

**Final Minutes**  
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET  
December 15, 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  
Michael Wesko  
Mandy Hulett  
Frank Nelson  
Deb Hawkins  
John Sabotka  
Jennifer Sullivan  
Ken Norman  
Julie Mach

**EVENT**

1. Call to order at 7:01 pm by chairman, Mike Beecher.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Addition or Deletion of Agenda Items
  - a. Additions:
    - Mike Wesko – Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors
    - Energy Coordinator Role – Old/Unfinished Business
  - b. Deletions:
    - SOQ Discussion – Wastewater Treatment Facility Report
3. Introduction of those present by chairperson.
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
  - Motion made to approve the minutes of December 1, 2020 with an addition made to the attendance list, as well as a typo correction made in item 7, section F.

- Mover: John Malcolm
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ed Cleveland
  - Discussion: None.
  - Result: Chuck Weeden, John Malcom, Ed Cleveland, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
5. Pre-Requested Appearances by local citizens and visitors:
- Mike Wesko – unable to connect with Mr. Wesko during this portion of the meeting due to possible technical difficulties.
6. Announcements:
- Pawlet's new Web Coordinator, Sean Ruck, has been onboarded and connected with Elizabeth Gibson for training.
7. Reports:
- A. Zoning Administrator's Report:
- No report at this meeting.
- B. Planning Commission's Report:
- No report at this meeting.
- C. Road Foreman's Report:
- The Board reviewed a report from Road Foreman, Keith Mason.
    - The road crew is ready for winter and will work on projects as weather permits.
    - Plans moving forward include: preparation for next year's projects, including tree and brush removal from Herrick Rook Rd. in anticipation for a grant-funded project.
- D. Assessor Report:
- The Assessor's office submitted proposed FY2021 budget and proposed FY2022 budget letter.
- E. Town Clerk's Memo:
- Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins, reviewed a report with the Board.
    - Requested the Board's decision on whether or not there would be a signature requirement for appropriations for over \$500.00 (regarding items on this year's Town Meeting ballot). Discussion ensued.
      - Motion made to waive signatures for appropriations over \$500.00 for this year's election due to Covid, given the Board has the opportunity to review requests prior to final approval.

- Mover: Ed Cleveland
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bob Jones
- Discussion: None.
- Result: Chuck Weeden – opposed. John Malcolm, Ed Cleveland, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.

- The elevator will be inspected on 12/16/20.
- The Town Hall offices have returned to primarily remote work following state-level recommendations. In-person work is staggered for now to continue the function of the office.
- Real estate transactions continue to come in and the office remains busy.

F. Town Treasurer's Memo:

- Treasurer, Julie Mach, reviewed her memo with the Selectboard, including accounts payable, payroll, monies from the general fund, highway and wastewater.
- Motion made to approve the warrants.
  - Mover: Chuck Weeden
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ed Cleveland
  - Discussion: None.
  - Result: John Malcolm, Bob Jones, Chuck Weeden, Ed Cleveland – in favor. Approved.
- Motion made to enter executive session to discuss employee labor relations agreements and wages following a budget request from the Assessor's Office at 7:53pm.
  - Mover: Ed Cleveland
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: John Malcolm
  - Discussion: The attendees were alerted to the executive session protocol during a zoom meeting.
  - Result: Chuck Weeden, Ed Cleveland, John Malcolm, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.

- Motion made to exit executive session with no decisions made at 8:15pm.
  - Mover: John Malcolm
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bob Jones
  - Discussion: None
  - Result: Chuck Weeden, John Malcolm, Ed Cleveland, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
- Motion made to approve the budget for FY2021 as printed. General Fund \$463,290.00 and Highway Budget is \$605,358.00.
  - Mover: Chuck Weeden
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ed Cleveland
  - Discussion: None
  - Result: Chuck Weeden, John Malcolm, Ed Cleveland, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
- G. Emergency Management Director's Report:
  - No report at this meeting.
- H. Health Officer's Report:
  - No report at this meeting.
- I. Waste Water Treatment Facility:
  - Mike Beecher shared an update from the WWTF. An inspection was completed last week. All is going well at the WWTF at this time.
    - SOQ discussions are ongoing, and will be discussed at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- 8. Old or unfinished business:
  - Re: Energy Coordinator – the position listing remains open. Frank Nelson shared that an energy plan will be added as an agenda item for discussion at an upcoming Planning Commission meeting, as well as possible ways to approach energy in the town moving forward.
- 9. New Business:
  - The town has contributed towards additional holiday lights for the green.
- 10. Public Comment:

- None.
11. Motion made to Adjourn at 8:27pm
- Mover: Ed Cleveland
  - Second: Chuck Weeden
  - Discussion: None.
  - Result: Chuck Weeden, John Malcolm, Bob Jones, Ed Cleveland - in favor. Approved (Unanimous)