

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
April 16, 2024
7:00 pm
Pawlet Town Hall
122 School Street, Pawlet, VT
& Virtually via Zoom

Members in Attendance:

Mike Beecher
Jessica Van Oort
Rich Hulett
Brian Crossman

Others in Attendance:

PEG-TV
Kristin Powers
Frank Nelson
Harley Cudney
Deb Hawkins (Zoom)
Rhonda Schlangen (Zoom)
Mandy Hulett
Aaron Levine (Zoom)
John Davis
Val Davis
Dave Ricard
Tom Covino
Nancy Morlino (Zoom)
Linda Lynton (Zoom)
Jennifer Spademan (Zoom)
Ruth Lampi
Joanne's iPad (Zoom)
Tom Black (Zoom)
Cori Rail
Harry Van Meter (Zoom)
Lauren Shehadi Herbert
Greg Poelker-McKee

EVENT

1. Call to order at 7:02pm 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 regular meeting minutes of April 2, 2024
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.
5. Pre-Requested Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors:
 - Greg Poelker-McKee, Rutland Regional Planning Commission – Addressed the board regarding the Municipal Technical Assistance Program and the state-level shift within the management of the program.
 - Summarized the project currently in focus with the State (WWTF upgrades), and inquired about other potential projects the Town may want to investigate.
6. Announcements: None.
7. Reports:
 - A. Zoning Administrator's (ZA) Report:
 - Nancy Morlino requested approval from the Board on the short-term rental ordinance following its return of legal review.
 - Motion made to approve the short-term rental ordinance.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
 - B. Planning Commission's Report: No report at this meeting.
 - C. Road Foreman's Report:
 - Kristin Powers shared that the FY25 VTrans Municipal Highway Grant Application for Class 2 Roadways was submitted, and the FY25 Grants in Aid Letter of Intent is due May 10th.

- Motion made to sign the letter of intent for the FY25 Grants in Aid Program.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Brian Crossman
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
 - Damon Ferenc has accepted the role of Highway Foreman.
 - Motion made to establish a start date for Damon Ferenc for Wednesday 4/17/24 on administrative duties until his CDL paperwork is returned.
 - Mover: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Brian Crossman
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved.
 - The Highway Dept. has been hauling gravel in preparation for repair of back roads.
 - The new truck is currently in the upfitting phase.
 - Jessica Van Oort shared that she has been in communication with Ethan Pepin of the Rutland Regional Planning Commission regarding options for improvement on the West Pawlet village intersection.
- D. Assessor Report: No report at this meeting.
- E. Town Clerk's Memo:
- Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins, provided a report to the Board:
 - One Excess Weight Permit, signed by Rich Hulett.
- 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 #24053 for \$1,815.55, Payroll Warrant #24055 for \$8,643.33 and Accounts Payable Warrant #24056 for \$55,527.98
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Brian Crossman
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.

- Julie has ordered all the highway department purchase requests aside from the refrigerator, which was out of stock.
- Julie updated the Board on the request to raise the Town's credit card limit.
- Motion made to authorize the Town Treasurer to pay pre-employment related expenses prior to Selectboard authorization up to \$100.00.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved

G. Emergency Management Director's Report:

- EMD, Bob Morlino, electronically requested the Board and Town Clerk sign the official adoption form for the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.
 - Motion made to sign the adoption form of the All-Hazards Mitigation Plan.
 - Mover: Brian Crossman
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved

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

I. Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF):

- Some work needs to be done on some pumps at the WWTF.

J. Facilities Report:

- Jessica Van Oort shared that the first draft of the energy audits of the Town Hall and Library have been received. Edits are in progress following feedback, and final drafts will be sent around to Board members and the Energy Coordinator once they are complete.

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

8. Old or unfinished business:

- The Board reviewed a renewal contract from Foley Services.
 - The consensus of the Board was for Board Chairman, Mike Beecher, to sign this agreement.

9. New Business:

- Application, Hiring & Onboarding Process – The Board discussed updating and instilling a process and checklist for hiring and onboarding.
- Frank Nelson spoke of the Town-owned infrared cameras. There will be a formal roll-out event in May, however Frank encouraged the Board members to utilize and familiarize themselves with the cameras.

10. Public Comment:

- Martin Kravitt requested that Chairman Beecher read aloud a letter pertaining to the ongoing personnel item within the Library.

11. Motion made to adjourn at 8:06pm

- Mover: Jessica Van Oort
- 2nd: Brian Crossman
- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved