

Poultney Selectboard
Meeting In-Person and via Zoom
Monday, November 27, 2023 – 6:30 pm
Poultney Town Hall

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83935723883?pwd=QnEvcVVrSkN2OUpCMIFEM0lPTzBjdz09>

Meeting ID: 839 3572 3883 Passcode: 989910

Or Dial: +1 929 205 6099 US Meeting ID: 839 3572 3883 Passcode: 989910

Agenda

- 1) Call Meeting To Order / Pledge of Allegiance
- 2) Adoption of the Agenda
- 3) Approval of Minutes: 11-13-23
- 4) Road Report
- 5) Community Development
-VOREC grant opportunity at Cones Point General Store / water channel
- 6) Town Manager's Report
-set new date for Special Budget Meeting
- 7) Transact Any Other Lawful Selectboard Business
- 8) Rutland Regional Planning Commission
- 9) Public Comments (limit of 15 minutes)
- 10) Board Orders
- 11) Executive Session: 1 Contract matter
- 12) Adjourn

**Meeting Minutes
Poultney Selectboard**

**Monday, November 27, 2023 – 6:30 PM
Poultney Town Hall**

Sheryl Porrier called the meeting to order and led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Selectmen present included: Sheryl Porrier, Alan-Glen Burnell and Mark Teetor. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Joel Roberts, Highway Foreman, Sarah Pelkey, Dan Williams, Carol Stierle, Johnathan Andrews, Mary Sue Reed, Margaret Mug, and Nicole Bower. Attending via Zoom members included Nic Stark, Janice B. Edwards, Sarah Pelkey and 8CU55h.

Adoption of the Agenda: Mark Teetor made a motion to adopt the Agenda. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Approval of Minutes: Approval of the minutes of 11-13-23 was tabled until our next regular Selectboard Meeting.

Road Report: Joel Roberts reported the following:

- the crew has all the equipment prepared for winter.
- the crew has been blowing leaves out of roadside ditches and grading/de-crowning roads.
- we have taken possession of the new tandem truck; the truck has already sanded roads and hauled equipment to a work site simultaneously for the first time.
- Filskov and Sons plan to replace the culvert on Watkins Hill from 11-28-23 to 12-2-2023.

Community Development: Sarah Pelkey reported the following:

-she further discussed the VOREC grant application with the Clucking Café. Sarah Pelkey introduced the board to Nicole Bower the new owner of Otto's. Sarah Pelkey worked with Jonas Rosenthal on the Town's 2019 VOREC grant. This round of grants has \$6M available. This project would be ready for the "implementation track" of funding, and be ready for the spring, 2024. The grant would be a \$50,000 minimum, and would seek to dredge the man-made channel to make it easier to navigate via kayak or canoe to a redeveloped landing behind the store. The grant application will also seek to purchase some kayaks/canoes, develop a landing, natural play area, rebuild footbridge behind the store for ADA compliance, and add a storage area on the store for winter storage. Ms. Bower states she would like to work with Poultney Rec. Dept., and maybe the library where passes for Poultney residents would allow for free usage of the boats. The plan would be to make the boats rentable for non-residents. The grant will allow for up to 10% to go towards municipal management of the project. Mark Teetor and Paul Donaldson expressed concerns about town's obligations for on-going maintenance of the project. Discussion about whether the town, if it acted as the sponsor, would be obligated to on-going maintenance. Sarah is looking into that issue. Nicole Bower stated that her store would have waivers and a rider on their insurance policy. Sarah Pelkey stated there was a December 15, 2023 deadline for the application. Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion that the Town of Poultney

should be the sponsor of the application, and grant if we receive it. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Town Managers Report:

-The board set a Special Budget Meeting for 12-4-2023 at 4:30PM.

-Discussion re: Christmas holiday. Because Christmas Eve is on a Saturday, the question arose whether employees should have Friday before Christmas off, or Tuesday after Christmas.

Discussion followed. Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to have Tuesday, December 26, 2023 off. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Paul Donaldson stated the board needed to Reappoint Paul Donaldson and Aaron Kerber to the Rutland Emergency Management Committee. Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to make the appointments. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business:

Paul Donaldson inquired of Mark Teetor if he had any further conversations with Bill Lyle regarding the guardrails for the dumpsters at the transfer station. Mark Teetor stated that we have received Bill Lyle's best estimate. Discussion followed. Discussion re: the ramp at the transfer station, Mr. Teetor will get a more in-depth estimate from Dom Smith. Dan Williams questioned whether the decking by the zero sort bin belonged to the town or to Casella. We also want to be sure the ramp is ADA complaint. The discussion is tabled until Mark Teetor gets more information from Don Smith.

Health Officer: None.

Rutland Regional Planning Commission: Sarah Pelkey reported there was a presentation from Front Porch Forum on 11-21-23 of how communities can use that medium for better community communication. The board has been working on a regional plan update/future land use map. The TAC meets this Thursday.

Discussion re: Otter Creek Communication District. Mark Teetor stated that Poultney may be moved to Phase 1 construction in 2024. The district is involved in 2024 contractor selections.

Public Comments on matters (limit of 10 minutes total)

-Mary Sue Reed inquired about the status of the guardrails at the transfer station. See discussion in "Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business" above.

Johnathan Andrews, as a taxpayer, expressed his support for the project discussed for the Cones Point Store.

Executive Session: At 7:25PM, Alan-Glen Burnell made the following motion: "Pursuant to 1 VSA Section 313(a)(1), I make a motion that this board finds that premature general public knowledge would clearly place this board or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage if

certain matters related to contracts were discussed. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. Alan- Glen Burnell further made the following motion: “Pursuant to 1 VSA Section 313(a)(1)(A), I make a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss contract matters.” Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Alan- Glen Burnell further made the following motion: “Pursuant to 1 VSA Section 313(a)(3), I make a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters.” Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Dan Williams joined the board in Executive Session for this matter.

At 7:54M, Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to leave Executive Session. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. No action taken.

Board Orders: Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to pay board orders. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Mark Teetor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

s/Paul A. Donaldson