

Town of Pawlet
Organizational Meeting Minutes - Following Town Meeting
Wednesday, March 4, 2026
122 School Street & Virtually via Zoom

Attendees:

Mike Beecher
Bob Jones
Jessica Van Oort
Rich Hulett
Tom Collard
Kristin Powers

Event:

1. At 7:03pm, Deb Hawkins swore in or affirmed, via the Vermont Oath of Allegiance and Oath of Office
 - Bob Jones (3 year), Jessica Van Oort & Tom Collard, Selectboard (1 year)
2. Meeting was called to order at 7:42pm with the pledge of allegiance.
3. Motion to appoint Mike Beecher as Chair of the Selectboard.
 - Mover: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Tom Collard
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
5. Motion made to appoint Bob Jones as Vice Chair of the Selectboard.
 - Mover: Tom Collard
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved.
6. Motion made to appoint Mike Beecher and Jessica Van Oort as the liaisons to the West Pawlet Waste Water Treatment Facility.
 - Mover: Tom Collard
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved.
8. Motion made to appoint Rich Hulett and Bob Jones as the liaisons to the Town's Highway Department.
 - Mover: Tom Collard
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None.

- Result: Approved
9. Motion made to appoint Tom Collard & Jessica Van Oort as the liaisons to Buildings & Development.
- Mover: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Bob Jones
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved.
10. Motion made to appoint Jessica Van Oort as the liaison to the Treasurer's and Assessor's Offices.
- Mover: Tom Collard
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
11. Motion made to appoint the following individuals/entities to their one-year term positions listed below (and on page 6 of the 2025 Annual Town Report):
- Atty. Merrill Bent – Town Attorney
 - Edgar Cleveland – Grand Juror
 - Platt Herrick, Jr. – Fence Viewer
 - Robert Morlino – Emergency Management Director
 - Jennifer Sullivan – Public Health Officer
 - Tim Waite – Inspector of Coal, Wood, Shingles & Lumber, and Weigher of Coal & Tree Warden
 - Frank Nelson – Energy Coordinator
 - Bob Jones – Pound Keeper for Large Animals
 - Tom Covino – Pound Keeper for Small Animals
 - The Selectboard – Liquor & Tobacco Control Board and Sewer Commissioners & Local Cannabis Commission
 - Lennie Gibson – Solid Waste Alliance Communities (SWAC) Representative
 - Julie Mach – Tax Collector
 - The Rutland Herald – Official News Publication
 - Local Rep to Otter Creek Communications Union District – Jessica Van Oort
 - D&H Rail Trail Council Rep – Frank Nelson
 - Mover: Tom Collard
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
13. Motion made to reappoint Annie Nash, Gary Baierlein and Leon Corey (3 year) to the Planning Commission (PPC). The Board determined to eliminate the alternate positions on the PPC at this time.
- Mover: Tom Collard
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved.
15. Motion made to reappoint Jon Weiss & Brian Rawls (2 year), Sarah Ludlam (3 yr), and Leon Corey (Alt. 1 yr) to the Development Review Board.
- Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None

- Result: Approved.
- 16.** No appointments made for primary representative or alternate representative from Pawlet to the Rutland Regional Planning Commission and Rutland Regional Transportation Advisory Council to allow for the PPC to hold their organizational meeting.
- 17.** Motion made to reappoint Nancy Morlino to Zoning Administrator (2 year).
- Mover: Jessica Van Oort
 - 2nd: Tom Collard
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
- 17.** Motion made to adopt the Selectboard Rules of Procedure.
- Mover: Rich Hulett
 - 2nd: Jessica Van Oort
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved
- 18.** Public Comment:
- Frank Nelson spoke to a new fire suppression system that uses sound to put out fires.
- 19.** Motion made to adjourn at 7:26 pm.
- Mover: Bob Jones
 - 2nd: Rich Hulett
 - Discussion: None
 - Result: Approved.