

Poultney Board of Selectmen

Meeting

Monday, August 14, 2017 – 6:30 pm

Poultney Town Hall

Agenda

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Approval of Minutes: 7/24/17
- 3) Public Comments and Concerns
 - Neal Vreeland re: Dollar General appeal
- 4) Road Report
 - Ron Kelly is on vacation, here is what he has to report:
 - The team, with Jim Seamons, finished cutting brush on Gorhamtown and Griffin Roads.
 - Regrade Slide on Rt. 140, dug out ditch on opposite side of road to a depth deeper than road bed. Stone line ditch as to be in compliance with State rules.
 - Repaving on York Street Ext. to start soon, once done there, Pike will move to Grove / South St. and fix approach to bridge
 - Note: regarding Repaving on York Street Ext., used 20 less tons of material*
 - Pike will also shim culvert on South Street to get rid of dip
 - Pike is also going to build up road on Rt 140 where we have been working
 - Note: Pike doesn't think it's worth doing, instead stone-lined with material they got for free*
- 5) Town Manager's Report
 - Letters & Communications
 - Finel Hollow Bridge Necessity / Compensation Hearing
 - USDA Loan (\$195k 3.25% /15 yr) and Grant (\$50k) re: Fire Truck
- 6) Transact Any Other Lawful Business:
 - Fuel Oil bids
- 7) Health Officers Report
- 8) Executive Session
- 9) Board Orders
- 10) Adjourn

Meeting Minutes

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Jeff King called the meeting to order. Selectmen present included: Jeff King, Tom Coloutti, Frank Fressie, George Miller. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Town Manager, Neisja Crawford, Secretary / Bookkeeper and a number of citizens (see list attached), and Neal Vreeland, Town Attorney.

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

Approval of Minutes: Frank Fressie made a motion to approve the minutes of 7/24/17. Tom Coloutti seconded the motion. Motion carried

Public Comments and Concerns:

-Neal Vreeland re: Dollar General appeal

DRB conducted 3 days and nights of hearings, after much analysis, they denied the Dollar General permit. Now the case is going to Environmental Court, De Novo, meaning the judge will not see the DRB decision.

The Town hired attorney, Gary Kupferer, to represent the Town in the first hearing (if had not done that, the Town could not be heard in the future).

Since the Select Board appointed members of the DRB, Neal Vreeland and the group, Concerned Citizens of Poultney, are asking the Select Board to make a motion to support the DRB decision, and have Gary Kupferer file a one page document (notice of appearance) with the Environmental Court, saying the Town appears at the hearing (by doing this, the Town will be privy at all paperwork).

Jeff King: "how does the Board feel about the DRB decision"?

Tom Coloutti: "I agree with the DRB"

George Miller: "yes"

Frank Fressie: vote in favor, "we support our appointed people"

Tom Coloutti made a motion to support the DRB. Frank Fressie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jeff King: "what about keeping our attorney to monitor the case"?

Paul Donaldson: "I talked with the attorney, he's willing to stay on".

Jeff King: "we should stay involved in the hearing".

Tom Coloutti made a motion to have attorney, Gary Kupferer, file a notice of appearance on behalf of the Town. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CB Hall, with Concerned Citizens of Poultney: would like, on the record, to thank the DRB and the Select Board, for standing up and retaining Kupferer. We think we can do something better.

Jeff King: it goes back to Franks point, "we will back our board"

Melanie Lincoln Potter: I read the DRB statement, it was a well-crafted document. I requested the 17 pages document from Paul Donaldson and posted it on the *Poultney Life* website. It's important we let folks know what this process is, so there are no misunderstandings. This project does not fit Poultney.

Town Managers Report:

-Letters & Communications

- Finel Hollow Bridge Necessity / Compensation Hearing
 - only two hold-outs (may have struck a deal with one person)
 - Select Board may have to do condemnation hearings

Paul Donaldson: recommend engaging the Town attorney, the State will pay for legal - fees

-Lyn Gluck, VTrans ROW Acquisition Agent, sometimes he thinks he has a deal...then it falls thru at the last minute

-need engagement letter from Neal Vreeland

-put out notice for public hearing, 2 parts, necessity and compensation

- do we need easements to build the bridge
- if take land, how much pay land owner

Jeff King: what if they don't come

Neal Vreeland: then hearing goes on

Paul Donaldson: he is willing to come down in September to talk to Select Board

Neal Vreeland: hope to put out notice in mid- September

Tom Coloutti made a motion to have Neal Vreeland be legal representative on Town Bridge Project. Frank Fressie seconded the motion. Motion carried

- USDA Loan (\$195k 3.25% /15 yr) and Grant (\$50k) re: Fire Truck

If the interest rate is lower at closing, we will get the lower rate. If we want the grant, we have to take the loan. Can pay-off whenever we want. Need signatures on the last document.

Tom Coloutti made a motion to approve the loan and grant for the fire truck. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Transact Any Other Lawful Business:

- Fuel oil bids
 - presently using Keyser
 - advertised request for bids in the newspaper
 - received 4 bids, Champlin Valley Plumbing and Heating had the lowest bid at, 10 cents over their cost, capped at \$1.75 per gallon

Tom Coloutti made a motion to approve the lowest bid, to purchase fuel oil from Champlin Valley Plumbing and Heating . Frank Fressie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- complaints about Scott Saltis
 - Paul Donaldson: the State Police were called several times by various people
 - Frank Fressie: send formal letter to sheriff explaining the situation
- transfer station
 - Frank Fressie: who's checking transfer station stickers?
 - Loosing money when, for example, Fair Haven people are using Poultney Bags
 - Paul Donaldson: the Transfer Station guys and Neisja checks for permit when selling additional bags
 - Paul Donaldson: regarding charging for food composting
 - Rutland County Solid Waste says we can charge to transport it
- Future discussion plowing and salting between Village and Town

Health Officer:

no report

Executive Session: None

Board Orders:

Frank Fressie made a motion to pay board orders. Tom Coloutti seconded the motion. Motion carried

Adjournment:

Frank Fressie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 pm. George Miller seconded motion. Motion carried