

Poultney Selectboard
Meeting In-Person and via Zoom

Monday, February 13, 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

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Agenda

- 1) Call Meeting To Order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Adoption of the Agenda
- 4) Approval of Minutes: 01-23-23, 01-31-23 Special Meeting, and 02-02-23 Emergency Budget Meeting
- 5) Road Report
- 6) Town Manager's Report
- 7) Transact Any Other Lawful Selectboard Business
-Sarah Pelkey
- 8) Rutland Regional Planning Commission
- 9) Public Comments (limit of 15 minutes)
- 10) Executive Session: Interview candidates for Selectboard vacancy
- 11) Board Orders
- 12) Adjourn

**Meeting Minutes
Poultney Selectboard**

**Monday, February 13, 2023 – 6:30 PM
Poultney Town Hall**

Jeff King called the meeting to order and led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Selectmen present included: Jeff Jing, Carol Bunce, Sheryl Porrier (arriving late) and Richard LaPierre. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Joel Roberts, Highway Foreman, Sarah Pelkey, Mark Teetor, Margaret Mug, Richard Rupe, Alan-Glen Burnell, Mary Sue Reed, Nic Stark, Steven Broughton, and Alex Hilliard. Attending via Zoom members included Nan Greer (2 connections), Nic Stark, Jamie Lee, and Janice B. Edwards.

Adoption of the Agenda: Richard LaPierre made a motion to adopt the Agenda. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Approval of Minutes: Carol Bunce made a motion to approve the minutes of 1-23-23, 1-31-23 Special Meeting, and 2-2-23 Emergency Budget Meeting. Richard LaPierre seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Road Report: Joel Roberts reported the following:

- Truck 1 is done, and will be picked up tomorrow
- Dodge one-tone is ½ done at Rutland Dodge.
- He has requested trade-in values for both those trucks.
- Freightliner has been ordered and we should have it before next winter.
- We sold the 2001 Ford F550.
- The crew has been organizing the town garage.
- The crew did MSHA refresher courses.
- We had an issue with the 2014 International 6-wheeler, which is being repaired.
- Some backroads are starting to get muddy; we will be taking the sander out of the tandem

Town Managers Report:

-The Town Clerk presented the board with some liquor license renewals. Carol Bunce made a motion to approve the licenses. Richard LaPierre seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Discussion re: Town Garage. Jeff King, Sarah Pelkey and others did a site visit recently. Paul Donaldson stated he had contacted an engineer to look at flood issues and other possible restrictions. Mark Teetor interjected that he reviewed flood maps and opined that the buildings in their current locations are not in the floodplain. Paul Donaldson stated he asked the engineer to look at all the possibilities as to location of buildings.

Discussion re: Trestle Bridge Study. Paul Donaldson stated he has executed the paperwork, and now we need to put together RFPs.

Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business:

-Sarah Pelkey presented to the board research on the merger question. She has been reviewing other merger studies from different towns/villages in VT. One was done in Johnson recently which costs about \$8,000.00. That town is discussing doing a more in-depth study. She suggested at the very least the boards should appoint committees. Sarah also discussed the possibility of applying for a Municipal Planning Grant to do a Capital Planning for the town and village. Discussion followed. Nic Stark asked if the 1980's study is available somewhere. Paul Donaldson stated he could not find it with the assistance of Jonas Rosenthal. Terry Williams thought his mother might have a copy, but Nan Williams stated she did not through the comments section on Zoom. Discussion followed.

Sarah Pelkey stated she applied for Municipal Energy Resilience studies on the Stonebridge, Town Office and Senior Center. Jeff King stated he had recently met with a Solar Company to look at the Senior Center for solar panels. Mark Teetor asked what the wage use on the center was. Jeff King needs to check.

Health Officer: None.

Rutland Regional Planning Commission: No report.

Public Comments on matters (limit of 10 minutes total)

Mary Sue Reed asked why the board did not put the East Poultney Gorge question on the ballot as an advisory question. Carol Bunce stated because it was non-binding, she did not think it was prudent to put the question on the ballot. Discussion followed. Mary Sue Reed asked Jeff King about why the bridge, and when the bridge was downgraded from a double lane to a single lane bridge. Paul Donaldson cautioned that it was problematic to go off from memory. Nan Greer asked a question about the safety of the bridge. Mary Sue Reed also spoke on behalf of Jane Williams. Paul Donaldson again reiterated that it would be his advice to the board to follow the advice of engineers and lawyers over laypersons.

Executive Session: At 7:10PM Carol Bunce made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss candidates for appointment to the Selectboard. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion, and motion passed with all in favor. The board met individually, in no particular order, with the following candidates: Alan-Glen Burnell, Steve Broughton, Mark Teetor, Richard Rupe and Alex Hilliard. At 8:17PM Carol Bunce made a motion to leave Executive Session. Richard LaPierre seconded the motion, and motion passed with all in favor. Richard LaPierre made a motion to appoint Alan-Glen Burnell to the vacant Selectboard position. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion, and the motion passed with all in favor. Paul Donaldson will advise all the candidates of the appointment.

Board Orders: Richard LaPierre made a motion to pay board orders. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Sheryl Porrier made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Richard LaPierre seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

s/Paul A. Donaldson