

Poultney Selectboard  
Meeting In-Person and via Zoom  
**Monday, February 26, 2024 – 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: 02-12-24
- 4) Road Report
- 5) Community Development
- 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) Board Orders
- 11) Executive Session: probable civil litigation (zoning violations)
- 12) Adjourn

## Meeting Minutes

### Poultney Selectboard

Monday, February 26, 2024 – 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, Alan-Glen Burnell, Mark Teetor and Valerie Broughton. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Joel Roberts, Sarah Pelkey, Carol Stierle, Mary Sue Reed, Jonathan Andrews, Idris Atwood, Robert Williams, Joe DeBonis, Phillip Wattenbarger, and Dale Kerber. Attending via Zoom members included Nic Stark, Kim Carter, Karen Atwood, and Janice B. Edwards.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Sheryl Porrier made a motion to approve the minutes of 2-12-24. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

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

- The crew has been salting and sanding as needed.
  - They are doing some early spring cleaning around the garage.
  - He has bulk ordered diesel exhaust fluid.
  - He plans to explore different aggregates and materials for road surfacing. Discussion followed.
  - He is working on getting some quotes for crack sealing on Thrall Road. Discussion followed about drainage/cross-drain placement and base material on that road.
  - Discussion about Upper Road bank stabilization.
  - Discussion about Blissville Road band stabilization project.
  - Discussion about applying for a Class 2 Structures grant for a culvert on Rote 140.
  - Discussion about CPR training schedule through the American Heart Association.
  - We still have 2/3 of our sand shed full.
- Our equipment is holding up well compared to last winter season.
- The crew put up no trespassing signs at the senior center. Dale Kerber advised we may want to post the no trespassing with the Town Clerk's Office.

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

- The Chamber of Commerce has nine new appointees for the board.
- The new town website is being built-out with the assistance of Eco-Pixel. There were some recent issues with the domain name and the site was down for a couple of days.
- The MERP reports should be done the second week of March, with anticipated funding opening in the fall.
- She participated in some housing seminars presented by the RRPC and others. She is working on directing people to the State Regional Housing Program Guide for funding opportunities.

-She is assisting the PDRC with the Maple Fest this year.

**Town Managers Report:**

-Discussion with members of the Village Board of Trustees present regarding the Merger Study.

-Paul Donaldson presented the board with Delinquent Tax Warrant. Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to start the delinquent tax collection with the law firm that assisted the town last time. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

-Paul Donaldson reported that he received the proposed contract for the Trestle Bridge Study and will review the same.

-Phillip Wattenbarger has expressed interest in joining the D&H Rail Trail Council, which vacancy was posted on Front Porch Forum. Discussion with Mr. Wattenbarger about the same. Mark Teetor made a motion to appoint Mr. Wattenbarger to the council. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business:** None.

**Health Officer:** None.

**Rutland Regional Planning Commission:** Sarah Pelkey stated that the RRPC met 2-20-24. There has been quite a bit of discussion about housing in VT. The TAC meets this Thursday and will be looking at regional priorities.

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

-Mary Sue Reed asked about the status of the town sign. Paul Donaldson stated that ReClaimed has been officially hired to do the work.

-Discussion about Maple Fest, which is March 23. Nic Stark stated that the PDRC plans to have a Story Slam about maple sugaring at ReClaimed. The event is supposed to be from 8:00AM to 9:00PM. Information can be found on the PDRC facebook page as well as at [poultneymaplefest@gmail.com](mailto:poultneymaplefest@gmail.com). Jeff King advised that the Senior Center will have a maple dinner from 4:30-6:30PM that day.

Johnathan Andrews asked about obtaining absentee ballots. Paul Donaldson stated they can be received at the Town Clerk's Office.

**Executive Session:** At 7:42PM, 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 potential litigation were discussed. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. Mr. Burnell further motioned: "Pursuant to 1 VSA Section 313(a)(1)(E), I make a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss pending or possible civil litigation or a persecution, to which this public body is or may be a party. Sheryl Porrier

seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. Mr. Burnell further moved: "Pursuant to 1 VSA Section 313(a)(3), I make a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee." Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. The board entered into Executive Session with Constable Dale Kerber. At 8:43PM, Mark Teetor made a motion to leave Executive Session. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. Mark Teetor made a motion to raise Constable Kerber's pay scale to \$45.00 per hour while Constable Kerber is working under the two federal safety grants. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Board Orders:** Sheryl Porrier made a motion to pay board orders. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

s/Paul A. Donaldson