

Meeting Minutes

Poultney Selectboard

Monday, May 20, 2024 – 6:30 PM

Please Note: This Meeting Is In Lieu Of A Meeting On 5-27-24 (Memorial Day)

Poultney Town Hall

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, and Mary Sue Reed. Attending via Zoom members included Janice B. Edwards, Nic Starc and Sarah Pelkey.

Adoption of the Agenda: Valerie Broughton 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 5-13-24. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Road Report: Joel Roberts reported the following:

- The crew is finishing up Ferncliff Road, roadside mowing, and cleaning out culverts. We blew a hydraulic line on our excavator but were able to contain the break, and repair the line ourselves. The excavator is a 2017, and Joel Roberts has asked John Deere to give us estimates for trade-in value of the machine. He believes we could benefit from a machine with more track power and pump power.
- Discussion about waterlines, sap lines and power lines in our culverts on Ferncliff Road.
- Discussion re: roadside mowing. We will be renting a roadside mower for two 2-week periods this year in June and in August. We will be operating it ourselves.
- Next we need to complete MRGP work on Pond Hill Ranch Road, and we need to do some culvert work on Endless Brook Road.
- The crew continues to grade roads.

Community Development: Sarah Pelkey reported the following:

- She has been working with Sheryl Porrier and Morgan on the GMC campus on 4th of July preparations.
- Sarah attended, a presented, at an outdoor recreation meeting in NH.

Town Managers Report:

- Mark Teetor made a motion to appoint Paul Donaldson as the Town Health Officer. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.
- Discussion about the plans for the South Street Bridge. Paul Donaldson had circulated to the Selectboard the preliminary plans for the bridge replacement and the use of a temporary bridge.

The State asked whether the Selectboard has any questions, comments or concerns about the plan. The board has no further such comments.

-Discussion re: work to be completed on Thrall Road Bridge. Miller Construction is supposed to be done with the temporary closure after Saturday, May 25, 2024.

-Discussion about hiring part-time Zoning Administrator. Sarah Pelkey has put together a job description. Also Paul Donaldson needs to look at the description for the fulltime transfer station position.

-Discussion re: updating our Animal Control Ordinance. Paul Donaldson will circulate our ordinance, Fair Haven's, and the model VLCT ordinance.

Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business: None.

Health Officer: None.

Rutland Regional Planning Commission: Sarah Pelkey has no update as there has been no meeting since the last Selectboard Meeting.

Public Comments on matters (limit of 10 minutes total)

-Mary Sue Reed inquired about stray animal problems in town. Paul Donaldson stated there is certainly a stray cat problem in pockets of the village. Discussion about the protocols with dealing with colonies of stray cats. He stated that the Rutland County Humane Society does not want Poultney (Paul Donaldson) to bring any more feral cats to their facility. It's difficult to think of the two alternatives – leaving the cats in place (especially if they have already been sterilized (look for a clipped ear for signs the cat has already been treated by the RCMS), or euthanasia.

Executive Session:

At 7:15PM, 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 contracts were discussed. 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. Alan-Glen Burnell further made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. The board entered Executive Session to discuss contract and personnel matters. At 8:35PM, Sheryl Porrier made a motion to leave Executive Session. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. No actions taken.

Board Orders: Mark Teetor made a motion to pay board orders. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

s/Paul A. Donaldson