



MINUTES OF THE PAWLET SELECT BOARD

May 17, 2011

7:00pm Meeting called to order by Chair Mike Beecher

Present were: Mike Beecher, Joe Clark, Clarence Decker, Sue LaPorte

Audience present: Liz Kurjiaka, Beth Meacham, Charlie Mason, Keith Mason

Minutes of May 3, 2011 were reviewed. *Motion by Deck, seconded by Joe to accept the minutes with corrections. So voted.*

Minutes of April 28, 2011 were reviewed. *Motion by Deck, seconded by Sue to accept the minutes as written. So voted.*

Audience

Charlie Mason, Lister noted that a PVR appeal is scheduled for June 27th at 9:30am. He has called John Thrasher and invited him to attend the hearing.

The Pawlet Listers have been asked to participate in a municipal parcel data exchange, which would make it easier to check property sales comparisons with other towns. Mike asked if there is any cost for the computer program. Charlie said he believed it would be labor only, but he would check on it.

The listers submitted a letter of request for an extension in filing the Grand List. *Motion by Deck, seconded by Joe to ask for a 30 day extension in filing the Grand List. So voted.*

7:15 Beth Meacham, Manchester and the Mountains Chamber of Commerce representing the **Stone Valley Byway** summarized the activities of the Federal program. The goal is to encourage secondary highway travel and put economic energy into village businesses. She presented the board with the design for stone highway markers, noting that Susanne Rappaport would be supplying the historical information. She asked the board to decide on a possible location for the marker in Pawlet. She will return at a later date with a mock-up of the marker that can be positioned at its possible location for review by the board.

Liz Kurjiaka, Pawlet Health Officer received a complaint regarding a swimming pool issue in West Pawlet. The homeowner was approached and given instructions for rectifying the situation, but after a sufficient amount of time has not taken action. *Motion by Deck, seconded by Sue that Liz draw up a Health Order letter including instructions for proper removal of water and solids and Mike will review and sign. So voted.*

Correspondence

Sue received a letter from Neighborworks stating that the town of Pawlet will receive \$50 for everyone who has an energy audit through Neighborworks and does a significant energy upgrade.

Joe received a personal email from the Pawlet Taxpayer Association stating it was a formal request for information from the Town. Joe will ask the Pawlet Taxpayer Association to please address the board, and not individuals when formally requesting information.

Two wells at the landfill have elevated levels of pollutants.

The Clerk's memo to the board was reviewed.

- John Malcolm initiated a resolution regarding the 250th anniversary celebration in Pawlet. Deb matted and framed it, and it is hanging in the meeting room outside the clerk's door.

John Thrasher sent a letter to the board recusing himself from representing either the owner or the town concerning the 2226 Waite Road property because he has represented both.

Unfinished Business

Joe said the budget health insurance figure is wrong, and Judy will look into it.

Joe looked into other auditors. They all want previous audits in order to give a fair price. There are four firms in the area.

Joe stated that Judy will look into the bills for the uniforms to determine why that number is so high.

The town laptop computer was not in the office for the use of the select board clerk this week. Keith stated he would get it to Deb.

Joe spoke with Mike Smith regarding the light fixtures and heat/smoke detectors attached to the auditorium ceiling. Mike is confident the fire alarms are not a problem, and the light fixtures are not a big deal. Mike's assistant is an employee, so no other insurance is required from him. He is covered on Mike's policy.

Deck said 5,000 yards of crushed gravel is needed. *Motion by Deck, seconded by Joe to bid the crushing. So voted.*

Wade Measures has grants for containers to house tires, signs, propane, gasoline, and chainsaws. The grant pays half the cost, and includes vests and safety signs. The estimated cost to the town is \$4,500.00. Keith said we should add an access door to the grant for the containers.

The fire extinguishers in all the town buildings need to be checked monthly, dated, and initialed by building workers. Each office should be responsible for its own extinguisher. Joe and Deck will spread the word.

Keith stated that Mr. Keough from Henderson said they would fix the dump box if it goes to Watertown. They will work with us on transportation, and the box would be under warranty. *Motion by Joe, seconded by Deck to take the truck to Henderson in Watertown, NY when the opportunity arises. So voted.*

Keith will discuss AFLAC insurance with the road crew.

No paint bids have come in yet for the exterior of the town hall.

New Business

Joe said the contract for elevator maintenance with Schindler expires June 11th. His conversation with them indicated that the cost of a future contract would be roughly half of the light use fee.

Edie Mach will be having antique tractors on her lawn, as well as people, for the 2011 celebration, and is concerned about insurance. Joe feels the landowner has to add a rider to their homeowner's policy, and club 2011 should cover the fee. He will talk to Judy.

Joe thinks the emergency boiler switch in the town garage should be moved close to the entrance.

Deck mentioned that a grant for a salt shed (with a 20% match) is available. Salt sheds are not mandated yet, but the town should be aware of the possibility.

The wastewater report was reviewed.

Any Other Business

Joe asked Karen who will manage the auditorium ceiling repair. Karen said she would, as she is also responsible for the grant management. She will check on authorized costs with VDHP.

9:09pm *Motion by Deck, seconded by Joe to adjourn. So voted.*

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Folger, Clerk