

Final Minutes
SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF PAWLET
February 17, 2026
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
Sue LaPorte
Cori Rail
Nancy Morlino

EVENT

1. Call to order at 7:00 pm 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:
 - Executive session to discuss confidential attorney-client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the body.
 - MERP Update – Old/Unfinished Business
 - b. Deletions: None
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.

- Motion made to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 3, 2026 as printed.
 - Mover: Tom Collard
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - 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: Nothing to 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 to the Board, summarizing projects completed during the previous two weeks as well as upcoming areas of focus.
- Highway Liaison, Rich Hulett, shared a quote from SkiDoor with fellow Board members to replace the overhead door at the Pawlet Town Garage.
 - Motion made to proceed with SkiDoor to replace the door at the Pawlet town garage.
 - Mover: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Tom Collard
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
- A quote was received for the repair of the guard rail at the School Street Bridge and that will be sent along to the Board to review at the next regular meeting.

D. Assessor Report: No report at this meeting.

E. Town Clerk's Memo:

- Town Clerk, Deb Hawkins, shared a report with the Board:
 - Motion made to approve DLL Application #69690 & #69692
 - Mover: Tom Collard
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved

- The Board acknowledged an email from Deb regarding the Drug & Alcohol Testing & Clearinghouse, and determined to discuss this further at the next meeting.

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 tax year has been closed, and numbers to be reported at the next regular Selectboard meeting.
- Motion made to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #26047 for \$39,281.59 and Payroll Warrant #26046 for \$11,692.84.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None.
 - Result: Approved.

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): Nothing to report at this meeting.

J. Facilities Report:

- Tom Collard has been in touch with a contractor to look at repairs needed on the Town Hall front porch.

8. Reports to the Public:

A. Library Board Report:

- Cori Rail shared a report with the Selectboard:
 - The ceiling has been repaired.
 - One error was noted in the budget report submitted to the Town Report. A balanced budget was passed at the last regular Library Board meeting. Copies will be brought to the Town Meeting, where there will be an announcement made.
 - The Library Board has voted to re-open the Library Director position again, and the position will be posted again on February 18, 2026.
 - The Library Board has been discussing security cameras for the exterior of the building, and inquired about the process to move forward with this with Selectboard input.

B. Mettawee School Board (MSB) Report: None

9. Old or unfinished business:

- Jessica Van Oort shared an update on the MERP grant, which included communications with Architend and Green Mtn Power. A feasibility study is required in the spring, which will determine eligibility of locations for the wells necessary for the geothermal installation. There have been adjustments made that will reduce the total payment due.
 - Motion made to accept the grant amendment form.
 - Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Tom Collard
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved

10. New Business:

11. Public comment:

- Frank Nelson provided an open meeting law update from the legislature.

12. Motion made to enter executive session to discuss confidential attorney-client communications made for providing professional legal services to the body at 7:27pm.

- Mover: Bob Jones
- 2nd: Rich Hulett
- Discussion: None
- Result: Approved

13. Motion made to exit executive session with no decisions made at 7:59pm.

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

14. Motion made to adjourn at 7:59 pm.

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