

Poultney Board of Selectmen
Meeting

Monday, March 27, 2017 – 6:30 pm

Poultney Town Hall

Agenda

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Approval of Minutes: 3/13/17
- 3) Public Comments and Concerns
 - Dollar General
 - Vermont Slate Quarry Association
- 4) Road Report
- 5) Town Manager's Report
 - Letters & Communications
- 6) Transact Any Other Lawful Business:
 - Proposed Amendment to Unified Bylaws – Slate Quarrying
- 7) Board Orders
- 8) Adjourn

Meeting Minutes

Poultney Board of Selectmen

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Jeff King called the meeting to order. Selectmen present included: Jeff King, Frank Fressie, Tom Coloutti, Terry Williams and George Miller. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Town Manager, Ron Kelly Foreman, Neisja Crawford, Secretary / Bookkeeper, and Towns People (see sign in sheet)

Adoption of the Agenda: Tom Coloutti made a motion to adopt the agenda. Frank Fressie seconded the motion. Motion carried

Approval of Minutes: Tom Coloutti made a motion to approve the minutes of 3/13/17. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried

Public Comments and Concerns:

Bob Williams with the Slate Quarry Association requesting to revisit the bylaws:

- 200 ft from property line is too much land (especially for smaller quarries) unable to use under bylaw
- above bylaw is reason for dispute between some quarriers
- concerned with disgruntled neighbors and possible exposure to violation of “enclosed structure” bylaw
- concerned with vague rules of site development and possible exposure to violation of bylaw
- excavators working unaware of permit required for transport of 14 cubic yards of fill
- clean fill requirements

Terry Williams: state more involved with transfer of fill- state has to certify it's clean- concerned that nobody is enforcing the law

Bob Williams: there are 140 pages of bylaws

Tom Coloutti: driveway maintenance is exempt- questions the definition of site development

Jeff King: this is a case for the Development Review Board

Bob Williams: -to change bylaws must go to court- quarries presently regulated by several federal agencies- increased 3 visit per year form MSHS -some neighbors and people in the community are anti-business

Jeff King: wonders about 200ft property line bylaw and blasting

Bob Williams: blasting is also highly regulated

Terry Williams: quarriers presently working in violation of these bylaws will have to be grandfathered in

Jeff King: wants to read all bylaws for full understanding

Bob Williams: it's likely the laws were written outside of VT and adopted because Vt doesn't have the resources to research - Slate Quarry Association supports community

Frank Fressie: have any complaints been made based on the bylaws?

Paul Donaldson: yes- suggested quarriers involved to settle amongst themselves

Ernie DeMatties- on Planning Commission-no comment at this time-but thinks it's wise for the Select Board to request a special meeting of Planning Commission- meet every five years to review plan, then has no regular meetings

Paul Donaldson and Ernie DeMatties advised that the matter should go directly to the Poultney Planning Commission, and did not need to go through the Selectboard. Once Bob Williams has collected the group's desired revisions he will request an audience with the Planning Commission.

Dollar General: next hearing scheduled April 19, 2017

Paul Donaldson asked that everyone that attended the DRB meeting be recognized as an interested party- there were no objections-will not be necessary for Town lawyer to attend anymore meetings

Road Report: Ron Kelly reported the following:

1) replaced signs in accordance with new federal regulations

- signs are expensive
- be more proactive in reusing bent signs

Terry Williams: if there is an accident, be sure to include damaged sign in accident report

2) have sand left over from Friday nights' storm

3) Road Crew picking up garbage

-pulled approximately 50 tires and household garbage from a small pit, on right, off Evergreen Rd

4) repaired culvert on Lake (possible frost heave)

5) did budget for road side mowing, \$5,000 per year

- not a good idea to put thrasher on excavator (it's too hard on the road excavator)

Terry Williams: should money be budgeted for tree service company to take down trees, instead of Highway crew

- maybe start a disaster fund

Jeff King: remember this come October

- 6) talking with Brain Sanderson re: speed limit
- 7) homeowner, from Lake, coming in Town Office Monday to pay difference on blocks used for repair

Town Manager's Report: Paul Donaldson reported the following:

Letters and Communications:

- 1) Liquor License Renewals:
Taps Tavern
American Legion

Tom Coloutti made a motion to Liquor License Renewals. Frank Fressie seconded the motion. George Miller abstained from American Legion. Motion carried.

- 2) people coming in to make payment plans
-requesting realistic plans
- 3) talking with lawyers regarding property tax collections
-negotiating collection fees
-in the range of 8% + 1% per month
- 4) Frank Fressie: what's going on with guns?
-Paul Donaldson: getting sealed bids
-get all bids in by end of the month (March)

Board Orders:

Tom Coloutti made a motion to pay board orders. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried

Adjournment:

Frank Fressie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Terry Williams seconded motion.
Motion carried.