

**Minutes for Town of Pawlet Planning Commission  
Pawlet Town Office  
Pawlet, VT  
Monday, January 22nd, 2018  
7:30 p.m.**

**Members Attending:**

**Wayne Clarke**

**Eric Mach**

**Harry Van Meter**

**Rik Sassa**

**Others Attending:**

**Frank Nelson, West Pawlet**

**Members Absent**

**Gary Baierlein**

**Mark Frost**

**Melissa LaCount**

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Eric called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

**Item 1: Meeting Agenda**

No available guest speaker for meeting, addition to agenda Harry Van Meter printed possible topics for 2018 discussion, Eric added a discussion of Joint Policy Committee recommendations for changes to act 250, meeting agenda to follow normal 6 item course. Harry Van Meter motioned to approve agenda. Rik Sassa seconded, motion passed

**Item 2: Minutes of Nov. 27th Meeting**

Minutes for last meeting, November 2017 (no meeting in December) were not available. Secretary, Rik Sassa to send copy to all members and to be posted on website.

**Item 3: Public Comments**

Frank Nelson spoke about his recent audit of Selectman's meetings which had a lot to do with major problems with sewer system in West Pawlet. Many problems with most recent sewer plant rebuild, along with the town not being able to reach a capacity that would make it more affordable for residents. Other problems like land trust issues that would make expanding the range impossible, natural geography that would make any other system feasible. Current vacancies in town, reducing the number of sewer system participants combined with the necessary repairs will raise sewer fees dramatically. The state had years ago mandated that the

town build a sewer plant to prevent leaking into the Indian river that runs thru West Pawlet. The current operational state of the sewer plant may negatively impact economic development in town. Wayne Clarke suggested that we find a way to get funds to repair and upgrade the plant. Eric Mach clarified, that West Pawlet is not a legal entity. It is simply the West side of Pawlet, in which case, all of Pawlet is responsible for problems within Pawlet.

**Item 4: Zoning Administrator's report**

Eric Mach spoke about an individual in town that was in the process of trying to establish a training facility for special operations/tactics. This falls under the zoning guidelines of a school or training facility. The party in question is currently working through some right of way requirements.

**Item 5: Economic Development and Infrastructure Improvements**

Harry Van Meter and Eric Mach are signed up to go to the Efficiency Vermont Better Buildings by Design Conference on Feb. 7th and 8th. Rik Sassa is to write a yearly report on the Planning Commission's efforts to be included in the town annual report. Harry Van Meter composed an outline for possible 2018 Planning Commission topics for discussion. Eric passed out information regarding the Joint Policy Committee's recommendations for changes to act 250. Harry Van Meter offered to submit comments to Lyle Jepson on behalf of the Planning Commission regarding the Joint Policy Committees recommendations.

**Item 6. Next Meeting**

Next meeting is February 26th, 2018. Agenda for meeting as follows: Meeting agenda, Minutes from last meeting, Public comments, Zoning administrator's report, Economic Development and Infrastructure Improvements.

Harry Van Meter moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:58pm, Eric Mach seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Rik Sassa