

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
August 9, 2022
7:00 pm
Pawlet Town Hall
122 School Street, Pawlet, VT
& Virtually via Zoom

Members in Attendance:

Mike Beecher
John Malcolm
Bob Jones
Jessica Van Oort
Rich Hulett

Others in Attendance:

Kristin Powers
PEG-TV
Frank Nelson
Harley Cudney
Jennifer Sullivan

EVENT

1. Call to order at 7:01 pm by Chairman, Mike Beecher, with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Introduction of those present, virtually and in person.
3. Addition or Deletion of Agenda Items.
 - a. Additions:
 - Town Green Benches
 - Speed Sign Locations
 - Bike & Ped Grant Agreement
 - Grants in Aid Insurance Request
 - Town Highway Structures Program Grant Agreement
 - Building Improvements
 - Executive Session to discuss litigation
 - D&H Rail Trail Committee
 - b. Deletions: None.

4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
 - Motion made to approve the minutes of July 26, 2022, as printed.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones, Rich Hulett – in favor. Approved.
5. Pre-Requested Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors.
 - None.
6. Announcements:
 - None.
7. Reports:
 - A. Zoning Administrator's Report:
 - Jonas Rosenthal digitally shared a report with the Board, discussing 5 recent permits issued.
 - B. Planning Commission's Report:
 - No report at this meeting.
 - C. Road Foreman's Report:
 - Kelly Hill Road project is nearing completion.
 - The road crew is working to address safety concerns at the old West Pawlet store foundation.
 - The Board began discussing winter sand options, reflecting on last season, and priorities for the upcoming winter.
 - Motion made to approve the purchase of two additional radar speed signs at the increased price.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Rich Hulett, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.
 - D. Assessor Report:
 - No report at this meeting.
 - E. Town Clerk's Memo:
 - Deb Hawkins provided the Board with a quote to replace the printer/copier in the Town Hall. She is also seeking quotes for an internal door improvement project. Additionally, Deb provided a quote for air filtration units for the Town Hall.

- Motion made to support the Town Hall employees in leasing an upgraded printer/copier for the Town Offices.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: Harley Cudney inquired about another scanner discussed – said scanner would be utilized for other purposes and is unrelated to the printer/copier in this motion.
 - Result: John Malcolm, Bob Jones, Jessica Van Oort, Rich Hulett – in favor. Approved.

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 Payroll warrant #23006 for \$11,000.12 and Accounts Payable Warrant #23007 for \$35,942.42.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones, Rich Hulett – in favor. Approved.
- The Board acknowledged the necessary cost associated with the removal of the current printer/copier and will look into options.

G. Emergency Management Director's Report:

- R. Morlino attended a meeting regarding Operation Flashpoint given by the FBI and Dept. of Homeland Security at the VT Fire Academy.
- Pawlet and Pawlet Fire Department was awarded a PACIF grant, applied for by R. Morlino, to obtain emergency road signs, traffic vests and cones.

H. Health Officer's Report:

- Jennifer Sullivan shared that an inspection was completed at a rental property in Pawlet, and one complaint was lodged about living conditions on Walnut Hill Road. It was determined the home on Walnut Hill is located in Danby, and the caller was provided the contact info for the Town Health Officer in Danby.

I. Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF):

- Jill Marsano provided the July 2022 Pawlet WWTF DMRs and VTUMS updates.

J. Facilities Report:

- The Board continued to discuss Town Hall and Library improvement projects following an assessment visit from Rudd Builderz.
 - The Town Clerk's Assistant has provided the Board with a list of additional Town Hall improvements that need attention.
- Jessica Van Oort followed-up on the opportunity for free building consultations from Efficiency Vermont.
 - The Board determined that the Town Hall, Library and Wastewater Treatment Facility would benefit from said consultations.

8. Old or unfinished business:

- Motion made to sign the Vermont Agency of Transportation Bike & Pedestrian FY23 Project Commitment Form, accepting the \$400,000.00 in grant funding with a 20% match.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: John Malcolm, Bob Jones, Jessica Van Oort, Rich Hulett – in favor. Approved.
- Motion made to approve and sign the Vermont Agency of Transportation Town Highway Structures FY23 grant agreement for \$100,000.00 with a 10% match or in-kind service.
 - Move: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: The Town is working towards obtaining additional funding for this project as well.
 - Result: John Malcolm, Bob Jones, Jessica Van Oort, Rich Hulett – in favor. Approved.
- Motion made to approve and sign the Vermont Agency of Transportation Municipal Mitigation Grants in Aid FY23 for \$22,000.00 with a \$5,500.00 match/in-kind service.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None

- Result: John Malcolm, Bob Jones, Jessica Van Oort, Rich Hulett – in favor. Approved.

9. New Business:

- The Selectboard unanimously supported Bob and Martha Schoenemann's request and offer to clean the lichen off of the benches and table on the Pawlet Village Green.
- Jessica Van Oort shared a memo from the Agency of Transportation (AOT), requesting to schedule a meeting to discuss the responsibilities of the AOT with regard to the D&H Rail Trail.
- Motion made to approve Grace Larson in filling the vacant seat on the Library Board for the duration of the term.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: John Malcolm, Bob Jones, Jessica Van Oort, Rich Hulett – in favor. Approved.

10. Public Comment:

- None.

11. Motion made to enter Executive Session to discuss pending or probable civil litigation (1 V.S.A. § 313) at 8:37pm.

- Mover: Jessica Van Oort
- 2nd: Rich Hulett
- Discussion: None
- Result: John Malcolm, Bob Jones, Jessica Van Oort, Rich Hulett – in favor. Approved.

12. Motion made to exit Executive Session with no decisions made at 8:50pm.

- Mover: Rich Hulett
- 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
- Discussion: None
- Result: John Malcolm, Bob Jones, Jessica Van Oort, Rich Hulett – in favor. Approved.

11. Motion made to Adjourn at 8:51pm.

- Mover: Rich Hulett
- Second: Jessica Van Oort
- Discussion: None.
- Result: John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones – in favor. Approved.

