

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
July 28, 2020
7:00 pm Virtually via Zoom
Regular Meeting

Members in Attendance:

Mike Beecher
John Malcolm
Chuck Weeden
Ed Cleveland
Bob Jones

Others in Attendance:

Kristin Powers
Frank Nelson
Jill Marsano
Harry Van Meter
Jennie Auster
Tom Collard
Julie Mach
Keith Mason

EVENT

1. Call to order at 7:05 pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Addition or Deletion of Agenda Items
 - a. Additions:
 - Update from Delinquent Tax Collector
 - Letter of Interest for PPC position.
 - b. Deletions:
 - None.
3. Introduction of those present by chairperson
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting
 - Motion made to approve the minutes of July 14, 2020 with corrections to item 6 and item 7, section I.
 - Mover: John Malcolm

- 2nd: Ed Cleveland
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Chuck Weeden, John Malcom, Ed Cleveland – in favor. Approved (unanimous).
5. Pre-Requested Appearances by local citizens and visitors:
- Jill Marsano from Vermont Utility Management Services and Jennie Auster from Hoyle Tanner Associates provided the Board with a robust and informational overview of the current operations at the West Pawlet Wastewater Treatment Facility. Discussion included the benefits and recommendation of installing sludge storage and/or secondary clarifiers, grant and funding possibilities, and an overall educational overview of the current state of affairs at the WWTF.
6. Announcements:
- Governor Scott has established a state-wide mask mandate for all public buildings and outdoor spaces where physical distancing cannot be achieved, beginning August 1, 2020.
7. Reports:
- A. Zoning Administrator's Report:
- The Board reviewed a report submitted by ZA, Jonas Rosenthal.
- B. Planning Commission's Report:
- No official report, however Harry Van Meter shared an update from the PPC. The next PPC meeting will be held virtually on August 24, 2020.
 - Motion made to authorize the Pawlet Planning Commission to purchase their own Zoom account for their meeting needs.
 - Mover: Chuck Weeden
 - 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: Town to look into the possibility of adding Zoom costs to Covid expenses.
 - Result: Chuck Weeden, John Malcolm, Ed Cleveland, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved (unanimous).
 - Motion made to appoint John Sobatka to fill a vacant position on the Pawlet Planning Commission, previously held by Eric Mach.
 - Mover: Chuck Weeden

- 2nd: Mike Beecher
 - Discussion: A second vacant position, announced today, will be discussed at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
 - Result: Chuck Weeden, John Malcolm, Ed Cleveland, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved (unanimous).
- C. Road Foreman's Report:
- Road Foreman, Keith Mason, reviewed a report from the Town Highway Dept. with the Board.
- D. Assessor Report:
- The Board reviewed the Assessor's report.
 - The Board was unable to sign the E&Os due to inability to review. Review of the Errors and Omissions to be reviewed at the next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting on 8/11/2020.
- E. Town Clerk's Memo:
- The Board reviewed the Town Clerk's memo.
- F. Town Treasurer's Memo:
- The Board reviewed the Town Treasurer's Report.
 - Motion made to approve the warrants.
 - Mover: Ed Cleveland
 - 2nd: John Malcolm
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: John Malcolm, Bob Jones, Chuck Weeden, Ed Cleveland – in favor. Approved (unanimous).
 - Motion made to select Fidelity for eligible Town employee retirement accounts, giving Julie Mach the authority to sign the start-up documents.
 - Mover: Ed Cleveland
 - 2nd: John Malcolm
 - Discussion: None

- Result: Chuck Weeden, John Malcolm, Ed Cleveland, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved (unanimous).
 - Motion made to set the Waste Water rate of \$794/year/hookup, with quarterly payments of \$198.50.
 - Mover: Chuck Weeden
 - 2nd: Ed Cleveland
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Chuck Weeden, John Malcolm, Ed Cleveland, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved (unanimous).
 - Motion made to set the General Fund rate at \$.2531, Highway rate at \$.2989, Local Agreement rate at \$.0058, Education rate (established by the state state, stated at last meeting) – Making the total Homestead rate (municipal + education) \$1.9450 and Non-homestead rate (municipal + education) \$2.0890.
 - Mover: Ed Cleveland
 - 2nd: John Malcolm
 - Discussion: Ensued comparing last year and this year's rates.
 - Result: John Malcolm, Ed Cleveland, Bob Jones, Chuck Weeden – in favor. Approved (unanimous).
- G. Emergency Management Director's Report:
- No report at this meeting.
- H. Health Officer's Report:
- No report at this meeting.
 - The Board reviewed and update from Mr. Morlino following a complaint filed by a West Pawlet resident regarding a property on Rte. 153.
- I. Waste Water Treatment Facility:
- No report at this meeting.
8. Old or unfinished business:
- Motion made to sign the Countryside alarm quote to install security cameras at the Town Hall.
 - Mover: Ed Cleveland
 - 2nd: Chuck Weeden
 - Discussion: None

- Result: John Malcolm, Ed Cleveland, Chuck Weeden, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved (unanimous).
 - Conversation continued regarding the web content coordinator position.
 - Conversation continued regarding the updated rules on ATV travel. The Board confirmed that a portion of Towslee Hill and Herrick Brook are permitted to access trails from Rte. 30.
 - John Malcolm shared that the Town Hall and Library have updated air filters, and have also had service completed on their furnaces. The problem with the Library roof and one zone of air conditioning is being addressed. John continued to suggest a streamlined service schedule for Town buildings.
 - John Malcolm shared updates from the Pawlet Community Connectors meetings, including efforts being made regarding grants for pedestrian and bicycle traffic in Town.
 - Mr. Beecher spoke to the item discussed last meeting regarding Ms. Legg's property. All is taken care of.
9. New Business:
- None.
10. Public Comment:
- None.
11. Motion made to Adjourn at 9:17 pm
- Mover: Ed Cleveland
 - Second: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Chuck Weeden, John Malcolm, Bob Jones, Ed Cleveland - in favor. Approved (Unanimous)