

Pownal Select Board Minutes  
October 16, 2023

Board: Jon Morris, Katherine Day, Andy O'Brien

Town Administrator: Becky Taylor-Chase

Fire Chief: Jesse Peters

Road Commissioner: Matt Nielsen

Public Present: Dick Hogue, Bill Schmidt, Jesse Peters, Susan Briggs Peters, Matt Nielsen, Marcia Bowen, Bo Chesney

- I. Chair Morris called the meeting to order, 6:30pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Warrant #10 in the amount of \$249,881.47 was approved.  
Payroll Journal #150 in the amount of \$11,643.68 was approved.
- IV. Minutes of September 25, 2023, Executive Session and Regular meeting were approved as written.
- V. Public Comment / non-agenda items: None
- VI. Department Head Reports can be viewed online.  
Select Board: Andy reported that he still is waiting for information from Estabrooks (regarding TIF) requested 3-4 weeks ago.
- VII. New Business
  - a. Becky Taylor-Chase reminded the Board that we still have funds remaining from the ARPA Grant, approximately \$100,000.
  - b. Town Planner Computer: ION Networking had previously recommended a laptop for a cost of \$1,694.69; however, there is a specific laptop that would include special screen viewing for a Town Planner at a cost of \$3,735.15. We could use some of the remaining ARPA funds towards this. Andy reminded that the Town was going to use ARPA funds to update all the town computers, to be put on Special Town Meeting warrant. Andy moves to include the Town Planner's computer for \$3,735.15 to be paid for by remaining ARPA funds; 2<sup>nd</sup> and all voted in favor.
  - c. Volunteer Form: Jon moves to accept the volunteer form from Theresa Lofgren to rejoin the CIP committee. 2<sup>nd</sup> and all voted in favor.
  - d. Special Town Meeting Warrant: Warrant articles #1 and #2 are regarding sub-division ordinances and amendments. When/if these ordinances are approved, there will be at least 17 changes in a variety of areas of the land use ordinance. This creates a lot of time constraints getting the warrant ready for the December Special Town Meeting. Andy moves to push back the December 11 Special Town Meeting until January 22, 2024; 2<sup>nd</sup> and all voted in favor.

Marcia Bowen (from Planning Board) added that this would work giving the Planning Board a little extra time to get everything ready.

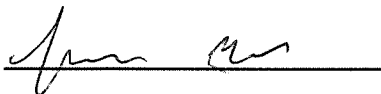
Bo Chesney (Future Facilities Committee) asked that the Future Facilities Committee have a place holder for a potential STM warrant article to expend grant monies.

- e. Becky explained the adjustments needed to be made on the FY23 Audit. It was moved and 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept the FY23 audit with adjustments. All voted in favor.
  - f. A real estate request has been received to purchase town-owned land Map 9 Lot 43 to put in a trailer park. Becky will send the request to abutters and committees for input. There is a 60-day window to complete the process.
  - g. GPCOG Vision Zero Initiative is looking for a Pownal representative to serve on their panel – Jon Morris agreed to serve.
  - h. It was moved and 2<sup>nd</sup> to appoint Ginifir Giddinge as Plumbing Inspector and as Deputy Clerk. All voted in favor.
  - i. As we are beginning to use the equipment in our AV Room, it might be nice to have a student for a Senior Project, or other project, to get involved? Chair Morris will reach out to FHS principal.
  - j. There is money from the State for the Brown Tail Moth Power Wash. This is done in winter, knocking the nests down from the oak trees. It's an alternative to pesticides. Students at PES are doing a unit on the brown tail moth, there may be an open house to share information. Chair Morris will look into this further. Matt Nielsen commented to use caution when power washing as this could break up the nest and cause them to spread.
  - k. Becky requested that the counter be closed during the November 7 election – all agreed.
  - l. Becky noted that she has received 5 applications for the Deputy Town Clerk position; she will be conducting phone interviews over the next two weeks and then will narrow it down to 1-2 candidates for an in person interview with the Select Board.
  - m. Chairman Morris congratulated Kathy Hogue and Heidi Richards on a “job well done” for the Pownal Pumpkin Festival!
- VIII. Old Business / none.
- IX. Correspondence / none.
- X. Any other business / GPCOG meeting this Wednesday for Becky and board to attend.

*Meeting adjourned, 7:05pm.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

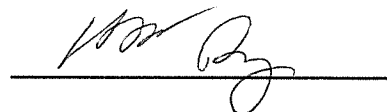
*Kathleen A. Hogue / Deputy Clerk*



**Jon Morris**



**Andy O'Brien**



**Kate Day**