

**Final Minutes**  
**SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET**  
February 18, 2025  
7:00 pm  
Pawlet Town Hall  
122 School Street, Pawlet, VT  
& Virtually via Zoom

Members in Attendance:

Mike Beecher  
Bob Jones  
Jessica Van Oort  
Tom Collard  
Rich Hulett

Others in Attendance:

PEG-TV  
Kristin Powers  
Sue LaPorte  
Frank Nelson  
Linda Lynton  
Tom Covino  
Deb Hawkins  
Mark Chila  
Nancy Morlino  
Julie Mach  
Lauren Herbert

**EVENT**

1. Call to order at 7:06pm by Chairman, Mike Beecher, with the Pledge of Allegiance and a summary of the Selectboard's Rules of Procedure.
2. Introduction of those present, virtually and in person.
3. Addition or Deletion of Agenda Items.
  - a. Additions:
    - Nature Conservancy Proposed Purchase – New Business
  - b. Deletions:
    - Executive Session
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.

- Motion made to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 4, 2025 as printed.
  - Mover: Rich Hulett
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jessica Van Oort
  - Discussion: None.
  - Result: Approved.

5. Pre-Requested Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors:

- Mark Chila, Northshire Networks – Virtually provided the Board and Body with a demonstration of camera offerings, which the Town has expressed interest in pursuing for the purpose of weather monitoring, specifically for the Town Highway Department.

6. Announcements: None.

7. Reports:

A. Zoning Administrator's (ZA) Report:

- Nancy Morlino electronically shared that unfortunately the Town of Pawlet did not receive the funding from the tree removal grant.
- Things have been slow as far as permitting goes, but scanning of old permits is ongoing.

B. Planning Commission's Report: No report at this meeting, however the PPC is still seeking two members.

C. Road Foreman's Report:

- Highway Foreman, Damon Ferenc, electronically shared a report with the Board:
  - The Highway Dept. has been plowing and sanding Town roads, as well as cleaning snow around guard rails and pushing back snow banks.
- The Board and Body unanimously acknowledged that the roads are the best they've been in years, and the efforts of the Highway Department are appreciated by all.
- Bob Jones relayed a message he received from a resident, inquiring if the Town planned to have sand available for resident use.
  - The Board acknowledged that sand has been valuable for homeowners, however the stone has proven to be a superior product for our Town roadways.

D. Assessor Report: No report at this meeting.

E. Town Clerk's Memo:

- One overweight fleet permit to be signed. Signed by Bob Jones.
- 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 Accounts Payable Warrant #25050 for \$1,398,061.48 Payroll Warrant #25049 for \$13,753.27.  
Mover: Jessica Van Oort  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Rich Hulett  
Discussion: None  
Result: Approved.
  - Mike Beecher acknowledged and signed a form from Daniels Construction, indicating that expenses for the School St Bridge project matched the figures on file in the Daniels office.
- G. Emergency Management Director's Report: No report at this meeting.
- H. Health Officer's Report: No report at this meeting.
- I. Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF): No report at this meeting.
- J. Facilities Report: No report at this meeting, however Jessica Van Oort shared that Meg Campbell from VT Historic Preservation will be planning to come visit the Town historic buildings again this year.
- K. Mettawee School Board (MSB) Report: No report at this meeting, however the annual meeting is Wednesday night in Rupert.
8. Old or unfinished business:
- Town Property Surveying – Tom Collard acknowledged the information sent along to the Board by Sue LaPorte and Julie Mach. Tom addressed his fellow board members, wondering what their thoughts were on surveying the properties that are not surveyed to ensure the surveys are complete, documented and filed properly. Additional research required, no decision at this meeting.
  - Jessica Van Oort – Updated the Board on the MERP grant, indicating that the status on the MERP grant as of now is that the RRPC is willing to submit the request for proposals (RFP) for this grant-funded project. The idea being that RRPC will put together an RFP to determine the needs for this project, and that perhaps the RFP will lump together other municipalities

who are also planning for projects of this nature. This combined approach could lead to an economy of scale. The Board agreed the bulk RFP would be a good idea as an initial step for this project.

9. New Business:

- No decisions made at this meeting regarding a new computer for the Selectboard Assistant.
- Donald Campbell from the Vermont Land Trust requested a copy of the Board's decision to support the current rec. park on Rte. 30.

10. Public comment:

- Sue LaPorte inquired as to when Daniels Construction would be picking up the fence by the School St. Bridge. Also spoke to frost heaves by the Town Hall as well as a suggestion pertaining to cameras.
- Frank Nelson spoke to federal efforts and funding, specifically aimed towards "green" funding.

11. Motion made to adjourn at 8:10pm.

- Mover: Bob Jones
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tom Collard
- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved