

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
May 27, 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

Others in Attendance:

PEG-TV
Kristin Powers
Frank Nelson
Linda Lynton
Sue LaPorte
Charlie & Phyllis Mason

EVENT

1. Call to order at 7:05pm 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:
 - Charlie Mason - Cemetery
 - b. Deletions: None.
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
 - Motion made to approve the regular and special meeting minutes of May 13, 2025, with two additions to the attendance list as well as clarification on items discussed within the facilities report.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: None.

- Result: Approved.

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

- Charlie Mason made a personal request regarding the Cemetery Association. Mr. Mason suggested that the Selectboard consider appointing a liaison to the Cemetery Associations of Pawlet and West Pawlet. This individual would be able to stay aware of happenings within the associations, with a focus on the finances and investments. The Cemetery Association's annual meeting will be hosted on Wednesday 5/28/25 at 6:00pm at the chapel, and Mr. Mason personally requested a Selectboard member attend to listen and provide feedback. Additionally, the Cemetery Association is seeking members.
 - Bob Jones spoke to Mr. Mason's point that should the cemetery associations be unable to fulfill their duties, the town would in fact absorb their responsibilities. Mr. Jones stated that he will do his best to attend.
- Frank Nelson, Energy Coordinator, provided an official Energy Coordinator presentation to the Board and Body. Mr. Nelson's presentation touched upon energy conservation considerations, focusing on heat loss and retention at the Town Hall & Library.
 - Ideally, the issues presented by Mr. Nelson will be alleviated by the MERP grant, and the infrared cameras used to capture the images in Mr. Nelson's presentation are available at the Library for public use.

6. Announcements: None.

7. Reports to the Board:

- A. Zoning Administrator's (ZA) Report: No report at this meeting.
- B. Planning Commission's Report: No report at this meeting.
- C. Road Foreman's Report:
 - Highway Foreman, James Greeno, provided a report:
 - Throughout the past two weeks the Highway Dept. has:
 - Completed shoulder work on Tadmer, Waite Hill and Rupert Hill Roads as well as ditching on Tadmer. Added erosion control to the above-mentioned roads.
 - Continued mowing on Rte. 153.
 - Cleaned out culvert ends on Clark Rd. and replaced road sign.

- Replaced culvert at intersection of Beaver Brook and Andrus, upgrading culvert and erosion control.
- Continued preventative road maintenance and assessment of culverts for potential grant funded projects.
- Upcoming areas of focus:
 - Upgrade culvert on Bauer & clean out culverts on Waite Hill, 153 and Tadmer.
 - Continue mowing, grading, preventative maintenance.
 - Adding erosion control around bridge headers and wing walls.
- Highway Liaison, Bob Jones, shared that the Highway Dept. was able to remove a downed tree from the travelled portion of the roadway on Memorial Day, and the Highway team finished the cleanup today (Tuesday).
- Sue LaPorte added that the sign added to Chet Clark Road reads, Clark Road. This was passed along to the Highway Foreman for correction.

D. Assessor Report: No report at this meeting.

E. Town Clerk's Memo:

- Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins, electronically shared a memo with the Board:
 - There is an individual light permit for 2nd constable Mark Gutel – there has been no vote by the Selectboard to limit any constabulary enforcement for Mr. Gutel, therefore Deb can sign this permit.
 - Electrical work will be completed to finish the PEG-TV installation in the Town Hall.

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.
- One contract from the RRPC to be signed to help with the Better Back Roads inventory for which we have received a grant.
 - Motion made to sign the contract agreement with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission for the Better Back Roads Inventory.

- Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
 - Motion made to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #25072 for \$44,629.55 and Payroll Warrant #25071 for \$10,024.46.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.
- G. Emergency Management Director's Report: No report at this meeting.
- H. Health Officer's Report:
- Jennifer Sullivan electronically provided the Board with an update on the ongoing issue in West Pawlet.
- I. Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF): No report at this meeting.
- J. Facilities Report: No report at this meeting, however the Board discussed the deposit which was paid for the Town Hall Door repair.
8. Reports to the Public:
- A. Library Board Report: No report at this meeting, however Sue LaPorte shared the date of the next Library Board Meeting.
- B. Mettawee School Board (MSB) Report: No report at this meeting.
8. Old or unfinished business:
- Nuisance Lighting – The Board discussed this topic further following some research done on objectionable lighting in other VT Municipalities. Ultimately, the Board felt that the enforcement of such an ordinance would not be clear nor consistent and that they will take no action at this time.
9. New Business: None.
10. Public comment:
- The public in attendance thanked the Board for a good meeting.
 - Frank Nelson shared that a member of the RRPC who has worked with Pawlet on the MERP grant is leaving the commission.
 - Bob Jones thanked Frank for his presentation and Mike Beecher asked some follow-up questions to Mr. Nelson
11. Motion made to adjourn at 7:57 pm.
- Mover: Bob Jones
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort

- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved