

Poultney Board of Selectmen
Meeting

Monday, December 18, 2017 – 6:30 pm

Poultney High School Library

Agenda

1) Adoption of the Agenda

2) Approval of Minutes: 12/11/17

3) Public Comments and Concerns:

Petition to Amend Bylaws, re: Section 417: Slate Mining, Section 418: Slate Processing,
Section 1424: Site Development
Linda Knowlton, Gazebo for East Poultney Green

4) Road Report

5) Town Manager's Report

- Letters & Communications
- Budget
- Health Insurance

6) Transact Any Other Lawful Business:

7) Health Officers Report

8) Executive Session

9) Board Orders

10) 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, Terry Williams, Tom Coloutti and George Miller. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Town Manager, Ron Kelly, Highway Forman, and several members of the public (see sign in sheet attached)

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

Approval of Minutes: Frank Fressie made a motion to approve the minutes of 12/11/17. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comments and Concerns:

- Linda Knowlton advised that she spoke with 4 neighbors, and they are in favor of placing a gazebo on the East Poultney Green. They have formed a Committee consisting of herself, Pastor Todd Eaton, Art Slaven, and Harlow Gordon. Sean Camera has offered to donate a slate roof, they are seeking prices from the Shed Shop, and estimate the cost to be about \$20,000.00. There are 25 to 30 groups who are excited about the prospect of a gazebo. Donaldson advised Linda that a petition seeking the question to fund a gazebo should be submitted by about the second SB Meeting in January. Donaldson stressed that a petition should state a specific dollar amount not to be exceeded, and they need about 130 signatures of registered voters. Donaldson to speak with Green Mountain Power re: power to the gazebo. Terry Williams did question who would pay for the power, and the costs.
- Members of the Slate Industry attended the Select Board meeting to discuss amending the Bylaws, re: Section 417: Slate Mining, Section 418: Slate Processing, Section 1424: Site Development. Jeff King opened this meeting with a recital of a proposal received by the board today from the SVQA. Discussion followed. Jeff King offered the opinion that the 200 foot setback contained in Section 418 of the Bylaws does not apply to current quarries, only new quarries. Neal Vreeland, Town Attorney, had expressed the same

opinion. Discussion that perhaps the Planning Commission should spend more time taking comments on the proposed amendments. Donaldson advised that a member of the public had visited with him today regarding the Section 1424, and discussed with him that about 300 cubic yards was a more appropriate measure. Tom Coloutti made a motion to send the matter back to the Planning Commission to take further comments and further consideration of the proposals. George Miller seconded the Motion. Tom Coloutti and George Miller voted Yes. Terry Williams abstained. Frank Fressie abstained. Jeff King voted in favor of sending the matter back to the Planning Commission. Motion carried. Charles Brown asked as to the timeframe, and it was thought that the matter could be re-heard and re-referred within 90 days. Bev Tatko requested that she be notified of the date of the hearing as she often does not get the Rutland herald or the Free Press. Craig Markerow mentioned that there was frustration previously with the planning Commission. Donaldson stated that the group never formally presented a written proposal to the PC, but only to the SB. Craig Markerow is also to forward the slideshow to Donaldson

Road Report:

Ron Kelley reported the following:

- Several of the trucks need repairs, and they have been doing what they can in-house.
- Preparing for the impending snow

Town Managers Report:

Paul Donaldson reported the following:

- Considering switching Health Insurance from Silver Plan to Bronze. The fixed cost differences are substantial savings to go with the Bronze. Donaldson is waiting to hear back from BC/BS about the plan with no prescription and whether there are other options regarding co-pays. Need to notify BC/BS by end of December.
- Budget review has continued, Donaldson to sit down with Neisja Crawford to be sure certain items are allocated on the correct line item. Attorney Fees have not been exceeded
- Allocation requests seem to be going up. ARC has upped its' request from \$300 to \$1300. Donaldson advised them a petition needs to be submitted for such an increase.
- Donaldson looked at the Citizens Bank parcel, and the building needs much work
- Donaldson circulated a draft letter put together by CB Hal requesting Great Meadow Federal Credit Union to locate in Poultney and wished for the town to join in the letter. Discussion followed.

- Paul Donaldson advised that many entities requesting more funding in the past. As an example ARC typically requested \$300, and now are requesting \$1,300. They have a petition circulating to get on the ballot.

Transact Any Other Lawful Business:

None

Health Officer:

Terry Williams reported the following:

- The property he previously visited on Morse Hollow Road has been brought up to code by the landlord.

Executive Session:

None.

Board Orders:

Ton Coloutti made a motion to approve the board orders. Terry Williams seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Adjournment:

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

s/Paul A. Donaldson, Town Manager