**TOWN OF POULTNEY**

**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2024**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Link to Zoom Recording:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/gou89n5fkWo7a74qTy5XkNsgUae0gUuT9lSfHvqoPBURCvPuhoJYOqs64QANwBcV.b2V11VdatDKDqOHt>

Present: Selectboard Members—Sheryl Porrier and Alan-Glen Burnell, Justices of the Peace—Kathy Hudson, Carol Bunce, Ida-Mae Johnson, Marianne Leone, Barbara Betit, Richard Rupe, and Alan-Glen Burnell and Town Clerk Betsy Wescott

Vice Chair Marianne Leone called meeting to Order at 6:01pm.

Vice Chair Marianne Leone read item #2 on the agenda and asked if there were any changes.

Approval of Minutes—Carol Bunce made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 17, 2024 meeting, seconded by Sheryl Porrier. Motion passed with all in favor.

Vice Chair Marianne Leone read item #3 on the agenda. There were no additions or changes to this warning.

Vice Chair Marianne Leone read item #4 on the agenda. Then started the Tax Appeal Hearing with Appellant #1: Rebecca and Craig Johnson Parcel #040226 at 6:10 pm. Marianne asked the Assessor and Appellants to take the following oath that was read to them by her and said I do. They also signed the Assessor and Appellant oath sheet.

Vice Chair Marianne Leone read the oath to the Board. All Board members stated I do. They also signed the Board oath sheet.

Vice Chair Marianne Leone asked if there were any conflicts with Board members being a part of this Tax Appeal.

Vice Chair Marianne Leone asked the Assessor Mary Jo Teetor to introduce the property?

Assessor Mary Jo Teetor handed out her information to each Board Member and Appellant.

Town Clerk Betsy Wescott handed out the information for the appeal out to all Board Members, Appellant, and Assessor.

Assessor Mary Jo Teetor went over the information she handed out to everyone.

Appellant Rebecca and Craig Johnson went over the information they had. Rebecca gave the information to Betsy to make copies of for the Board.

The Board asked questions.

There was discussion back and forth with the Assessor, Appellants, and Board members.

Vice Chair Marianne Leone asked for volunteers to be on the Inspection Committee. Assessor Mary Jo Teetor asked the Appellants Rebecca and Craig Johnson if she could attend the inspection as well. Appellants told her yes. Carol Bunce, Kathy Hudson, and Richard Rupe volunteered to be the Inspection Committee. The inspection needs to be completed before 30 days as the Board needs to reconvene on or before the 30 days to hear and receive information regarding the inspection. The reconvene date was set for September 25, 2024 at 6pm. Carol Bunce will be the Inspection Committee Chair and will be in contact with the Assessor and Appellants to schedule.

Vice Chair Marianne Leone started the Tax Appeal Hearing for Appellant #2: Regenerative Land Holdings, LLC Parcel #215030.013 at 6:43 pm. Attorney Steve Cassarino from Ryan, Smith, and Carbine was at the meeting in person and Dan Norwood, Head of Campus Development, via zoom to represent Regenerative Land Holdings, LLC. Marianne asked the Assessor and Appellants to take the following oath that was read to them by her and said “Yes”. They also signed the Assessor and Appellant oath sheet. Dan Norwood did not sign as was attending via zoom.

Vice Chair Marianne Leone asked if there were any conflicts with Board members being a part of this Tax Appeal.

Alan-Glen Burnell and Sheryl Porrier recused themselves from the Tax Appeal Hearing as are on the Select Board and have been working on a Tax Stabilization with Regenerative Land Holdings, LLC.

Carol Bunce stated she didn’t think it was a conflict but Regenerative Land Holdings might. She is a former employee of Green Mountain College and has a great grandson attending the Green Mountain Community School.

Attorney Steve Cassarino and Dan Norwood did not have a problem with Carol Bunce attending the hearing.

Assessor Mary Jo Teetor handed out information and introduced the property to the Appellant and Board members.

Town Clerk Betsy Wescott handed out the information for the appeal out to all Board Members, Appellant, and Assessor.

Assessor Mary Jo Teetor went over the information she handed out to everyone.

Appellant Dan Norwood for Regenerative Land Holdings went over the information they had regarding the appeal. Attorney Steve Cassarino added discussion to what Dan Norwood stated.

The Board asked questions.

There was discussion back and forth with the Assessor, Appellants, and Board members.

Vice Chair Marianne Leone asked for volunteers to be on the Inspection Committee. Assessor Mary Jo Teetor asked the Appellants Dan Norwood and Steve Cassarino if she could attend the inspection as well. Appellant Dan Norwood told her yes. Marianne Leone, Kathy Hudson, and Betsy Wescott volunteered to be the Inspection Committee. The inspection needs to be completed before 30 days as the Board needs to reconvene on or before the 30 days to hear and receive information regarding the inspection. The reconvene date was set for September 25, 2024 at 6pm. Marianne Leone will be the Inspection Committee Chair and will be in contact with the Assessor and Appellant Dan Norwood to schedule.

Vice Chair Marianne Leone reiterated that the reconvene date of the Board for Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at 6:00 pm which is within the 30 day time frame. The written decision will be sent out within 15 days of reconvened meeting.

Carol Bunce made a motion to adjourn seconded by Kathy Hudson. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy J. Wescott

Town Clerk