

**Town of Pawlet**  
**Organizational Meeting Minutes - Following Town Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 3, 2021 - 7:00pm**  
**Virtually via Zoom**

**Attendees:**

Mike Beecher  
John Malcolm  
Bob Jones  
Jessica Van Oort  
Rich Hulett  
Kristin Powers  
Deb Hawkins  
Kim Ayers  
Ray Duquette, Sr.  
Chuck Weeden  
David Ricard  
Diane Mach  
Cintia Morrissey  
Cori Rail  
Bob Jones  
Frank Nelson  
Beth Mosher Duquette  
Tom Collard

**Event:**

1. At 7:05pm, Deb Hawkins swore in, via the Vermont Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Office
  - John Malcolm and Jessica Van Oort, Selectboard (1 year)
  - Richard H. Hulett, Selectboard (3 years)
  - Diane Mach, Library Trustee (3 years)
  - Cori Rail and Cintia Morrissey, Mettowee School Director (3 years)
  - Ray Duquette, Sr. and Mary Elizabeth Mosher Duquette, Justice of the Peace (2 years)
  - Kim Ayers, Delinquent Tax Collector (1 year)
  - David P. Ricard, Sr., First Constable (2 years)

(Mrs. Hawkins to mail each individual sworn in the two forms to be signed, then returned to the Town Clerk's office for the records):

2. Meeting was called to order at 7:12pm by Mike Beecher.
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Motion to appoint Mike Beecher as Chair of the Selectboard
  - Mover: Bob Jones
  - 2nd: Rich Hulett
  - Discussion: None
  - Result: Rich Hulett, John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
5. Motion made to appoint John Malcolm as Vice Chair of the Selectboard.
  - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
  - 2nd: Bob Jones

- Discussion: None
  - Result: Rich Hulett, John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
- 6.** Motion made to appoint Mike Beecher and Rich Hulett as the liaisons to the West Pawlet Waste Water Treatment Facility.
- Mover: Bob Jones
  - 2nd: John Malcolm
  - Discussion: None
  - Result: Rich Hulett, John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
- 7.** Motion made to appoint John Malcolm and Jessica Van Oort as the liaisons to the Town's Highway Department
- Mover: Bob Jones
  - 2nd: Rich Hulett
  - Discussion: Brief conversation, initiated by Jessica Van Oort, ensued regarding the responsibilities associated with a liaison position.
  - Result: Rich Hulett, John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
- 8.** Motion made to appoint Bob Jones and Jessica Van Oort as the liaisons to Buildings & Development.
- Mover: John Malcolm
  - 2nd: Rich Hulett
  - Discussion: None
  - Result: Rich Hulett, John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
- 9.** Motion made to appoint John Malcolm as the liaison to the Assessor's Office.
- Mover: Jessica Van Oort
  - 2nd: Bob Jones
  - Discussion: None
  - Result: Rich Hulett, John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
- 10.** Motion made to appoint the following individuals/entities to their one-year term positions listed below (and on page 8 of the 2020 Annual Town Report):
- Atty. Merrill Bent – Town Attorney
  - Platt Herrick, Jr. – Fence Viewer
  - Robert Morlino – Public Health Officer and Emergency Management Director
  - Tim Waite – Inspector of Coal, Wood, Shingles & Lumber, and Weigher of Coal & Tree Warden
  - Frank Nelson – Energy Coordinator
  - Bob Jones – Pound Keeper for Large Animals
  - David Ricard, Sr. and William Humphries – Pound Keeper for Small Animals
  - The Selectboard – Liquor Control Board and Sewer Commissioners
  - Lennie Gibson – Solid Waste Alliance Communities (SWAC) Representative
  - Julie Mach – Tax Collector
  - The Lakes Region Free Press – Official News Publication
- Mover: Bob Jones

- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jessica Van Oort
  - Discussion: Conversation ensued regarding the vacant Energy Coordinator role. Frank Nelson has been actively engaging in this role through his position on the Planning Commission, and was recommended to continue his efforts by Ms. Van Oort. Mr. Nelson accepted this appointment.
  - Result: Rich Hulett, John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved (unanimous)
- 11.** Motion made to reappoint Jessica Van Oort and Frank Nelson to the Planning Commission (3 year terms).
- Mover: Rich Hulett
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bob Jones
  - Discussion: Jessica Van Oort abstained from casting a vote, noting a possible conflict of interest.
  - Result: Rich Hulett, John Malcolm, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
- 12.** Motion made to reappoint Gary Baierlein, Secretary (3 years), and Sarah Ludlam, Alternate (1 year) to the Development Review Board.
- Mover: Bob Jones
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: John Malcolm
  - Discussion: None
  - Result: Rich Hulett, Jessica Van Oort, John Malcolm, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
- 13.** Motion made to reappoint Tom Collard as the primary representative from Pawlet to the Rutland Regional Planning Commission and Rutland Regional Transportation Advisory Council.
- Mover: Bob Jones
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jessica Van Oort
  - Discussion: Mr. Collard to further investigate the need for updated forms to be submitted to RRPC and RRTAC.
  - Result: Rich Hulett, John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
- 14.** Motion made to reconfirm Bob Jones as the ongoing authorized designated signatory of the Selectboard throughout the duration of the Covid-19 pandemic/state of emergency.
- Mover: John Malcolm
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rich Hulett
  - Discussion: None
  - Result: Rich Hulett, Jessica Van Oort, John Malcolm, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
- 15.** Public Comment
- Kristin Powers shared that there is an upcoming VLCT Selectboard refresher, and that Selectboard Handbooks are available for review.
  - Ray Duquette, Sr. expressed thanks to Deb Hawkins, Kristin Powers and John Thrasher for their efforts during recent meetings, and extended congratulations and well wishes to the new Selectboard.
- 17.** Motion made to adjourn at 7:45 pm.
- Mover: Bob Jones
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jessica Van Oort
  - Discussion: None
  - Result: Rich Hulett, Jessica Van Oort, John Malcolm, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.