

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
August 6, 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
Brian Crossman
Rich Hulett

Others in Attendance:

PEG-TV
Kristin Powers
Frank Nelson
Chris Pritchard
Linda Lynton
Harley Cudney
Damon Ferenc
Julie Mach (zoom)
Harry Van Meter (zoom)
Sue LaPorte
Lauren Herbert
Deb Hawkins (zoom)
Martin Kravitt (zoom)
Lyndsi Barnes (zoom)

EVENT

1. Call to order at 7:05pm 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:
 - Executive Session – to discuss labor relations agreements with employees.

- b. Deletions: None
- 4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
 - Motion made to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 23, 2024, as printed.
 - Mover: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.
- 5. Pre-Requested Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors:
 - Chris Pritchard – Introduced himself, running for State Representative, sharing a bit about himself and his background.
- 6. Announcements: None.
- 7. Reports:
 - A. Zoning Administrator's (ZA) Report: No report at this meeting.
 - B. Planning Commission's Report: No report at this meeting.
 - The warning, submitted on behalf of the Selectboard, has been passed along to the Town Clerk for distribution.
 - C. Road Foreman's Report:
 - Highway Foreman, Damon Ferenc, provided a report to the Board:
 - The Highway Department has continued to maintain roads following storms, perform roadside mowing, hauling winter stone, brush cutting and ditch maintenance, office organization and interviewing of applicants, and equipment maintenance.
 - Upcoming projects to include: continued ditch work and roadside mowing and ongoing applicant interviews.
 - School Street Bridge update: The Selectboard has reached out to Daniels Construction regarding an update on the School Street Bridge. An update will be published as soon as it is available.
 - D. Assessor Report: No report at this meeting.
 - E. Town Clerk's Memo:
 - Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins, shared a report with the Board:
 - A friendly reminder that all updates that come to the Town Clerk's Office are sent to the Board members.

- All displays will be removed from the Town Hall as preparation begins for the State Primary.
- One ANR notification for the Board's information.
- The Town office is still awaiting an installation to get the permanent PEG-TV setup.
- Motion made to approve the three DLL Applications (#47009 – 3rd class restaurant/bar license, #47018 – outside consumption permit, #47018 – first class restaurant/bar license).
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - 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.
- In July, Pawlet received the VT 3rd quarter of Highway State Aid, Land Use Change and Homestead Property tax payments, and the By-law modernization grant payment.
- Motion made to approve Payroll Warrant #25008 for \$7282.28 and Accounts Payable Warrant #25009 for \$125,755.51.
 - Mover: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Brian Crossman
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.

G. Emergency Management Director's Report: No report at this meeting.

H. Health Officer's Report:

- Town Health Officer, Jennifer Sullivan, provided a report to the Board:
 - Since the last update, THO Sullivan has taken a report of one cat bite in West Pawlet. Following receipt of a fax pertaining to the subject, some follow-up is necessary.
- The Board received a certificate for Jennifer certifying three years of performing Town Health Officer duties.

I. Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF):

- Mike Beecher shared a report of some repairs performed at the WWTF.

J. Facilities Report:

- Harley Cudney reported a leak in the Library basement, and a meeting with Leon Corey yielded the action of following up to determine why the warning light has been illuminated.

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

8. Old or unfinished business:

- Gravel Pit: nothing new and holding off on printing survey for now.
- Open meeting law: conversations taking place with town web coordinator regarding town's capabilities and current set-up to adhere to OML.

9. New Business: None.

10. Public comment:

- Frank Nelson: Addressed the Board to share learnings from a meeting attended regarding healthcare and the anticipated raise in premiums.
- Lauren Herbert: Addressed the Board to generate a conversation with the Board regarding the possibility of employee contracts as they related to the inevitable hiring of a new Library Director.
 - Some conversation ensued regarding HR-related items and the possibility of cohesiveness amongst the Library Board.
- Damon Ferenc gathered prices for tires for the Town's grader.
 - Some discussion ensued amongst the Board and Damon regarding options, with no decisions made at this meeting.

11 Motion made to enter executive session to discuss labor relations agreements with employees at 7:49pm.

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

12. Motion made to exit executive session with no decisions made at 8:27pm

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

13. Motion made to adjourn at 8:27pm

- Mover: Bob Jones
- 2nd: Rich Hulett

- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved