

**Final Minutes**  
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET  
November 25, 2025  
7:00 pm  
Pawlet Town Hall  
122 School Street, Pawlet, VT  
& Virtually via Zoom

Members in Attendance:

Mike Beecher  
Jessica Van Oort  
Tom Collard  
Bob Jones

Others in Attendance:

PEG-TV  
Kristin Powers  
Frank Nelson  
Linda Welch  
Chris Pritchard  
Shelley Pottorf  
Jason McNolty  
Sue LaPorte  
Linda Lynton  
Deb Hawkins  
Rose Smith  
Cori Rail

**EVENT**

1. Call to order at 6:58pm 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:
    - Shelley Pottorf – Archtend
    - Executive Session to discuss labor relations agreements with employees.
  - b. Deletions: None.

4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
  - Motion made to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 11, 2025 with one edit to the Emergency Mgt. Director's report, and Special Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2025, as printed.
    - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
    - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tom Collard
    - Discussion: None.
    - Result: Approved.
5. Pre-Requested Appearances by Local Citizens and Visitors:
  - Rose Smith, Pawlett Historical Society – Advised the Board on the status of the Turkey Restoration Commemorative Marker. Rose requested that the Board move to approve the placement of the marker on the Town-owned property, as there are many steps required to have the marker approved on state property.
    - Discussion ensued, and the Board unanimously agreed that placing the marker on the rail trail property would offer the greatest visibility and opportunity for a diverse community of people to appreciate the role that Pawlet played in turkey restoration.
      - Motion made to authorize Chris Pritchard and Rose Smith to pursue conversations with State entities to approve the placement of the turkey restoration marker on the rail trail property. Alternatively, the Board approves the placement of the marker on town-owned property directly abutting the rail trail.
        - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
        - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bob Jones
        - Discussion: The placement of the marker on the rail trail property will be far more visible than the town green, nor is the Town green an option. Additionally, the Board strongly opposes the placement of the marker in Rupert.
        - Result: Approved
  - Shelley Pottorf, Architect, and Jason McNolty, general contractor, spoke to budget options for the Municipal Energy Resilience Program. Options include: A: Geothermal System (no envelope scope), B: Air-to-Water System (+ full envelope scope), C: Air-to-Air

System (+full envelope scope). These options apply to both the Town Hall and Library.

6. Announcements: Pawlet's first annual holiday tree lighting ceremony will be held at the Pawlet Town Green on on 12/5.

7. Reports to the Board:

A. Zoning Administrator's (ZA) Report:

- ZA Morlino shared that there is no report this evening. The current zoning log is posted.

B. Planning Commission's Report: No report at this meeting.

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.
  - James has also begun researching wheeled excavators that eventually the Highway Dept. hopes to purchase.

D. Assessor Report:

- Karen Folger shared a report from the Assessor's Office, which included an October 2025 progress report of the reappraisal project.

E. Town Clerk's Memo:

- Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins, shared a report with the Board.
  - One memo from the ANR regarding statewide activity.
  - Town Clerk's office is closed through the week of 12/1/25.
  - Memo, for the Board's information, from the Otter Creek CUD re: their annual report and 2026 budget.

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 #26030 for \$79,232.91 and Payroll Warrant #26029 for \$13,981.24.
  - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tom Collard
  - Discussion: None.
  - Result: Approved.
- Chairman Beecher signed the request for reimbursement form for that Class 2 Roadway Grant.

- 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:
    - Tom Collard shared updates on facility maintenance and improvement projects.
      - Board to discuss painting at the next meeting
8. Reports to the Public:
- A. Library Board Report: No report at this meeting
  - B. Mettawee School Board (MSB) Report: No report at this meeting.
9. Old or unfinished business:
- Ordinance Review – Jessica Van Oort revisited the topic of a burning ordinance. Jessica continued to share that a meeting with herself and PVFD Chief, Jon Weiss, supported the original draft ordinance, along with some additions and clarifications which would allow for the ordinance to better support local residents.
    - The Board discussed details of the ordinance, including enforcement and fine amounts.
10. New Business: None
11. Public comment:
- Frank Nelson shared an update on open meeting law discussions amongst the legislature.
12. Motion made to enter executive session to discuss labor relations agreements with employees at 8:24pm.
- Mover: Bob Jones
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jessica Van Oort
  - Discussion: None
  - Result: Approved
13. Motion to exit executive session with no decisions made at 8:52pm
- Mover: Bob Jones
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jessica Van Oort
  - Discussion: None
  - Result: Result
14. Motion made to adjourn at 8:53pm.
- Mover: Bob Jones
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jessica Van Oort
  - Discussion: None

- Result: Approved