

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
December 13, 2022
7:00 pm
Pawlet Town Hall
122 School Street, Pawlet, VT
& Virtually via Zoom

Members in Attendance:

Mike Beecher
Bob Jones
Jessica Van Oort
Rich Hulett
John Malcolm

Others in Attendance:

Kristin Powers
PEG-TV
Julie Mach
Frank Nelson
Nancy Morlino
Julie Mach
Frank Nelson
Deb Hawkins
Kleis Household
Ray & Beth Duquette

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:
 - Tammy Lewis – Pre-Requested Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors.
 - b. Deletions: None.
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.

- Motion made to approve the minutes of November 29, 2022, as printed.
 - Mover: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: John Malcolm, Rich Hulett, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones – in favor.
 - Result: Approved.
- 5. Pre-Requested Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors:
 - Tammy Lewis
 - Tammy Lewis was not in attendance; however, the Board addressed the concern of a street light out in West Pawlet. The Board has assessed currently active street lights and cannot determine any that are out, so the Board needs more information before moving forward.
- 6. Announcements: There will be a tax sale on December 14, 2022 at the Town Hall at 12:00pm.
- 7. Reports:
 - A. Zoning Administrator's Report:
 - Nancy Morlino shared a report from the Zoning Administrator's office including:
 - Still at 25 permits, year to date. One additional permit has been received this week.
 - Received a number of inquiries – including sign permit at the Baptist Church in West Pawlet, driveway extension, erection of historic fire tower (for scenic purposes), compliance request, follow-up to a previous request from a residence in West Pawlet.
 - Nancy spent time with Dorset Zoning Administrator, as well as members of the Pawlet Planning Commission, to discuss file storage and digitizing records.
 - Attended a Zoning 101 training from VLCT.
 - B. Planning Commission's Report:
 - No report at this meeting.
 - C. Road Foreman's Report:
 - The Highway Dept. has been gearing up for winter.

- The Board spoke about a possible plan to move forward with utilizing grant funding to continue improvement efforts on remedying the deteriorating portion of the roadway in West Pawlet.
- The Highway Department has established a new contract with Foley for updated uniforms.
- The search continues for a new Town truck.

D. Assessor Report:

- No report at this meeting.

E. Town Clerk's Memo:

- Deb Hawkins shared that the Clerk's Office has received several calls about drainage issues on Warren Switch Road – the Highway Department has been made aware of these concerns.

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, and Wastewater.
- Motion made to approve Payroll Warrant #23032 for \$7,225.18 and Accounts Payable Warrant #23033 for \$38,204.16.
 - Mover: Bob Jones
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: John Malcolm, Rich Hulett, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones – in favor.
- Motion made to approve the General Fund Budget of \$459,913.00 and the Highway Budget of \$659,522.00.
 - Mover: Bob Jones
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: John Malcolm, Rich Hulett, Jessica Van Oort, Bob Jones – in favor.

G. Emergency Management Director's Report:

- The Board reviewed a report from Bob Morlino:
 - Met with Brooke DeBois on School Safety.

- Attended a Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment meeting.
- Attended the FBI Working Group meeting on Biological Threats in Burlington

H. Health Officer's Report:

- The Board reviewed a report from Jennifer Sullivan:
 - Jennifer attended a training for failed wastewater systems.
 - Received a complaint about an active fire in a burn barrel and followed up with the owners of the site.
 - Received a report of a dog bite, however did not report to the state due to the fact that the victim's skin was not broken.
 - As of 12/13/22, the State's Covid-19 surveillance dashboard reflects a low community level, thus masking remains a personal choice.

I. Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF):

- No report at this meeting.

J. Facilities Report:

- No report at this meeting.

K. Mettawee School Board Report:

- No report at this meeting.

8. Old or unfinished business:

- The Board spoke with Frank Nelson about continued use of the Auditorium.

9. New Business:

- The Selectboard's report for the Annual Town Report is due 1/9/23.
- Jessica attended a webinar about a Municipal Energy Resilience Program – re: weatherizing Town buildings, and revisiting heating methods (shifting away from propane and oil). Pawlet is high on the list of eligible Towns, and grant applications are anticipated to be released within the next year, however action steps to begin this can begin as soon as the spring/summer.
- Jessica has been tasked to gather information on behalf of the Otter Creek CUD on who in Town has no or slow internet service. If you experience slow or no internet service, please contact Jessica.

10. Public Comment:

- Frank Nelson reminded the Board that the Planning Commission will not be meeting in December, and will resume meeting in January.

11. Motion made to Adjourn at 7:50pm.

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