

Minutes for Town of Pawlet Select Board
Pawlet Town Hall
December 22nd, 2015

Members in Attendance:

Mike Beecher
Sarah Ludlam
Bob Jones
Charles Weeden
Ed Cleveland

Others in Attendance:

Nancy Morlino
Keith Mason
Don Dichiara
Elizabeth Gibson
Timothy Hughes-Muse

Meeting Called to order at 6:58 pm by Ms. Ludlam, Vice-Chairperson.

Item 1: Review Past Meeting Minutes of the December 8th, 2015 meeting of the Select Board. Mr. Weeden made motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Cleveland motion carried, voted and approved.

Item 2: Don Dichiara is upset about the Kelley Hill Road and is upset about the type of material the road crew can use. Mr. Dichiara feels that Danby's roads are better than Pawlets, and demanded answers as to why. Mr. Dichiara has left voicemail recordings for the Road Foreman. Mr. Dichiara left the meeting before the members of the Selectboard or the Road Foreman had an opportunity to respond. Mr. Mason and Mr. Hughes-Muse had inspected the road following receipt of the voicemail and prior to the selectboard meeting. The inspection found the road soft in spots but within what might be expected with freezing and thawing weather.

The Selectboard asks Mr. Mason to add this section of road to the town's long que of road projects and problem areas to be addressed in the next couple years. The 2016 work season schedule includes, Warren Switch Rd, North Pawlet Rd culvert, Steadman Culvert on Tadmer Rd.

Ms. Ludlam passed control of the meeting to the chair, Mr. Beecher at 7:22 pm

Item 3: Nancy Morlino of the Pawlet Energy Group reported on the Solar Project at the Town Landfill. The tax credit has extended to the year 2022. Ms. Morlino met with Watts by Hand, and Positive EnergyNY regarding a project at the town landfill, Ms. Morlino says that the engineering of the project would be challenging and that the area might be too small. There are two other areas that might be ideal for a solar project nearby. Ms. Morlino thinks that the town can work with local contractors to execute a similar project to the one CEDG has proposed, and the town would be better for it. The Selectboard agrees.

Item 4: Road Foreman's Report

1. Yellow Mack needed a lot of repair work.
2. IH Truck had to get bed repair/ relined.
3. Wells would like to work a deal to use our chipper and in exchange provide help for our brush clearing. The board approves of this proposal.
4. Local Roads Grants revised their framework and the end of Warren Switch Road might be a viable proposal to that grant.
5. Mr. Mason and the Board discussed the process of determining a value to the gravel pit lot that might be sold to VTrans. The board also discussed alternatives to the sale of the property.
6. Ms. Ludlam, Mr. Mason, and Mr. Hughes-Muse attended the PMRCD stormwater meeting last week. The main issue is the development of a large gully off of Flower Brook which dumps sediment into Flower Brook, increasing flood risk to the Village of Pawlet.
7. Future regulations will require a blanket permit for all road projects that the town does, in order to comply with water quality regulations.

Item 5: 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 6: Town Clerk's Report

Reviewed Town Clerk's Memo

Item 7: West Pawlet Wastewater Treatment Facility

Service on the bearing is scheduled for January 4th.

Item 8: Town Budget

Ms. Ludlam made the motion to set the the General Fund Budget at \$390,685.00, seconded by Mr. Cleveland, motion carried, voted and approved.

Mr. Cleveland made the motion to set the Highway Budget at \$438,339.00, seconded by Mr. Weeden, motion carried, voted and approved.

Mr. Jones made the motion to set the wastewater budget at \$84,410.00 showing no change, seconded by Ms. Ludlam, motion carried, voted and approved.

Ms. Ludlam made a motion to adjourn at 8:25 pm, Mr. Cleveland seconded, motion carried, voted and approved.

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