

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
June 29, 2021
7:00 pm
Pawlet Town Hall
122 School Street, Pawlet, VT

Members in Attendance:

Mike Beecher
John Malcolm
Bob Jones
Jessica Van Oort

Others in Attendance:

Kristin Powers
Keith Mason
Marlee Mason
Harley Cudney
Frank Nelson
Bruce Sirjane
Janno Gay

EVENT

1. Call to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman, Mike Beecher.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Introduction of those present by chairperson.
4. Addition or Deletion of Agenda Items.
 - a. Additions:
 - Janno Gay – Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors.
 - Bruce Sirjane – Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors
 - Hybrid meeting model update/discussion – Old/Unfinished Business.
 - Executive Session to discuss employee labor relations agreements.
 - b. Deletions: None.
5. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
 - Motion made to approve the minutes of June 15, 2021, as printed.

- Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.
6. Pre-Requested Appearances by local citizens and visitors:
- Janno Gay – Spoke to the Board and Body, raising awareness of the environmental and physical impacts of glyphosate (roundup). Continued to offer non-toxic alternatives and resources to move towards the use of non-toxic weed killers. Conversation ensued, which resulted in the confirmation that the Town is not utilizing any chemicals to treat roadsides, and that Janno may contact state entities to confirm what they are using to treat roadsides throughout the state.
 - Bruce Sirjane – Came to the Board requesting that the sewer tax for a building he owns, a small shop building in West Pawlet, as there is no current active wastewater hookup at the property. Discussion ensued, and Mr. Beecher wishes to review the Town’s Sewer Ordinance prior to making a decision on this.
7. Announcements:
- Weston Graff, the recipient of the Irene Hanfield Award, sent the Selectboard a thank you note.
8. Reports:
- A. Zoning Administrator’s Report:
- Interim Zoning Administrator, Jonas Rosenthal, shared a report with the Board :
 - 8 Permits for the month of June, 2 permits for month of May, 1 permit for month of April, 3 permits for month of March, 3 permits for month of February – 17 total permits for 2021.
 - The DRB shared a decision from their recent meeting/hearing.
 - Harry Van Meter has created an Excel spreadsheet for Zoning Permits for 2004-2007 and is working on the 2008-2010 files. Mr. Rosenthal thanks Mr. Van Meter for his efforts on this project.
- B. Planning Commission’s (PPC) Report:

- PPC Chairwoman, Jessica Van Oort, shared a report with the Board. Annette Smith presented during the meeting on 6/28/21 about the Enhanced Energy Plan and how to make it useful for dealing with potential developers and the Public Utility Commission.
- The PPC discussed alternates for Mr. Collard while he takes a temporary leave of absence. One volunteer as stepped forward for two of Mr. Collard's positions, however the PPC continues to seek a volunteer for the Otter Creek Communications Union District.
 - Motion made to appoint John Sabotka as Pawlet's alternate representative for the Rutland Regional Planning Commission as well as the Rutland Transportation Committee.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved.

C. Road Foreman's Report:

- Keith Mason shared an update from the Highway Department:
 - Work is still ongoing on the Herrick Brook Road project, and the grant requirements will be fulfilled within the required timeframe.
 - The Town of Pawlet has received a paving grant for the Danby-Pawlet Road for approximately 1.5miles.
 - A signature to acknowledge this receipt is requested. Mr. Beecher will provide his authorized signature.
 - Mr. Mason expressed desire to pursue paving opportunities for Buttons Falls Road to improve the current conditions.
- The letter of intent for the SFY22 Grants in Aid Program has been submitted.
- Mr. Beecher and Mr. Mason spoke about ongoing stormwater drainage issues, which present themselves in downtown West Pawlet.
- Mr. Jones, on behalf of Mr. Hulett, shared that we are awaiting communication from the online auction platform to advertise the town truck for sale. This platform may also serve as space

to advertise for the Town-owned property in West Pawlet once it is ready to be put up for sale.

- The conversations continue regarding the future possible purchase of a tractor for roadside mowing. No decisions made at this time, but the efforts and investigations are ongoing.

D. Assessor Report:

- No report at this meeting.
- Ms. Powers has been working with the Assessor's office to establish the Zoom meetings for the Grievance Hearings on July 12, 2021.

E. Town Clerk's Memo:

- No report at this meeting.

F. Town Treasurer's Memo:

- Town Treasurer, Julie Mach, shared a memo with the Board, including: an overview of payroll, accounts payable, monies from the General Fund, Highway, Wastewater.
- Motion made to approve the warrants, including the Constable radios.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: John Malcolm
 - Discussion: The Board discussed several questions posed within Ms. Mach's memo regarding warrants.
 - Result: Approved.
- Motion made to adopt and sign the Fraud Prevention Policy for the Town of Pawlet.
 - Mover: John Malcolm
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: 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:

- No report at this meeting.
8. Old or unfinished business:
- The Board received and reiterated their approval of Brooke Hughes-Muse's application to utilize the Town Hall auditorium for yoga classes on select Saturdays throughout the summer months.
 - The Board and body continued to discuss the process of transitioning to a hybrid meeting model. This is a work in progress and will continue to progress with the goal of providing a virtual opportunity for participation.
 - Motion made to sign the Agreement for Scoping Study Municipal Project Management Services by and between the Rutland Regional Planning Commission and the Town of Pawlet, as well as the Conflict of Interest.
 - Mover: John Malcolm
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved.
9. New Business:
- Jessica Van Oort shared that she is on the quest to find an outfit to work on the slate roof of the Town Hall. Some discussion ensued regarding possible individuals to contact.
10. Public Comment:
- None.
11. Motion made to enter Executive Session to discuss employee labor relations agreements at 8:40pm.
- Mover: John Malcolm
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
12. Motion made to exit Executive Session with no decisions made at 8:53pm.
- Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
12. Motion made to Adjourn at 8:54pm.
- Mover: Bob Jones
 - Second: John Malcolm

- Discussion: None.
- Result: Approved.