

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
August 28, 2018
7:00 pm at Pawlet Town Hall
Regular Meeting

Members in Attendance:

Bob Jones
Mike Beecher
Ed Cleveland
Chuck Weeden
John Malcolm

Others in Attendance:

Kristin Powers
Jay Luebke, PEG-TV
Dolores Luebke
Chris Reilly
Daniel S. Banyai
Keith Mason
Beth Moser-Duquette
Ray Duquette Sr.
Lowell Ferguson
Elizabeth Gibson
Mary Lou Willits
Jackie Vallerie
Ed Vallerie
John Davis
Valerie Davis
Gary Hadeka
Anne Hadeka
Michelle Tillander
James Dunn
John Thrasher
Frank Nelson
Eli-Anita Norman
Rita Robson
Ken Norman

Harry Van Meter
Darren Godette
Chip Serell

EVENT

1. Call to order at 7:02 pm
2. Addition or Deletion of Agenda Items
 - a. Additions: Mary Lou Willits, Library Director, and Daniel Banyai under Appearances of Local Citizens and Visitors. Hal Wilkins, Zoning Administrator, to provide report rather than physical appearance. Bauer Road gate discussion added to Old/Unfinished Business.
 - b. Deletions: None
3. Introduction of those present by chairperson
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting
 - A. Motion to accept the Minutes of August 14, 2018 with no edits or corrections.
 - Mover: Ed Cleveland
 - 2nd: John Malcolm
 - Discussion: No further discussion therefore the minutes are approved (unanimous).
5. Appearances by local citizens and visitors.
 - A. Mary Lou Willits, Library Director - Thanked the members of the Board and taxpayers of Pawlet for supporting the Public Library. Reported that a strategic planning process for the library has been started - should take about 6 months. The plan will be engaging Pawlet community members via interviews, with hopes to interview the Select Board as well. Possible date of interview could be Saturday, September 9th at 2:30pm [*Addendum: Board to reconvene: potential interview date*]. Interviews will be facilitated by an outside coordinator. Plan aims to provide a roadmap for the next 2-3 years. Interviews hope to yield opportunities for collaborations with other organizations. The Planning Commission's Town Plan has been reviewed by the

Library and there is hope that the Library can assist with this plan.

- B. Daniel Banyai - Shared a concern that on April 25 at 7:17pm, Mr. Duquette Sr. submitted a document to the town indicating his petition to the Warren Switch Tactical Shooting Range. Two months ago, Mr. Banyai received the document. Mr. Banyai had this document reviewed by a forensic scientist colleague, whom reported that forgery was present. Mr. Banyai continued, suggesting that the Board accepted a forged document, and requested that the proper paperwork be submitted. Mr. Beecher stated that he would like to speak with town counsel and would respond in a timely fashion: two weeks when the Board has the opportunity to reconvene following research. Mr. Banyai expressed the desire to have a response sooner. Mr. Thrasher shared that he will investigate this statement further and will give the Board the opportunity to reconvene prior to response. Mr. Thrasher asked for permission to contact Mr. Banyai via the contact information provided to the town. Mr. Banyai granted his permission. Topic to be revisited as soon as possible. *[Addendum: Mr. Thrasher shared that the statutory site provided by Mr. Banyai applied strictly to Town Meeting warnings and items to be voted on. Therefore, the statute did not apply to Mr. Banyai's concern. The issue was resolved at the meeting.]*
- C. Frank Nelson - Provided the Board with an article regarding the closure of Manchester Wood in Granville, NY.
- D. John Davis Sr. - Shared that he has a son with the same name as him which may have appeared on the petition aforementioned by Mr. Banyai.

6. Announcements: None

7. Reports:

A. Zoning Administrator's Report:

- The Board reviewed Mr. Wilkins' report.
- Upcoming Hearings:
 - August 30, 2018 - DRB Public Hearing for variance application for 5008 VT-Rte 133
 - September 27, 2018 - DRB Public Hearing for sideline setback variance for West Pawlet Village.

B. Road Foreman's Report:

- Currently working on culvert project. Set date has changed to one week from today, Tuesday, September 4th.
- Sand has been screened to do shoulder project.
- No update on loader repair.
- Paving reimbursement has been received.
- Grant project on Pawlet/Rupert Mountain Road has been completed. Mr. Mason and Ms. Powers will work together to apply for further grants.
- Mr. Duquette inquired about road brush trimming. Mr. Mason stated that it continues to be a project on the radar.
- Ms. Moser-Duquette requested a reapplication of the new product utilized for dust control on dirt roads on the Briar Hill/Warren Switch Road(s). Mr. Norman shared that he too experienced dust issues, but agreed that if the road was graded now it would be quite dusty and it would be best to hold off for now.

C. Assessor Report:

- No report at this meeting.

D. Emergency Management Director's Report- Reviewed on 8/14/18.

E. Public Health Officer's Report- Reviewed on 8/14/18.

F. Town Clerk's Memo:

- The Board reviewed the Town Clerk's memo.
- Mr. Beecher read through the activities of interest to the town.
- Re: Perham Right of Way determination - Mr. Thrasher shared that notice of appeals have been sent out regarding this issue.
- Air times for the Select Board meetings on PEG-TV will be Mondays @12pm, Thursdays @7:30am and Saturdays @5:30pm on Channel 21. Episodes can also be viewed anytime at www.peg.tv.
- Mr. Van Meter provided the recommended amendment to the Town of Pawlet Unified Bi-laws (Article XVI. Definitions). This

motion was passed unanimously by the Commissioners present at the Planning Commission meeting. Mr. Thrasher to follow up on warning protocol and official warning be sent out regarding meeting date and time for this item to be brought to the Select Board.

- The Pawlet Historical Society has been approved to utilize the Town Hall Auditorium on October 18th, free of charge. This has been added to the Town Google Calendar.
- The Town Offices will be closed to observe Labor Day.

G. Town Treasurer's Memo:

- The Board reviewed the Treasurer's memo.
- Re: Wood House sale - the Board and Mr. Thrasher shared that the town may not profit from this sale, however may want to consider that the price of sale could cover fees acquired by the town throughout their time of ownership. The Board shared the desire to put the home for sale or to put it to auction without the assistance of a realtor.
- The Board signed checks.
- The Board reviewed the warrants
 1. Motion to approve the warrants
 2. Mover: Ed Cleveland
 3. Second: Chuck Weeden
 4. Discussion: None
 5. Result: Approved (Unanimous)

h. Waste Water Treatment Facility:

- All is running OK at the WWTF. All levels passed.

8. Old or unfinished business:

- Mr. Weeden will move forward with advertising the sale of the Wood home.
- Re: The political event facilitated by Mr. Chesnut-Tangerman - the Board agreed that we have beautiful public buildings and that they should be used as long as it is fairly and within reason. Ms. Leubke shared that the Library grounds have been used for public events in the past without problem. The Board supported the use for this event. Mr. Weeden shared his hopes that the user make a donation to the town for the use of the town's facilities.

- Re: Cemetery Hill Road survey request - Mr. Thrasher shared that this survey may not be the best course of action due to the evolution of buildings, etc., in the time between when roads were set out and present. In an effort to clarify confusion, the state statues indicate that the town right-of-way is clearly a rod and a half from the centerline. If residents believe that a survey is necessary, Mr. Thrasher shared that the survey would best be requested by them individually rather than through the town. Mr. Weeden hypothetically asked if it would be wise for Mr. Mason and another Board member to measure the one and a half rod distance and draw lines. Mr. Thrasher shared that within reason, this would be fine. Mr. Mason shared that this situation is unique because there have been complaints about this particular use and ultimately would like the garden to be removed. Mr. Beecher, supporting Mr. Mason, requested that a letter be written by Mr. Thrasher to the Cemetery Hill property owners requesting that the garden be removed as per request of the Town Highway/Roads crew.
- Re: Bench outside of McChesney's - Mr. Mason has the removal of this bench his project list.
- Re: Bauer Road gate discussion - Mr. Jennings requested that the issue regarding the locked gate on the class 4 road be addressed. The Board requested that Mr. Thrasher send a letter to Mr. Plisko asking for the gate to be unlocked.

9. New Business: None.

10. Motion made to enter Executive Session at 8:14pm to discuss personnel information along with continuing discussions regarding litigation issues for the sale of the quarry property.

- Mover: Mike Beecher
- 2nd: Ed Cleveland
- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved (Unanimous)

11. Motion made to exit Executive Session with no decisions made at 8:41pm.

12. Motion made to establish rate of pay for Zoning Administrator.

- Mover: Bob Jones
 - 2nd: John Malcolm
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved (Unanimous)
13. Motion made to Adjourn at 8:54pm
- Mover: Bob Jones
 - Second: Ed Cleveland
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved (Unanimous)