

**Final Minutes**  
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET  
September 6, 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  
Harley Cudney  
Keith Mason  
Marlee Mason  
Sally Achey  
David Ricard, Jr.  
Deb Hakwins  
Julie Mach  
Jennifer Sullivan  
Tim Rice  
Jay Leubke  
Dolores Leubke  
Harry Van Meter

**EVENT**

1. Call to order at 7:03 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:
    - Sally Achey – Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors

- Cannabis Control Commission – New Business
  - Municipal Building Mask Mandate – Health Officer Report
  - b. Deletions: None.
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
- Motion made to approve the minutes of August 23, 2022, as printed.
    - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: 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.
- David Ricard, Jr. – Spoke to the Board about Aerus air purification systems, specifically as it pertains to enhancing air quality in the Town Hall. Discussion ensued regarding the needs of the Town, as well as current CDC guidelines, with no decisions made.
  - Sally Achey – Addressed the deterioration of the portion of Rte153, which has been an ongoing topic of conversation throughout the spring and summer months. Sally continued to discuss several funding options that may be pursued, some of which have already begun to be pursued. The Board unanimously agreed to continue to pursue funding efforts.
6. Announcements:
- None.
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 winter sand options, and decided to proceed with procuring sand from SLC at \$10.90/ton.
  - The Board continued discussing the paving bids received from Wilk Paving and Fuller Paving.
    - Motion made to accept the bid from Wilk Paving - \$193,536.00 + \$1350,00 for shoulder work (including

road widener with sweeper and laborer) - to pave Buttons Falls Road from Rte. 30 to the NYS line.

- Mover: Bob Jones
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rich Hulett
  - Discussion: None
  - Result: John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones, Rich Hulett – in favor. Approved.
- The Board discussed ongoing concerns surrounding the Rte. 30 and North Pawlet Road intersection. The Board unanimously supported proceeding with an Agency of Transportation traffic study.

D. Assessor Report:

- The Board reviewed a request from the Assessor's Office for Errors and Omissions for the 2022 Grand List.
  - Motion made to approve the Assessor's Errors & Omissions of the 2022 Grand List on September 6, 2022.
    - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bob Jones
    - Discussion: None
    - Result: John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones, Rich Hulett – in favor. Approved.
- The Board reviewed an invoice submitted by Wright Appraisal Company for hours worked during August 2022.
- The Assessor's Office will be open Mondays and every other Wednesday.

E. Town Clerk's Memo:

- Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins, shared a memo with the Board, including updates from the Clerk's office and Town Hall.
  - General Election preparation is beginning, and research in the Town Hall is ongoing. Deb also spoke to the importance of continuing with efforts of Town Hall maintenance/repair.

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 #23011 for \$8012.47 and Accounts Payable Warrant #23012 for \$65,877.02.

- Mover: Jessica Van Oort
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rich Hulett
- Discussion: None.
- Result: John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones, Rich Hulett – in favor. Approved.
- The Town has received the second ARPA deposit of \$71,763.46.

G. Emergency Management Director's Report:

- Emergency Management Director, Bob Morlino, provided a report for August 2022 to the Board:
  - Jay Leubke attended a Survivermont presentation, which is a community caretaking initiative to empower and educate Vermonters who may find themselves confronted with an active shooter or violent threat situation.

H. Health Officer's Report:

- Health Officer, Jennifer Sullivan, had nothing new to report as Health Officer, however provided the Board with the most recent CDC recommendations pertaining to Covid-19.
  - Motion made to lift the municipal mask mandate in the general assembly area, allowing for individual office spaces to make mask requirements as necessary.
    - Mover: Rich Hulett
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bob Jones
    - Discussion: This topic will be revisited monthly during the Health Officer's Report.
    - Result: Jessica Van Oort, Rich Hulett, Bob Jones – in favor. John Malcolm – opposed. Approved.

I. Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF):

- No report at this meeting, however Mike Beecher shared that necessary repairs are in progress.
- Jessica Van Oort reported that she will be following up with grant funding opportunities.
- Jessica Van Oort also reported that, upon further investigation with VLCT, it was determined that ARPA funding can be utilized for WWTF repairs.

- Motion made to appropriate \$20,000.00 of ARPA funds towards the Wastewater proprietary fund to reimburse for wastewater repairs in the prior fiscal year.
  - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bob Jones
  - Discussion: None
  - Result: John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones, Rich Hulett – in favor. Approved.

J. Facilities Report:

- Jessica Van Oort reminded the Board that a quote for Town Hall repairs is necessary in order to proceed with a possible grant opportunity.

8. Old or unfinished business:

- None.

9. New Business:

- The state Cannabis Control Board (CCB) informed the local Cannabis Control Commission of a recent permit application for a tier 1 mixed cultivation license approval in our municipality. The CCB requested that the local commission review this application and provide local approval. The Board will continue to discuss at the next meeting.

10. Public Comment:

- None.

11. Motion made to enter Executive Session to discuss labor relations agreements with employees (1 v.S.A. § 313) at 8:55pm.

- Mover: Jessica Van Oort
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: 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 9:19pm.

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

11. Motion made to Adjourn at 9:20pm.

- Mover: Bob Jones

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