 3; No 0
Kate Elders	Conservation Commission	7/1/2022	6/30/2025	Chair Morris	Selectperson O'Brien	None	Yes 3; No 0
Marika Clark	Conservation Commission	7/1/2022	6/30/2025	Chair Morris	Selectperson O'Brien	None	Yes 3; No 0
Diane Epstein	Health Officer	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	Chair Morris	Selectperson O'Brien	None	Yes 3; No 0
Eric Romanowsky	Deputy Health Officer	7/1/2022	6/30/2023	Chair Morris	Selectperson O'Brien	None	Yes 3; No 0

