

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
July 8, 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

Others in Attendance:

PEG-TV
Kristin Powers
Frank Nelson
Sue LaPorte
Cori Rail
James Greeno
Lauren Herbert
Nancy Morlino
Tom Covino

EVENT

1. Call to order at 7:00pm 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: None.
 - b. Deletions: None.
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
 - Motion made to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 24, 2025, as printed.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort

- 2nd: Tom Collard
- Discussion: None.
- Result: Approved.

5. Pre-Requested Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors: None.

6. Announcements: None.

7. Reports to the Board:

A. Zoning Administrator's (ZA) Report:

- Nancy Morlino electronically shared a report with the Board:
 - 26 permits year-to-date and two new short-term rental registrations.
 - The ZA's office will be closed next week, but Ms. Morlino will be available via email.

B. Planning Commission's Report:

- Ed Evans electronically submitted a report on behalf of the Planning Commission:
 - Funding for the Enhanced Energy Plan (EEP) is provided via the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC).
 - The RRPC has received funding to support our EEP update.
 - The RRPC is currently updating the regional plan and will be working with the PPC to start their EEP update.

C. Road Foreman's Report:

- Highway Foreman, James Greeno, provided a report:
 - Throughout the past two weeks the Highway Dept. has:
 - Ditch work, roadside mowing and culvert maintenance.
 - Completed D&H Rail Trail project and installed speed signs on Button Falls Road
 - Upcoming projects to include:
 - Continued equipment maintenance, shop organization and ditch work.
 - Proposed projects: culvert replacement on Kelley Hill Road & Bullfrog Hollow Road.
 - Some conversations ensued amongst the Board, Body and Highway Foreman regarding several upcoming projects.

- James spoke to the possibility of new batteries being needed for the speed signs.
- Motion made to purchase batteries for speed signs if necessary.
 - Mover: Tom Collard
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
- The Town was awarded \$200,000.00 in grant funds from the Class 2 Roadway Grant.
- Motion made to agree to accept the Class 2 Roadway grant and sign the agreement form.
 - Mover: Bob Jones
 - 2nd: Tom Collard
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved.
- Motion made to submit a request for proposals for the paving project.
 - Mover: Bob Jones
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
- The Highway Liaisons were approached by an interested buyer for the 2008 International Dump Truck, which has been for sale for some time. The interested party has offered \$10,000.00 and is prepared for immediate purchase in “as-is” condition.
 - Motion made to approve the sale of the 2008 International Dump Truck for \$10,000.00, authorizing the

Highway Liaisons to serve as the representatives of the Town for this transaction.

- Mover: Bob Jones
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
- Julie spoke to the Board's ability to determine where to put proceeds from sales of property.
 - Motion made to allocate the proceeds of the sale of the truck to the Equipment fund.
 - Mover: Bob Jones
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved

D. Assessor Report: No report at this meeting.

E. Town Clerk's Memo:

- Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins, shared a memo with the Board:
 - A copy of a summons was left for the Board.
 - Matt Corey completed the PEG TV monitor installation in the Town Hall.
 - One excess weight permit signed by Bob Jones.
 - One DLL Application #62662, request to cater permit for 802Cocktails, LLC for an event in town on 9/20/25.
 - Motion made to approve DLL Application #62662 for 802Cocktails, LLC for an event on 9/20/25.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Tom Collard
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved

- BCA Biennial Purge meeting is next Tuesday.

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.
- Julie followed up on proper financial procedure for the Board to take regarding the disposal of surplus Town property.
- Julie recommended three new financial policies for the Board to adopt. The policies are: Fraud Prevention, Capital Assets, and Fund Balance
 - The Board discussed the options for language and adjustability for the various policies.
 - Motion made to adopt the Fraud Prevention, Capital Assets, and Fund Balance policies as written, with the second option for the fund balance (to put any excess funds into the capital improvements account).
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Tom Collard
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
- Motion made to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #26002 for \$14,936.67 and Payroll Warrant #26001 for \$10,450.48.
 - Mover: Tom Collard
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.

G. Emergency Management Director's Report:

- Bob Morlino electronically provided a report to the Board:
 - Mr. Morlino attended the State Emergency Response Committee meeting, FBI Quarterly meeting, and Rutland Emergency Management Committee meeting (all virtually).

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.

- Mike Beecher shared contact information with Buildings Liaison for a local carpenter.
8. Reports to the Public:
- A. Library Board Report:
- Cori Rail shared a summary of rate Library Board's most recent meeting.
 - Advertising for a new director and the Library Book Sale is taking place during the last weekend of July.
 - The Library requested permission to post the Library Director job posting on the VLCT website and the Board unanimously supported this request.
- B. Mettawee School Board (MSB) Report: No report at this meeting.
9. Old or unfinished business:
- MERP Grant Proposals - The Board discussed the two proposal, one from John Turner and one from ArchiTend, reviewing strengths and weaknesses of each.
 - Motion made to accept and proceed with ArchiTend's proposal to complete the MERP funded project for Town Hall and Library.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Tom Collard
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
 - Next steps to include letting RRPC know who we have decided to move forward with, and await hearing what the next steps are.
 - Jessica Van Oort expressed the interest in attending a training on ordinances offered through the VLCT.
 - Nancy Morlino re-visited a request that was submitted last year from a resident of Robinson Hill Road who hoped the Town would relinquish some control of a section of roadway that runs along their property. The Board recalled why they made the decision to not approve this last year.
10. New Business:
- Mike Beecher authorized a lawyer to represent the Town on a case.

- Mike Beecher shared of a letter sent to the Selectboard regarding concerns of a property in Pawlet. A reply has been prepared and will be sent.

11. Public comment: None

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

- Mover: Bob Jones
- 2nd: Tom Collard
- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved