

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
February 21, 2023
7:00 pm
Pawlet Town Hall
122 School Street, Pawlet, VT
& Virtually via Zoom

Members in Attendance:

Mike Beecher
Bob Jones
Jessica Van Oort
John Malcolm

Others in Attendance:

Kristin Powers
PEG-TV
Nancy Morlino
Dale Decker
Tom Kroeber
Frank Nelson
Harley Cudney
Julie Mach
Deb Hawkins

EVENT

1. Call to order at 7:05 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 Hall Auditorium Use Request – Facilities Report
 - Animal Control Question – New Business
 - b. Deletions: None.
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
 - Motion made to approve the minutes of February 7, 2023, as printed.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort

- 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Bob Jones, John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort – in favor. Approved.
5. Pre-Requested Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors: None.
6. Announcements: None.
7. Reports:
- A. Zoning Administrator's (ZA) Report:
- Nancy Morlino shared a report from the ZA's office with the Board:
 - 2021 Zoning Permits are scanned into NEMRC system.
 - No new zoning permits to report at this meeting.
 - Provided the 2014 streetlight study and Energy Committee decision to the Selectboard.
 - Investigated occupancy report in West Pawlet, determining situation was being handled by Rutland Sheriff's Dept.
 - Researched zoning as it pertains to a proposed cannabis facility in Pawlet.
 - Participated in discussion re: possible multi-family dwelling in West Pawlet.
 - Consulted with Town legal counsel regarding several zoning items.
- B. Planning Commission's Report:
- No report at this meeting.
- C. Road Foreman's Report:
- Dale Decker, provided a report to the Board, along with a list of potential upcoming projects for Spring/Summer 2023 to the Board for review.
 - The Highway Dept. continues to perform necessary road & equipment maintenance, as well as haul material as scheduling/weather allows.
- D. Assessor Report:
- No report at this meeting.
- E. Town Clerk's Memo:
- Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins, shared a report with the Board:
 - One liquor license to approve for Sheldon's Market.

- Motion made to approve the liquor license renewal for Sheldon's Market.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Bob Jones, John Malcolm, Jessica Van Oort – in favor. Approved.
 - The Board was requested to reappoint a local representative for the Solid Waste Alliance Communities.
 - The Board unanimously agreed to reappoint Lenny Gibson for the role.
 - A Board of Abatement meeting has been scheduled for 2/28/23 at 6:15pm – at the Town Hall and via Zoom.
 - Bob Jones signed the four Fleet Excess Weight Permits.

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.
- The tax year has been closed, and the delinquent levy has been turned over to the Delinquent Tax Collector.
- Motion made to approve Payroll Warrant #23046 for \$7,598.54. and Accounts Payable Warrant #23047 for \$27,833.05.
 - Mover: Bob Jones
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Bob Jones, Jessica Van Oort – in favor. Approved.

G. Emergency Management Director's Report:

- EMD, Bob Morlino, requested the Board authorize him as the Town of Pawlet's representative to update the 2023 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.
 - Motion made to authorize Bob Morlino to be Pawlet's representative to complete the 2023 updates for the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: None

- Result: Bob Jones, Jessica Van Oort – in favor.
Approved.

H. Health Officer's Report:

- No report at this meeting.

I. Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF):

- Jill Marsano, VTUMS, provided reporting and updates to the Board.
 - The primary need of the WWTF currently is to find a local person to help part-time with daily ops visits. Please visit the employment page on the Town of Pawlet website to apply.

J. Facilities Report:

- Town Hall Auditorium Use Request: The Pawlett Historical Society has requested to utilize the Town Hall Auditorium on 7/22/23 for the 50th anniversary celebration.
 - Motion made to approve.
 - Mover: Bob Jones
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Bob Jones, Jessica Van Oort – in favor.
Approved.

K. Mettawee School Board (MSB) Report:

- No report at this meeting.

8. Old or unfinished business:

- Streetlight in West Pawlet: The Selectboard reviewed the 2014 study conducted by Green Mtn Power and Efficiency Vermont, the feedback and recommendations from Pawlet's Energy Committee, and discussions with Green Mtn Power regarding the reinstallation of a streetlight in West Pawlet.
 - The Board determined that the Town will not be reinstalling a streetlight in West Pawlet.
- Cannabis Control Board – Application Review: Mr. Beecher and Nancy Morlino are working together to answer several zoning questions as they pertain to cannabis establishments in the community.
- Jessica Van Oort shared that the VOREC grant has been received agreement, and conversations continued regarding D&H rail trail adjacent projects and maintenance efforts. The Town awaits the fully executed Bike & Pedestrian (sidewalks)

grant agreement, and once received, will continue to work with RRPC on progressing the project.

9. New Business:

- Development Review Board – Open Position: Tom Kroeber, addressed the Board, expressing interest in the open DRB position. Discussions ensued and the Board decided to make appointments during the Organizational Meeting on 3/8/2023.
- Animal Control Question – a resident of Pawlet inquired about the Town’s policy/budget for animal control efforts. The Town of Pawlet currently does not have a budget for animal control.

10. Public Comment:

- Frank Nelson offered comment about the West Pawlet village planning pot-luck events.

11. Motion made to enter Executive Session to discuss confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services. 1 V.S.A. subsection 313(a)(1)(F) at 8:20pm

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

12. Motion made to exit Executive Session with no decisions made at 8:49pm.

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

13. Motion made to Adjourn at 8:50pm.

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