

**Town of Pawlet**  
**Planning Commission Meeting**  
**Monday, June 30, 2023 7:30pm**  
**Meeting at townhall and**  
**via Zoom platform**

**Members present:**

Jessica Van Oort, Chairperson

John Sabotka, Vice Chairperson

Rik Sassa, Clerk/Secretary

Frank Nelson

Gary Baierlein

Harley Cudney

Wayne Clark (alternate member)

Nancy Morlino (Pawlet Zoning Administrator)

**Members absent:**

Mark Frost

**Item 1. Call to Order:**

Jessica called the meeting to order at 7:34pm

**Item 2. Approval of Agenda Items- Review/Add/Delete:**

Agenda as is with Frank Nelson talking about event he attended.

**Item 3. Approval of minutes of previous meeting:**

Harley Cudney moved to approve last minutes, Rik Sassa seconded, all approved.

**Item 4. Zoning Administrator's Report- Nancy Morlino:**

Nancy Morlino said she attended a meeting regarding "permitted use". Jessica thought that at the beginning of the by-laws to have the definitions of "permitted use" and "conditional use"

and “exempt”. Act 47 had only one change applicable to our town. The meeting also discussed Airbnb style rentals. Nancy wanted to meet at some point with Rik and another Airbnb host to help establish a registry for the town’s short term rental hosts. Nancy also commented on the parking in front of Mach’s store noting that he has enough parking in other areas around the store to satisfy the store’s function without the spaces in front of Mach’s which are clearly an obstruction to traffic and dangerous.

**Item 5. Rutland Regional Commission Report- John Sabotka and Harley Cudney:**

John gave a report on the meetings he attended. One of the subjects was regarding wild life crossings. They were trying to get the animals off the highways and to use culvert and bridge designs to facilitate animals moving through that corridor. Two solar sites in Pittsford, one the neighbors are fighting against it, the other one in looks like it will go through. He spoke about NERP grants. Jessica did not think they would fit with anything the town was working on. Rutland town dropped their airbnb restriction plans and are looking into a registry instead.

**Item 6. Otter Creek Communications Union District Report and Municipal Planning Grant Report- Jessica Van Oort:**

Jessica reported that the big news is they are trying to get preliminary approval in by July for the provider. Building should start next year. The municipal planning grant is mostly in for the grant close out.

**Item 7. Public comments:**

Frank spoke about an event that covered EVs, fueling and maintenance for Electric Vehicles. There is some non-standardization of wiring in EVs that make rescue personnel hesitant to use jaws of life equipment on. Some new battery technology on the horizon was discussed as well as bio-fuel motors and charging station plans.

**Item 8. On-going Business:**

Jessica wanted to discuss what to do with the town plan. The commissioners divided up the different sections to run through and make suggestions. Jessica will advertise that the board will be working on updating the town plan for the next 5 meetings and then present the plan to the selectboard by December, 2023. Gary really wanted the board to finish the by-laws before tackling the town plan. The commissioners agreed to see if the by-laws could be completed in the next meeting or two.

The board moved on with by-law revisions.

**Item 9. Set Agenda for next meeting**

Call to Order 7:30 2. Approval of Agenda Items - Review/Add/Delete 7:31 3. Approval of minutes of previous meeting 7:33 4. Zoning Administrator’s Report – Nancy Morlino 7:35 5. Rutland Regional Planning Commission Report 7:40 6. Otter Creek Communications Union District Report and

Municipal Planning Grant report 7:45 7. Public Comments 7:50 8. On-going Business: Bylaws Updates continued 8:00 9. Set Agenda for the next meeting 8:55 10. Adjournment 9:00

**Item 11. Adjournment:**

**Rik motioned for adjournment , Harley seconded, all approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm**