

**Final Minutes**  
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET  
October 14, 2025  
7:00 pm  
Pawlet Town Hall  
122 School Street, Pawlet, VT  
& Virtually via Zoom

Members in Attendance:

Bob Jones  
Mike Beecher  
Jessica Van Oort  
Tom Collard  
Rich Hulett

Others in Attendance:

PEG-TV  
Kristin Powers  
Frank Nelson  
Linda Welch  
Sue LaPorte  
Margie Pritchard  
Taylor Gould  
Tom Covino  
Lauren Herbert  
Linda Lynton  
Ed Evans  
James Greeno  
Nancy Morlino  
Julie Mach

**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:  
Tom Covino – Grant Agreement

## MERP Grant Update – Old Unfinished

- b. Deletions: None.
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
  - Motion made to approve the regular meeting minutes of September 30, 2025, as printed.
    - Mover: Rich Hulett
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tom Collard
    - Discussion: None.
    - Result: Approved.
5. Pre-Requested Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors:
  - Tom Covino spoke to subgrant agreement with the Rutland County Sherrif's Dept.
    - Motion made to sign the subgrant agreement with the Rutland Sherriff's Dept.
      - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
      - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tom Covino
      - Discussion: None
      - Result: Approved
6. Announcements:
  - Jessica Van Oort shared an announcement from the Pawlet Volunteer Fire Department regarding their new truck, which is being shown and shared with the community on Saturday at 4:00pm.
7. Reports to the Board:
  - A. Zoning Administrator's (ZA) Report: No report at this meeting, and the most current zoning log is posted.
  - B. Planning Commission's Report:
    - Ed Evans shared a report of the PPC with the Board:
      - The PPC received and reviewed the Tinmouth Town Plan.
      - Discussed the Town's Resiliency Plan.
      - The next meeting is on 11/3/2025.
  - C. Road Foreman's Report:
    - Highway Foreman, James Greeno, provided a report to the Board, summarizing projects completed during the previous two weeks as well as upcoming areas of focus.
    - Tom Collard thanked James and the Highway Dept. for their clean-up efforts around the Town Hall.

- Mike Beecher spoke to the concept of putting together a mix of material for residents who may be interested in using a few buckets of material for homeowner use.
- James and the Board discussed a plan to lift the fuel tanks at both garages onto concrete slabs to continue safe fuel deliveries.

D. Assessor Report:

- Lisa Wright shared a memo from Tyler Technologies with the Board, which included an update on the reappraisal process.

E. Town Clerk's Memo:

- Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins, shared a memo with the Board.
  - Vinnie Covino has been conducting IT/tech support within the Town Hall.
  - The Town Clerk's office will be closed on October 22, 2025.

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.
- The Town Treasurer's office will be closed for the week of October 20<sup>th</sup> as well as on Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Julie Mach requested that the Board schedule a budget meeting on Tuesday, 11/18/25.
- Jessica Van Oort inquired about a recent budget update from Julie.
- Motion made to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #26023 for \$41,048.45 and Payroll Warrant #26022 for \$8,257.79.
  - Mover: Rich Hulett
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tom Collard
  - Discussion: None.
  - Result: Approved.

G. Emergency Management Director's Report:

- Emergency Mgt Director, Bob Morlino, electronically shared a September 2025 summary report with the Board:
  - Ed Evans & Bob Morlino attended the VT Emergency Preparedness Conference in Killington.
  - The Pawlet Emergency Mgt Team met to discuss Pawlet's participation in the statewide exercise.

- Bob Molino attended the RRPC Emergency Mgt meeting.
- Bob Molino & Jackie Becker conducted shelter training for some staff.

H. Health Officer's Report:

- Town Health Officer, Jennifer Sullivan, electronically shared that there is not much to report other than a dog bite in Pawlet.

I. Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF): No report at this meeting, all testing continues to remain steady.

J. Facilities Report:

- The new doors have been installed at the Town Hall. The weather stripping is forthcoming, to be approved by the VT Historic Preservation Trust.
- Tom Collard is awaiting a meeting with the anticipated painter for the exterior of the Town Hall and Library.
- The heating system will be installed in the WWTF on 10/22.

8. Reports to the Public:

A. Library Board Report:

- Sue LaPorte shared an update with the Board regarding the continued operation of the Library facility.
- Mike Beecher spoke to an email that the Selectboard responded regarding a petition concerning the current events at the Library. Mr. Beecher shared his appreciation for the concern of the Town, however the Town elects a Board of Trustees for the Library, and the Selectboard does not have any involvement in the hiring and firing within the Pawlet Public Library.

B. Mettawee School Board (MSB) Report:

- Chair, Julie Mach, shared a report with the Board regarding the MSB's most recent public forum regarding re-districting. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 11/3/25.

9. Old or unfinished business:

- Jessica Van Oort shared an update following the first working meeting regarding the Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP) grant.
  - The Town Hall will be closed on 11/3 for blower testing.
- The Board discussed the insurance claim for the theft at the Town Garage.

- The Board confirmed that the complete list of items missing has been compiled, and a claim can be filed by the Town Treasurer.
- Selectboard Assistant inquired about the status of an updated iPad for the Highway Dept. per the recommendation of the RRPC.
- Mike Beecher spoke to the requested raise of rate for the cleaning of the Town Hall. This amount is within the budget and Treasurer Julie Mach confirmed this would work within the current budget. Following a motion, Julie will prepare an updated pay rate sheet for the Board to sign.
  - Motion made to adjust the rate of pay for the cleaning of the Town Hall.
    - Mover: Rich Hulett
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jessica Van Oort
    - Discussion: None
    - Result: Approved
- Mike Beecher requested that the Board review the rate information for the Grant Administrator position prior to the next meeting.

10. New Business: None.

11. Public comment:

- Frank Nelson shared that he has been following Open Meeting Law updates from the Secretary of State's office.
- Margie Pritchard introduced herself as recent purchaser of the spiral barn in West Pawlet, speaking to the excitement to revitalize the property.
- Julie Mach spoke to the challenges faced by the School Board this year, and thanked the Selectboard for their service to the community, as it's not often that public servants are thanked for their work.

12. Motion made to adjourn at 8:51pm.

- Mover: Bob Jones
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rich Hulett
- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved