

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
October 31, 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
Perry Brown
Rich Hulett

Others in Attendance:

Kristin Powers
Frank Nelson
Harley Cudney
Jeffrey Wallin
Cam Smith
Val & John Davis
Brad Myerson
Colin Stabile
Thomas Covino
Dave Ricard

EVENT

1. Call to order at 7:04 pm by Chairman, Mike Beecher, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a review of the Rules of Procedure.
2. Introduction of those present, virtually and in person.
3. Addition or Deletion of Agenda Items.
 - a. Additions:
 - Library Ceiling – Facilities Report
 - b. Deletions: None.
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.

- Motion made to approve the minutes of October 17, 2023 and October 24, 2023, as printed.
 - Mover: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.
- 5. Pre-Requested Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors:
 - Director Wallin – Spoke to the Board about what an ORI (originating agency identity) Number is, who qualifies, and how to obtain one. Some discussion took place between the Board, body and Director Wallin.
- 6. Announcements: None.
- 7. Reports:
 - A. Zoning Administrator’s (ZA) Report:
 - No report at this meeting.
 - B. Planning Commission’s Report:
 - PPC Chairperson, Jessica Van Oort, shared a report with the Board:
 - The PPC met on 10/23, devoting the entire meeting towards the completion of the Town Plan updates. Next steps include: sending the current draft to the Rutland Regional Planning Commission, obtaining updated info re: emergency preparedness, and voting on the edits at the November meeting. From there, a public meeting will be warned, and the final draft will be sent to the Selectboard. The Town Plan must be adopted by the end of February 2024.
 - C. Road Foreman’s Report:
 - Grading has been completed.
 - Town equipment is undergoing maintenance servicing, and is getting set up for winter maintenance.
 - The salt sheds are prepared to receive the first delivery of salt.
 - Replacement signs have been ordered.
 - The Board reviewed the winter operations policy, which will be reviewed for re-adoption at the next meeting.

- Two new employees have been offered, and have accepted, positions with the Highway Department. A start date will be established pending results of mandated pre-employment testing.

D. Assessor Report:

- No report at this meeting.

E. Town Clerk's Memo:

- Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins, provided a report for the Board:
 - Motion made to approved the limited event DLL application for Mach's Market, LLC.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Perry Brown
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: 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 #24021 for \$9,732.46 and Accounts Payable Warrant #24022 for \$28,901.13.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.
- Jessica Van Oort shared that she attended a training on budgeting with the VLCT, and offered some takeaways from the training.

G. Emergency Management Director's Report:

- No report at this meeting.

H. Health Officer's Report:

- Health Officer, Jennifer Sullivan, provided a report to the Board:
 - The tenant of the camper in West Pawlet has been served an eviction notice.

I. Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF):

- No report at this meeting, however Jill Marsano from VTUMS indicated that a renewal of the NPDES Municipal Discharge

Permit is necessary and will need some assistance with this process. Chairman Beecher to follow-up.

J. Facilities Report:

- The Library Director and a member of the Library Board have reported that the ceiling of the children's room in the Library is in disrepair. Building Liaison, Jessica Van Oort, advised them to get a quote for the Selectboard to review. Mike Beecher to contact Dave Armstrong regarding the possibility of repairing the slate roof, which is likely the cause of the leaking/damage.

K. Mettawee School Board (MSB) Report:

- No report at this meeting.

8. Old or unfinished business:

- The Board discussed the topic of body cameras for the Constables. Some discussion ensued regarding desired equipment for the Constables, when it is budgeted, and the priorities of the Constables.
 - The Board determined that the Constables are eligible to purchase the cameras in the current year budget, and based on cost, a motion is not necessary for this purchase.
- Jessica Van Oort shared an update on the Municipal Planning Grant, including the focus of the grant, grant amount, and municipal match.
 - Motion made to submit the municipal resolution for FY24 Municipal Planning Grant, listing Jessica Van Oort as the Grant Administrator and primary contact with Mike Beecher as the secondary contact.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved

9. New Business:

- None

10. Public Comment:

- Rick Morales, Federal Administration of Small Business Administration (SBA) – provided the Selectboard with information regarding offerings, updates, and assistance opportunities from the SBA and FEMA. There will be handouts available at the Town Hall.

11. Motion made to enter Executive Session to discuss labor relations agreements with employees 1 V.S.A. § 313 at 8:08pm.

- Mover: Perry Brown
- 2nd: Rich Hulett
- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved

12. Motion made to exit Executive Session with no decisions made at 8:52pm.

- Mover: Bob Jones
- 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved

13. Motion made to Adjourn at 8:34pm.

- Mover: Bob Jones
- 2nd: Perry Brown
- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved