



MINUTES OF THE PAWLET SELECT BOARD

June 28, 2011

DRAFT

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7:01pm Meeting called to order by Chair Mike Beecher

Present: Mike Beecher, Clarence Decker, Joe Clark, Sue LaPorte, Bob Jones

Audience present: Elizabeth Gibson

Minutes of June 14, 2011 were reviewed. *Motion by Deck, seconded by Sue to accept with corrections. So voted.*

Audience

Elizabeth Gibson, Pawlet Newsletter editor, is finishing up the summer issue of the Newsletter this week. It will feature the August celebration and the Neighborworks challenge to get energy audits at \$100 cost to the homeowner. Low interest loans are available through Neighborworks. There will be two \$10,000 cash prizes for the two towns doing the most to get the energy audits and upgrades.

Deck would like a thank-you letter to all who donated to the flags included in the Newsletter.

Elizabeth asked if the town will take advantage of the program to do LED upgrades for town lights. Clarence said there is no money in the budget for that this year.

Correspondence

State of VT AOT: Re: Mach farm section of Route 30, they will put up tractor crossing signs. A study showed no reason for a reduced speed limit in that area. Deck stated his concerns and the consensus of the board was to pursue it.

AOT: Structures and resurfacing grants: The Danby Mt. Road grant was denied– please apply again next year. The grant for Bridge #6 on Rte 153 over the Indian River will be funded.

Daniels Proposal was accepted by the state (AOT). The town will pay \$86,000 against the \$200,000 total. We have two years to complete the job. Mike and Joe felt that more work needs to be done to figure out where the money will come from. Mike asked Deck to investigate it further. The board also asked Deck to contact Daniels to see if they will hold their bid.

Unfinished Business

Deck met with Nelson Blanchard and Joe Kelly – regional traffic investigator regarding the monument in West Pawlet. The Town can leave the monument where it is, but the final drawing made a “T” intersection.

The monument will be moved 10-15 feet toward Dutchies' store onto Railroad property. The town would have to pay for all the work. Deck gave the information to Estelle Leach, who will look into funding and will contact the Railroad for permission to move it.

The Town Truck has not come back yet.

Wade's list – Joe and Deck will check on what the road crew has done. A letter from the Loss Control Consultant from VLCT contains plans and recommendations.

Schindler – Joe said there is still an issue with the elevator motor running. They didn't come before the 21st as quoted, but they will be here in July.

The Town received quotes from other CPAs about town auditing and one written proposal. Mudgett came in the lowest. *Motion by Joe, seconded by Deck to accept Mudgett's proposal for the town audit. So voted.*

New Business

Michael Smith requested check for \$9,000. Judy attached a note to the check because the grant money from VDHP is not here yet. Deck indicated he was against paying the bill before July.

Deck left the meeting at 8:10pm

During further discussion regarding the Smith contract, it was duly noted that there may be enough in other accounts to cover the balance owed until the new budget is in effect. A phone call to Judy indicated she could float a loan to the renovation account until the grant money comes in. *Motion by Sue, seconded by Bob to pay this portion of the Michael Smith Bill. Three in favor, one against. So voted.*

Sue met with Lux Brush re: exterior painting today. Tyler Electric is coming tomorrow at 1:30 to look at the auditorium ceiling, locate the chandelier boxes, and give an estimate for the work.

The Clerk's memo to board was reviewed.

- Tom Nelson, Fred Stone, and Myron Waite wish to be on the Planning Commission, with terms to expire March, 2014. *Motion by Sue, seconded by Bob to appoint Tom Nelson, Fred Stone, and Myron Waite to the Planning commission. So voted.*
- The VLCT 2011 awards program letter was read.
- Stone Valley Byway submitted copies of the byway interpretive panel for the board's review and approval, as well as anyone they wish to include on the panel. The board will give it to Deck (Byway committee member) for review.
- National MS Society is asking permission to allow their race on the town highway. *Motion by Joe, seconded by Sue to allow it. So voted.*
- VLCT information regarding CDL Drug and Alcohol Testing Trainings – Deck to review before decision.
- Blue Flame Budget Contract for review and signatures. Joe will investigate usage further.
- Cemetery hill dust control prior to August celebration. Water vs. salt? The board will talk to Keith.
- Elizabeth will take care of the refrigerator.

Mike got a Complaint about excessive ditch digging on the Switch Road, leaving no place to walk. Mike will investigate further.

The memo from the Listers was reviewed. The tax rate is 1.1530 for residents, and 1.4035 for non-residents.

Unfinished business

Regarding the DRB clerk, Mike talked to Fred Stone about it. They decided to hire someone to take the minutes and have John Thrasher review decisions. The board needs to advertize the position. Sue will get it into the Newsletter: Clerk for DRB per deim position. Send a letter of interest to the select board.

The dog warrants are signed. The board received a complaint from someone in NY who answered a letter on Craig's list for free kittens on Kelly Hill Road. The letter indicated the kittens were malnourished and the situation needed to be investigated. The health officer can't investigate unless someone calls her first, and she didn't get a call. The health officer told the board that condemning a house is a very complicated process.

The Green Mountain Engineering budget was discussed. The schedule of meetings with Green Mountain will allow opportunities for discussion of options for payment on the wastewater plant upgrades.

Wood's pool still has not been removed, which was part of the required action. The board determined that the health officer should investigate it further.

A letter of interest to serve on DRB was submitted to the board from Clarence Decker. A conversation with John Thrasher indicated it would not be a conflict of interest. *Motion by Joe, seconded by Bob to appoint Clarence Decker to the DRB, so voted.*

9:00pm *Motion to adjourn by Sue. So voted.*

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Folger, Clerk