

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
March 5, 2024
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

Others in Attendance:

Kristin Powers
Aaron Levine
Tom Black
Linda Lynton
Lauren Shehadi Herbert
Frank Nelson
Harley Cudney
Elliot Freeman
Ruth Lampi
Noreen Hennessey
Harry

EVENT

1. Call to order at 7:06pm 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: None.
 - b. Deletions: None.
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
 - Motion made to approve the special meeting minutes of February 27, 2024 and regular meeting minutes of February 20, 2024 as printed.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort

- 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.
5. Pre-Requested Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors: None.
6. Announcements: None.
7. Reports:
- A. Zoning Administrator's (ZA) Report: No report at this meeting
- B. Planning Commission's Report:
- Jessica Van Oort shared that at 2/26 meeting, Logan Solomon of RRPC assisted by reviewing updates that pertain to compliance of zoning bylaws. Logan reported that provisionally, the Town Plan is approved. Bylaw updates are not yet complete; however, the intention is to complete these at next month's meeting.
 - Some discussions ensued amongst the Board and Body regarding bylaw updates.
- C. Road Foreman's Report:
- No report at this meeting, however a claim has been submitted to the VLCT for the Town truck damages discussed at a previous meeting.
- D. Assessor Report:
- The Board received the draft contract for the 2026 reappraisal and the quote for the conversion to Patriot software.
 - Motion made to approve the contract from Tyler Technologies for the town-wide reappraisal.
 - Mover: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
 - The Board expressed a question regarding the software conversion pricing. No decisions made at this meeting.
- E. Town Clerk's Memo: No report at this meeting.
- 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.
 - Ms. Mach provided the Board with the 2023-2024 Tax Levy, as well as last year's delinquent tax levy.

- Motion made to approve Payroll Warrant #24046 for \$12,799.01 and Accounts Payable Warrant #24047 for \$1,391,973.86.
 - Mover: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.

G. Emergency Management Director's Report:

- Emergency Management Director, Bob Morlino, reported that in February 2024, Pawlet Emergency Management held a meeting with shelter staff to discuss shelter procedures and forms. The next meeting will include a simulated shelter setup.

H. Health Officer's Report: No report at this meeting.

I. Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF):

- Mike Beecher shared that one heater was repaired this weekend, and it was discovered that there was damage which occurred during shipping so a replacement part is necessary.
- Mr. Beecher followed up on the heating system inefficiencies discussed at the last meeting. The fix is imminent and it has been determined that it will be necessary for an exterminator to perform maintenance to prevent further system damages of this kind.
- Jessica Van Oort shared that she spoke with Devon Neary, Rutland Regional Planning Commission, who had been authorized to assist the Town in seeking grant funding that may be available for the WWTF. This program is back in action, and Mr. Neary will be seeking grant opportunities for the WWTF.

J. Facilities Report:

- The Board reviewed one Town Hall Auditorium Rental request from Oasis Events for a monologue to be held on March 23, 2024.
 - Motion made to approve the event on March 23. Rate pending further details on the nature of the event.
 - Mover: Bob Jones
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved

K. Mettawee School Board (MSB) Report: No report at this meeting.

8. Old or unfinished business: None.

9. New Business: None.

10. Public Comment:

- Frank Nelson, on behalf the Energy Committee, requested to utilize the old Highway Department laptop for presentations and efforts by the Energy Committee.
- Ruth Lampi is again requesting the Selectboard and Library Board to pursue a solution to the ongoing personnel item pertaining to the dismissal of the former Library Director.
- Frank Nelson made mention of a possibility to establish a secure point of contact for a ladder to access the attic of the Town Hall

11. Motion made to enter executive session to discuss confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the body (1 V.S.A. § 313) at 7:48pm.

- Mover: Jessica Van Oort
- 2nd: Rich Hulett
- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved

12. Motion to come out of executive session with no decisions made 8:16pm.

- Mover: Jessica Van Oort
- 2nd: Rich Hulett
- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved

14. Motion made to adjourn at 8:16pm

- Mover: Bob Jones
- 2nd: Rich Hulett
- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved