Poultney Selectboard

Meeting In-Person and via Zoom

**Monday, August 26, 2024 – 6:30 pm**

Poultney Town Hall

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83935723883?pwd=QnEvcVVrSkN2OUpCMlFEM0lPTzBjdz09>

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: 08-12-2024
4. Road Report
5. Community Development

-ORR grant

1. Town Manager’s Report

-Liquor Licenses: Special Events

-Tobacco License

-Roadside mower

1. Transact Any Other Lawful Selectboard Business
2. Rutland Regional Planning Commission
3. Public Comments (limit of 15 minutes)
4. Board Orders
5. Executive Session: Contract Matters
6. Adjourn

**Meeting Minutes**

**Poultney Selectboard**

**Monday, August 26, 2024 – 6:30 PM**

**Poultney Town Hall**

**Zoom Recording located here:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/v5RyPW9KHPlW7CNzwXb0Cv5pWXV7GSZdRd_YFzKvHxlZfoGNeMqCe5rLkXyBMR44.GQR0C_XPQNlepxck>

Jeff King called the meeting to order and led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Selectmen present included: Jeff King, Sheryl Porrier, Alan-Glen Burnell, Mark Teetor and Valerie Broughton. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Joel Roberts, Sarah Pelkey, Eric Hier, Patty Davenport, Dan Williams, Johnathan Andrews, Aaron Kerber, Kim Ragonnet and Mary Sue Reed. Appearing via Zoom included Janice B. Edwards.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Sheryl Porrier made a motion to adopt the Agenda. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Approval of Minutes:** Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to approve the minutes of 8-12-24. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Road Report:** Joel Roberts reported the following:

-The crew continues to perform MRGP work;

-The crew continues to grade roads;

-There was a grader breakdown today that we were able to repair in-house.

**Community Development:** Sarah Pelkey reported the following:

-We received an ORR $10,000 and $1,000 technical assistance grants to design a potential recreation hub grant.

-There is a Town to Trails Committee meeting coming up.

-There is a BGS and MERP awards grants opening soon.

**Town Managers Report:**

-There are two catering permits for liquor licenses: One is for an event at Whaleback Vineyard, one is for Clucking Chicken, There is also a tobacco license for Clucking Chicken. Mark Teetor made a motion to approve all the applications. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

-Paul Donaldson explained that he will be out of town for our next regular meeting scheduled for 9-9-24. Discussion followed. The board decided to have no special meeting, as there is a Merger Committee Meeting set for 9-16-24.

**Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business:** Chief Aaron Kerber discussed with the board the fact that the next ruck the fire department wants to purchase before 2027 will cost about $1,000,000.00. He stated the costs of trucks are increasing 11-12% per year. He believes we will need to take out a bound to purchase this truck. Discussion followed. Jeff King stated he did not think bonding sat this time is feasible as we have a number of projects going on, including a new town garage which will likely require bonding. Chief Kerber will look into alternative funding. Paul Donaldson stated he reached out to Senator Sanders’ office to discuss alternative funding sources.

**Health Officer:**  None.

**Rutland Regional Planning Commission:** Sarah Pelkey stated that TAC and regular meetings will resume in September.

**Public Comments on matters (limit of 10 minutes total):**

-Eric Hier from the Quarry Valley School Board discussed with the board the tennis court and basketball courts at the PES. He stated that the school board has discussed the upkeep of the same, and it appears as if the board does not want to maintain the same. Discussion followed. Eric Hier will let the board know when the next school board meeting will be in the event members of the Selectboard wish to attend that meeting.

-Kim Ragonnet was here to discuss the drainage repairs the Town agreed to make in connection with the East Poultney Gorge Bridge on her property. Paul Donaldson stated he had engaged an engineer to design the repair, that Miller Construction was supposed to do the repair, but backed out in the springtime. Paul Donaldson stated he is working with another local contractor and is trying to get the project scheduled. Once he has a date certain he will let Kim Ragonnet know the proposed date.

-Patty Davenport requested that the Selectboard get reports from the Poultney Little League, and other entities that the Town provides funding to during budgeting discussions. Jeff King stated the board would be discussing budgets soon and they will request such reports.

-Mary Sue Reed asked about the Constable pay rate. Paul Donaldson stated that the RCSD has advised that we cannot have two rates of pay – one rate for regular constable work, and one for public safety and DUI grant work. This is why we have set one rate for all Constable work.

-Mary Sue Reed asked about updates to the Animal Control Ordinances. The board wanted to take the matter up when all were present, and will do so at the 9-23-24 meeting.

-Mary Sue Reed asked about discussions with Regenerative Land Holdings. The board is at a standstill while Regenerative winds its way through the BCA process it is currently in.

-Mary Sue Reed asked about filling the Zoning Administrator position. Paul Donaldson stated a candidate has been identified, and we hope to have the position filled soon.

**Executive Session:**

At 7:26PM, Alan-Glen Burnell made the following motions: “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 outside of Executive Session. 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. The board entered Executive Session with Joel Roberts. At 7:57PM, Sheryl Porrier made a motion to leave Executive Session. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. Mark Teetor made a motion that the Town should buy a 2013 John Deere tractor with Alamo roadside mower, fully serviced and delivered to Poultney for $57,000.00. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Board Orders:** Mark Teetor made a motion to pay board orders. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Adjournment:** Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

s/Paul A. Donaldson