

Minutes for Town of Pawlet Select Board
Pawlet Town Hall
September 29, 2015

Members in Attendance:

Mike Beecher
Sarah Ludlam
Bob Jones
Charles Weeden
Ed Cleveland

Others in Attendance:

Keith Mason
Dave Ricard
Eric Mach
Molly Beverage
Janno Gay
Elizabeth Gibson
Timothy Hughes-Muse

Meeting Called to order at 7:03 pm

Item 1: Review Past Meeting Minutes: Ms Ludlam, Mr. Beecher, and Mr. Weeden made edits to the Minutes of the September 15th, 2015 meeting of the Select Board. Mr. Weeden made motion to accept the minutes with the edits, seconded by Mr. Cleveland, motion carried, voted and approved.

Item 2: Library Trustees, Molly Beverage and Janno Gay

All library activities are covered under the Property and Casualty Coverage. This includes special events and no additional actions are required to host special events.

Most of PACIF Action plan has been addressed, however the completed list has not been sent to VLCT. Mr. Hughes-Muse and Ms. Ludlam will confirm the completion of the plan and communicate that with VLCT's loss control consultant.

The Library Trustees indicate that the snow guards on library are not sufficient enough to protect the access ramp. The board agrees that it is an issue that needs to be addressed but are concerned about keeping snow on the roof. The Mr. Weeden will contact a roofer to consult on the snow guards.

Item 3: First Constable, David Ricard

The Constable completed paperwork to change dispatch to Rockingham. The Constable will deliver the paperwork personally to Rockingham. Future constables will not be able to have VSP and a dispatch center. Mr. Ricard recommends that the board budget for the dispatch service, due to the probability that the State Police will implement a fee for the service in the coming year.

Item 4: Audience Member, Elizabeth Gibson

Ms. Gibson has been making changes to the town's website that were discussed at the last Select Board meeting. Ms. Gibson suggests that we add more details about using the town's auditorium as well as the rental application and agreement.

Bob Hedden suggested that the town add a heat exchanger in order to heat the auditorium. Mr. Cleveland will request quotes for contractors to do the work Mr. Hedden recommends.

Ms. Gibson mentioned that Meg Campbell of Vermont Preservation Trust suggested that thermal shades and curtains should be installed to reduce the energy costs associated with heating and cooling the auditorium.

Item 5:

Mr. Cleveland brought up other building concerns: tree adjacent to Town Hall is posing a threat. Mr. Cleveland will approach neighbors about solutions to the problem. Glazing on windows in auditorium needs to be repaired because they are loose. Although it was recently installed, the hallway door upstairs is in poor shape and is hanging loose on its hinges.

Item 6: Road Foreman's Report

- The state of Vt would like the Select Board to give them a figure on the purchase of a parcel of the gravel pit for the development of a satellite garage for VTrans. The most successful projects are the ones that are joint municipal operations. Mr. Beecher suggests that Mr. Mason develop a preliminary figure. The board wishes to continue discussion and wishes to note that the Select Board is in favor of this project
- North Pawlet Paving project is complete. Spot paving on Route 153 is complete. Shoulder work to come after road settles.
- Started Warren Switch project. Waiting for culvert to arrive and weather to clear.
- Richard Hewlett feels that his field is wet because a high driveway culvert. The town is trying to get a grant that would address issues associated with runoff from Warren Switch Road onto Vt Route 153. Addressing the aforementioned runoff would alleviate the problem Mr. Hewlett with excess moisture in adjacent field.
- The state has not completed the paperwork for the landfill closure, but is working on it.
- Road Grading caused a little issue with residents because of mud. The town needs to begin fall grading in order to complete by winter, so the road crew had to start despite the forecasted rain.
- Discussion regarding F550 dump body- still needs to be sanded and painted. The board agrees to put it on hold till the spring.
- Ms. Ludlam requests that Mr. Mason provide her with the town's input (time and materials) on the North Pawlet Paving Contract so that she can submit those expenditures to grantors.

Item 7:

Wastewater Treatment Plant has a faulty bearing, because it was probably installed wrong. Mr. Beecher is working on a resolution with Green Mountain Engineering.

Item 8: Zoning Administrator, Eric Mach

Planning Commission is on track with Town Plan. There will be a hearing warned after the next planning commission, which will be held October 26th. Ms. Ludlam advises that if more than two board members attend a planning commission meeting, it needs to be warned.

Item 9: Town Treasurer's Memo

Reviewed Town Treasurer's Memo.

Ms. Ludlam made motion to approve the warrants, seconded by Mr. Weeden, motion carried, voted and approved.

Item 10: Town Clerk's Memo

Reviewed Town Clerk's Memo.

Regarding Ms Hawkin's request to increase budget for her to attend the New England Association of City and Town Clerks Annual Conference in Woodstock, VT. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve admission fees and accommodations, Ms. Ludlam seconded, motion carried, voted and approved.

Item 11: Reviewed Pawlet Health Officer's Memo

Item 12: Reviewed Pawlet Safety Officer's Memo

Mr. Weeden suggests that Mr. Morlino review the remains Lavern James's residence on Button Falls Rd for safety. Mr. Weeden also suggests that the deadline for clean-up be set before winter.

Item 12: Regarding the Pawlet Town Plan

Mr. Weeden states that the select board needs to address the speed limit concerns in the Town Plan. Furthermore, Mr. Weeden suggest that the town needs to address the Right-to-Farm issues in the town ordinances and Town Plan. Mr. Jones states that there is not much the town can do besides promote agriculture in the town plan. The town cannot be more lenient than the state, with regards to regulation.

Mr. Cleveland asks Mr. Mach if there is any space given to recreation in the town plan. Mr. Mach states that there is.

Item 13: Mr. Jones made a motion to go into executive session at 8:50 to discuss a personnel issue.

Ms.Ludlam seconded, motion carried, voted, and approved. Mr. Jones made the motion to exit executive session with no decisions made at 9:22. Mr. Cleveland seconded, motion carried, voted and approved.

Item 14: Based on the Vermont Statutes, Title 24, Chapter 117, Subchapter 002, Section 4323, Mr. Jones made the motion to remove Mr. Lenny Gibson from the Pawlet Planning Commission and to notify Mr. Gibson via Return Receipt Certified US Mail. Ms. Ludlam seconded. Sarah Ludlam voted aye. Charles Weeden voted affirmative. Edgar Cleveland voted yes. Michael Beecher voted yes. Bob Jones voted yes. The motion carried, voted and approved unanimously. The aforementioned Statute reads:

- a. Members of a planning commission shall be appointed and any vacancy filled by the legislative body of a municipality. The length and term of planning commission members shall be determined by the legislative body of a municipality. Any member may be removed at any time by unanimous vote of the legislative body. Any appointment to fill a vacancy shall be for the expired term.*

Item 15: Ms Ludlam made the motion to pay the Express Copy bill for the town plan. Mr. Cleveland seconded, motion carried, voted and approved.

Ms. Ludlam made a motion to adjourn at 9:33 pm, Mr. Cleveland seconded, motion carried, voted and approved.

Respectfully submitted by Timothy Hughes-Muse, Select Board Administrative Assistant.