

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
June 10, 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
Frank Nelson
Linda Lynton
Sue LaPorte
Chris Pritchard
Tom Covino
Dave Ricard
Deb Hawkins
Bob Morlino
Nancy Morlino
Mark Gutel
Monica Kravitt
Martin Kravitt
Cori Rail
Bill Humphries
Bob Schoenemann
Julie Mach
Lauren Herbert
Harry Van Meter

EVENT

1. Call to order at 7:01pm 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 May 27, 2025, as printed.
 - Mover: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.
5. Pre-Requested Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors:
 - Martin Kravitt requested that the Board approve his request to waive the requirement to turn his driveway (currently shared) into a private road due to the impending addition of an additional residence on the driveway (making a total of 3 residences). Mr. Kravitt continued to share feedback from a state resource, and informed the board that the other residents of the shared drive have no feelings on the subject either way.
 - Bob Morlino, E911 Coordinator, shared driveway and private road standards with the Selectboard. The standard is that if there are more than three structures on a single driveway, the driveway must then be changed to a private road. While this is the state standard, Mr. Morlino shared that the Selectboard may opt to overrule this standard.
 - The Board discussed this item, with several questions to Mr. Morlino.
 - Motion made to overrule the state standard and allow the driveway to maintain as is, allowing the E911 Coordinator to oversee the installation of appropriate signage.
 - Mover: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: None

- Result: Approved
- Tom Covino, on behalf of the Town of Pawlet and the Pawlet Constabulary, presented Dave Ricard with a retirement badge in honor of his 22 years of service to the community.
 - Chris Pritchard read a house concurrent resolution honoring former constable David Ricard Sr.

6. Announcements: None.

7. Reports to the Board:

A. Zoning Administrator's (ZA) Report:

- Nancy Morlino shared that there is a DRB hearing on a conditional use permit on 6/16/25.

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:
 - Continued mowing, spot grading, and preventative maintenance on all roads.
 - Added erosion stone, bridge headers and wing walls to Andrus Road.
 - Repaired beaver damage on Brimstone Road.
 - Upcoming projects to include:
 - Ditching Kelly Hill Road.
 - Grading Brimstone Road, adding gravel for road height.
 - Tree maintenance on Waite Hill.
 - Conduct road inventory & equipment/truck maintenance.
 - Clean out around bridge headers & wing walls on N. Pawlet and River Road(s).
- Constable Covino shared that the Highway Foreman requested constable support to ensure safety in roadside mowing. The Board supported this request.
- Jessica Van Oort reported that the Highway Dept. assisted Julie Mach, Nancy Morlino and Chris Pritchard in cleaning up foliage outside of the Town Hall.
- Mr. Jones shared that he was contacted by a business owner at the end of the Bull Frog Hollow Road, inquiring if there is anything the Town can do to help eradicate the constant pot holes at the end of the road. Mr. Greeno is aware of the issue

and is investigating a fix and will determine whether or not this is within the state or town's portion of the roadway.

D. Assessor Report: No report at this meeting.

E. Town Clerk's Memo:

- Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins, shared a memo with the Board:
 - o Deb provided the Board members with a flyer regarding updated state standards for building.
 - o The Board of Civil Authority will be meeting mid July for the biennial purge.

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.
- Jessica Van Oort shared that she and Julie Mach are working on some financial policies, which will be brought to the Board for the next meeting.
- Motion made to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #25076 for \$43,978.97 and Payroll Warrant #25075 for \$13,163.98.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Tom Collard
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.

G. Emergency Management Director's Report:

- Emergency Mgt Director, Bob Morlino shared a report with the Board:
 - o Two meetings attended in the month of May.
 - o Mr. Morlino received a call from a Pawlet resident who was concerned about flooding. The state was alerted and cleaned out the drainage ditch which was contributing to the flooding issue.

H. Health Officer's Report:

- No report at this meeting, however Kristin Powers reiterated to the Board that an email was sent to the Board members regarding an ongoing issue at a residence in West Pawlet. This issue continues to be monitored by local and state officials. Mr. Morlino and Mr. Covino spoke to this situation. Currently, the state has given the homeowner a deadline to remedy the situation.

I. Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF): No report at this meeting.

J. Facilities Report:

- Tom Collard shared that the Town Hall roof repair has been completed, and a final invoice has been submitted for payment.
- The builder of the updated Town Hall doors has been in contact with Town officials regarding the construction of the doors. The historic trust has been kept in the loop of the updates and progress continues.
- Cori Rail shared that the Library Board has begun discussions re: painting the interior and exterior of the Library, and sought clarification of who was responsible for paying for these projects. It was determined that the Town funds the exterior while the Library would be responsible for the interior.
 - The Board determined it would be a good idea to get quotes for painting contractors to provide some prices for painting both the Town Hall and Library.
 - Additionally, Cori Rail and Sue LaPorte addressed several other projects (historic preservation grants and step repair) that the Library Board is looking into.

8. Reports to the Public:

A. Library Board Report:

- Cori Rail shared a report from the Pawlet Public Library summarizing current happenings. All is flowing smoothly at the Library.

B. Mettawee School Board (MSB) Report:

- Julie Mach shared a report summarizing May & June happenings from the Mettawee School Board.
- Jessica Van Oort shared that, on behalf of the Board, she would be presenting the Irene Hanfield award at the school graduation.

8. Old or unfinished business:

- Jessica Van Oort provided an update on the status of the Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP). There is currently an open request for bids on the project, closing on Friday, May 13th. Sealed bids will be available for the Selectboard to review at the next regular meeting on June 24, 2025. A decision would be anticipated at the first regular meeting in July.

9. New Business:

- Kristin Powers sought approval to purchase Microsoft Office (word, excel, etc.) for the new Selectboard Assistant computer if there

was not currently an available license owned by the Town. The Selectboard approved this purchase.

10. Public comment:

- Frank Nelson shared that the D&H Rail Trail Advisory Commission will be meeting on Wednesday 6/11.
- Chris Pritchard spoke to current happenings on the State level.
- Nancy Morlino addressed the Board regarding the picnic table area by the rail trail. Currently, the grass is overgrown. The Board discussed the grant, and the need to continue pursuing fine details such as maintenance.
- Monica Kravitt shared about new book on the Revolutionary War, which has a page about Pawlet Expedition within the pages.
- Julie Mach thanked Chris Pritchard for his engagement with the school and the Selectboard for providing time for the school board report, valuing the connection amongst the Board and Town. Also shared that the BRSU and Mettawee School Board are amongst the most active members surrounding recent legislation.

11. Motion made to adjourn at 8:14pm.

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