

Monday, February 12, 2018 – 6:30 PM

Poultney Town Hall

Jeff King called the meeting to order. Selectmen present included: Jeff king, Tom Coloutti, Frank Fressie, Terry Williams and George Williams. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Town Manager, Ron Kelly, Highway Foreman, Neisja Crawford, Secretary / Bookkeeper, Kathy Hutson and Fire Chief Aaron Kerber

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

Approval of Minutes: Tom Coloutti made a motion to approve the minutes of 1/23/18 and 1/29/18. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried

Public Comments and Concerns:

- Kathy Hutson stated her last tax payment was misapplied to the incorrect tax period, and asked that it be applied to the period she intended. She also asked for a one-week extension to pay her delinquent taxes in full and expressed dismay at the attorney's 30 days collection letter she received.
 - Paul Donaldson: explained, the bookkeeper will review her payment history and move the payment to her intended tax period. Mr. Donaldson clarified, the collect letter was a courtesy and reminded her delinquent notices are mailed monthly. Furthermore, while no payment plans would be accepted, tax payers that contacted our office, proposing a full payment time-line near the Feb.12th deadline, would be honored. Nevertheless, if payment in full was not received by the time the attorney's started their individual title work, the collection process would continue to move forward. This same courtesy will be extended to Ms. Hutson.
- James Amery, re: delinquent taxes and proposed payment plan
 - Jeff King: No payment plans. Follow precedent extended to everyone else.
- Paul Donaldson reported:
 - Jan. 31, 2018 delinquent tax total: \$504,585.49
 - Feb. 12, 2018 delinquent tax total: \$182,722.78
 - Tom Coloutti: The delinquent tax collection process should be stated.
- Reduction of Speed Limit, re: Route 31

- Terry Williams previously submitted a letter to the Select Board March 31, 2017. Following that meeting, Paul Donaldson contacted Brian Sanderson.
 - The speed limit is presently 50 mph, proposing a reduction to 40 mph
 - Paul Donaldson will forward to AOT and follow-up.
- Charles Deleaney, re: scrap yard on Upper Road
 - State gave him an order to cleanup, Paul Donaldson will follow-up.

Road Report:

Ron Kelley reported the following:

- Ongoing plowing, salting and sanding.
 - So far, used 401 tons of salt totaling \$27,540.68.
- Equipment repairs, i.e., plow blades and chains
- Ron Kelley has been tracking his over-time and is requesting compensation.
 - There is no policy stated for exempt employees.
 - Previously he had been compensated for extraordinary events, e.g., July storm, and working on holidays.
 - Tom Coloutti: proposed consideration of comp-time.
 - Ron Kelley presently has accumulated 113 ot-hours.
 - Jeff King: Start Dec. 8, 20017- formula: 9 weeks x2= 18. 113-18=95. 93 hours x \$21.71 hourly rate = \$2,019.00 gross.

George Miller made a motion to pay Ron Kelley the \$2,019.00 overtime stipend. Tom Coloutti seconded the motion. Motion carried

Tom Coloutti made a motion to address the overtime issue while developing the new *employee policies & practices handbook*. Frank Fressie seconded the motion. Motion carried

Town Managers Report:

Paul Donaldson reported the following:

- Finishing Town Report

Transact Any Other Lawful Business:

- Fire Chief Aaron Kerber presented Captains Report
 - New fire truck should arrive May 2018
 - Recruitment & Retention challenges
 - Proposing paid compensation to volunteers for worked fire runs
 - 2016 fire calls clocked 1,700 man hours
 - Frank Fressie: will have to go to voters -pitch to people at the Town Meeting

Health Officer:

Nothing to 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. George Miller seconded motion. Motion carried

s/Neisja Crawford, Secretary / Bookkeeper