Poultney Selectboard

Meeting In-Person and via Zoom

**Monday, June 24, 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: 06-10-24
4. Road Report
5. Community Development
6. Town Manager’s Report

-Communications Union District

-New Open Meeting Law requirements

-Updates to Animal Control Ordinance

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:
6. Adjourn

**Meeting Minutes**

**Poultney Selectboard**

**Monday, June 24, 2024 – 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 King, Sheryl Porrier, Alan-Glen Burnell, Mark Teetor and Valerie Broughton. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Sarah Pelkey, Joel Roberts and Johnathan Andrews.

**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 6-10-24. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

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

-All roads needing to be graded have been graded at least once.

-On Ferncliff, the crew replaced a number of culverts and done brush cutting was done.

-We have rented a boom mower and tractor for two 2-week periods, one in June and one in August. The crew is currently mowing, some on overtime to get the most out of our rental period. We plan to have at least all the paved roads done before July 1, and the backroads in August.

-The crew has been working on Evergreen Road, removing plow and wing berms, and removing the overgrowth on the roadsides.

-We have quite a bit of MRGP work to do, and then will turn our attention to Lewis Road.

-We have been addressing failed culverts. There is one 4-foot culvert on Endless Brook we hope to get some grant funding to do.

-There was some storm damage cleanup we had to do from last week’s storm. There was a large tree on Hannon Road, Route 140, and Route 140 by the cemetery that needed to be removed.

-The new repeaters are installed, and now needed to be calibrated to the equipment.

-Come July 1, the crew will prepare the parade route – fixing potholes, etc.

-We need to visit with Mike Arnold on Lennox Road, to access feasibility of putting in a turn-around.

-Joel wants to start having the discussions of discontinuing Fairway Lane South, and Oliver Allen’s driveway winter maintenance.

-All the crew has been operating grader, excavator, and other equipment so everyone is familiar with the operations of all the equipment.

-Discussion of crack sealing for Thrall Road, and 9/10 of a mile of Route 140. Joel is leaning towards using Nicom Coatings, which does a lot of State of Vermont crack sealing. The costs is $15,100. The funding for this will need to come out of paving budget.

-Paving discussions: Joel wanted to pave Ferncliff this year, but because of the narrowness of the road, the cost is more than we budget on a yearly basis. He wants to think about paving Lakeview Hill Road, and is trying to get an estimate from another company besides Pike since its such a short road, and then bank monies towards next year paving. We did not get any State grants for Class 2 Paving.

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

-She and Jeff King attended the Legislative Breakfast with the governor this morning.

-She assisted a local business for a VHIP 2.0 Grant Application which if granted will fund the creation of six new rental units. They will know within 4-6 weeks if the application is awarded the grant.

-She has been assisting a number of people interested in the LiHigh property. One group is looking at it for a Rec. Hub, and another person is interested in a private venture.

-There will be one floor of the Colvin Building vacant because of the loss of LiHigh.

-Town Garage discussion. She has reviewed the MERP Report and we know the building there now is outlived its life. We need to really look to see if the current spot will be viable, or whether we can find another spot to move the garage. We have had an architect look at the spot with use, as well as PMNRCD, and an engineer. We could possibly get funding to repurpose the current spot, including mitigating water to the river. The spot has been identified as a possible Rec. Hub location. She would like to get some resolution as to direction to take so she can seek funding in the fall.

**Town Managers Report:**

--Mark Teetor updated the board on the Otter Creek CUD. The CUD identified 216 sites in Poultney without inadequate broadband services. Build out in Poultney is scheduled to start in July, 2024, and be done by December, 2024.

-Paul Donaldson advised the board of new Open Meeting Law requirements to commence July 1, 2024, and advised the board that the RRPC was putting together an information presentation over the internet on Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 5:30PM.

-Discussion about the updates to Poultney Animal Control Ordinances. The board will review the VLCT model again, and discuss the same at the next meeting. Mark Teetor volunteered to visit Towns of Castleton and Fair Haven Offices about how they handle Animal Control issues.

**Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business:** Paul Donaldson presented to the board two special events liquor license applications. One is for the Bhakta campus for the July 3 – July 5 weekend. The other is for Slate Valley Trails Epic Bike Race on July 13, 2024. Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to approve both applications. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Paul Donaldson presented to the board the appointment of Nate Bourne to the Fire Warden position. Mark Teetor made a motion to approve the appointment. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

The board approved the Grand List Certification sent by the Town Clerk’s Office.

**Health Officer:**  None.

**Rutland Regional Planning Commission:** Sarah Pelkey reported that at the last RRPC meeting they reviewed FY25 budget, mentioned the Poultney Bylaw Updates. They also discussed workforce training. There is a TAC meeting this Thursday she plans to attend.

**Public Comments on matters (limit of 10 minutes total):** None.

**Executive Session:**

At 7:35PM, 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. The board entered Executive Session. At 7:51PM, Sheryl Porrier made a motion to leave Executive Session. Mark Teetor 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.

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

s/Paul A. Donaldson