

Poultney Selectboard  
Meeting In-Person and via Zoom

**Monday, April 24, 2023 – 6:30 pm**  
Poultney Town Hall

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 839 3572 3883

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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: 04-10-23 and 04-20-23
- 5) Road Report
- 6) Town Manager's Report
- 7) Transact Any Other Lawful Selectboard Business
- 8) Rutland Regional Planning Commission
- 9) Public Comments (limit of 15 minutes)
- 10) Executive Session:
- 11) Board Orders
- 12) Adjourn

**Meeting Minutes  
Poultney Selectboard**

**Monday, April 24, 2023 – 6:30 PM  
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Jeff King called the meeting to order and led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Selectmen present included: Jeff King, Sheryl Porrier, Richard LaPierre, Alan-Glen Burnell and Mark Teetor. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Joel Roberts, Highway Foreman, Sarah Pelkey, Jaime Lee, Carol Stierle, Mary Sue Reed, Carol Bunce, Richard Cole, Jonathan Andrews, and Alex Hilliard. Attending via Zoom members included Janice B. Edwards, Nic Stark, Kim Carter, Alex Hilliard, and Jane B. D. Williams.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Mark Teetor made a motion to approve the minutes of 4-10-23 and 4-20-23. Richard LaPierre seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

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

- The crew graded, and applied chloride to Finel Hollow Road;
- Lewis Road has had gravel applied and graded. The road still needs material and ditching;
- He has reached out to Milton CAT about pricing a hammer for the excavator as there are many spots on our roads to have ledge that needs to be removed. Otherwise, the work may have to be contracted out;
- The crew plans to apply gravel to, and grade, Hannon, Walker and Ward Roads next;
- Discussion re: the materials recently applied to Hampshire Hollow Road;
- On April 16 the crew dealt with beaver problems on Hillside Road. The backhoe worked well in clearing the beaver dam;
- The crew finished brush cutting on Blissville Road;
- The crew cleared downed trees on Amerio Road;
- The crew did some ditching on White Road;
- Today the crew replaced a culvert on DeBonis Quarry Road;
- Discussion re: Truck 1 value and replacing the same. ATG gave us a value of about \$35,000;
- Truck 4Q needs some repairs;.

**Town Managers Report:**

-Jaime Lee gave a presentation to the board regarding the renewal of the PDRC designated downtown renewal application. Sarah Pelkey stated she and Jaime Lee are working on finishing the application. Discussion followed. Sheryl Porrier made a motion to apply for the renewal. Richard LaPierre seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

-Paul Donaldson stated that he has a conflict with the regular meeting for May 8, 2023 in that he has to have the informational meeting for the Village at 7:00PM that night. Discussion followed.

The board agreed to have their meeting on May 15, 2023 instead. Paul Donaldson will warn the same.

-Paul Donaldson stated that the State will join the board on June 12, 2023 at its regular meeting to discuss the South Street bridge project. Carol Bunce wondered if the meeting can be at the firehouse as there will likely be a number of people that will want to attend. Paul Donaldson reminded people that is one reason why zooming meetings is affective, but will inquire with Chief Kerber if we can have the meeting at the firehouse.

-Paul Donaldson stated that we are going to participate in the Grants In Aid program to address MRGP compliance. Sheryl Porrier made a motion to sign the Letter of Intent for the program. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

-Discussion re: Letters of Interest for the Planning Commission and the Development Review Board. Paul Donaldson reminded the board that he received one letter for each vacant position: Jonathan Andrews for the PC, and Steve Broughton for the DRB. Sheryl Porrier made a motion to appoint Jonathan Andrews to the Planning Commission. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to appoint Steve Broughton to the Development Review Board. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

-Paul Donaldson stated that he found some emails in his Spam folder recently about the Opioid Settlement Agreement that the State made for the various producers of Opioid. Towns need to decide if settlement monies go to them, or to the State for prevention measures. He has reached out to VLCT regarding the same. The decision needs to be made soon, but it looks to him that if towns wish to take funds directly they need to create measures to spend it for its intended purposes.

#### **Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business:**

Sarah Pelkey discussed with the board about Town To Trails meetings for May and June, participating in a Zoom workshop on May 9 from 6:30PM to 8:00PM and May 10, from 6:30PM to 8:00PM. There is also a meeting on Town To Trails on June 16, 2023 at the PHS library. She and Caitron Maloney will also be participating in a RERC meeting for Granville, NY on May 3, 2023.

Jeff King asked about the Tax Stabilization Agreement draft. Paul Donaldson stated he needs to check on the status with the town attorney. He also asked whether there are any federal monies available to apply for the town highway garage. Sarah Pelkey stated she was not aware of any other funds. Paul Donaldson stated that the town has already allocated most of its ARPA funds for other projects.

Joel Roberts inquired as to where the town could dump roadside ditching. Sarah Pelkey advised that she will inquire with the RRPC as to Best Practices for such actions.

**Health Officer:** None.

**Rutland Regional Planning Commission:** Sarah Pelkey reported there were no RRPC meetings this month.

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

-Richard Cole asked whether the town have a Constable. He expressed concern that there are several youth that are riding bikes throughout the town in unsafe manners. He believes its only a matter of time before someone gets hurt as they dart in and out of the road unexpectedly. Discussion followed. Paul Donaldson stated that eh Rutland County Sherriff Department is aware of the issue and the Deputy assigned to Poultney stated he would discuss it with the kids in question. He also stated that the Deputy said his office has not had any calls on the issue. Discussion re: that Facebook is not the mode of communication for the Sherriff's Department. Paul Donaldson stated that the Deputy assigned to Poultney is Deputy Gregory Ricketts, office number of 802-775-8002, cell: 802-342-0024, email: [Gregory.ricketts@vermont.gov](mailto:Gregory.ricketts@vermont.gov). Alex Hilliard commented that people should not be criminalizing youth for riding bikes, and being kids, and that these kids may just need redirection.

-Mary Sue Reed inquired about outstanding questions regarding the audit report. Paul Donaldson stated the auditor did reply and stated there was a clerical error but he has not had a chance to review the response. She asked if the audit is wrong, would the public need to re-vote on approving the audit. Paul Donaldson stated that he imagined that if the voters approved a blank piece of paper, then the audit is approved. He will check with the town attorney how to deal with the amended audit issues.

-Carol Bunce asked about the status of the new town sign. Paul Donaldson stated that Danny Land is back on the case and working on a mock-up of the sign.

-Alex Hilliard asked how the meeting of May 8 moved to May 15 would be legally posted. Paul Donaldson stated he would have to look into how to warn the meeting.

**Executive Session:** None.

**Board Orders:** Richard LaPierre made a motion to pay board orders. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** Sheryl Porrier made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark Teetor seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

s/Paul A. Donaldson