

Poultney Board of Selectmen
Meeting

Monday, March 25, 2019 – 6:30 pm

Poultney Town Hall

Agenda

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Approval of Minutes: 3/11/19
- 3) Public Comments and Concerns
 - Grant opportunity re: Northern Border Regional Commission
 - Bylaw Amendment petitions with Planning Commission recommendations
- 4) Road Report

- 5) Town Manager's Report
 - Grant application with RRPC
 - Liquor License – Full Belly Deli and Green Mountain College
 - Slate Quarry Park Group Memorandum of Understanding
- 6) Transact Any Other Lawful Business
- 7) Executive Session
- 8) Health Officer's Report
- 9) Rutland Regional Planning Commission
- 10) Board Orders
- 11) Adjourn

Meeting Minutes
Poultney Board of Selectmen
Monday, March 25, 2019 – 6:30 PM
Poultney Town Hall

Jeff King called the meeting to order. Selectmen present included: Jeff King, Carol Bunce, Tom Coloutti, Terry Williams, and George Miller. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Town Manager, Ron Kelley, Road Foreman, Neisja Crawford, Bookkeeper, Jonas Rosenthal, Ed Bove, RRPC, Fire Chief Aaron Kerber and Towns people (see sign in sheet).

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

Approval of Minutes: Tom Coloutti made a motion to approve the minutes of 3/11/19. Terry Williams seconded the motion to approve with corrected VLCT training date for Carol Bunce enrolling in the Spring Select Board Institute seminar 3/30/19. Motion carried.

Public Comments and Concerns:

- Grant opportunity re: Northern Border Regional Commission.
 - Jonas Rosenthal presented the grant application to the board. The Town was unsuccessful in securing the first grant. Resubmitting the application with \$3.5 million available in Vermont with an 80/20 split in Rutland County. The Town will have one year to secure funds for website development, tourism marketing at the welcome center and outdoor recreation, including construction of a new bike trail at the Elementary School.
 - Tim Johnson: Proposed the possibility of connecting Endless Brook bike trails with Slate Valley Trails with the latter to maintain the trails.
 - Jonas Rosenthal: \$7,500 from Hills and Hollows Grant and PDRC has been committed to outdoor recreation and trail development.
 - Readiness of application: Requesting a motion to approve the letter of notification by March 29, 2019. The application will be available in April with a due date of May 10, 2019.
 - Carol Bunce: Do you have a letter of approval from the Supervisory Union?
 - Jonas Rosenthal: Not yet.
 - Terry Williams: How much money are you asking for?
 - Jonas Rosenthal: Not exactly sure, tentatively, \$50,000. The application does not hold the Town to the budget we submit. It's a one-year grant with three years to complete.

Tom Coloutti made a motion to accept the letter of notification for the Northern Border Regional Commission Grant. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Coloutti made a motion to move Rutland Regional Planning Commission next on the agenda from #9. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Rutland Regional Planning Commission:

- USDA Rural Development Grant:
 - Ed Bove: The application to hire someone to coordinate economic development is due this Friday, March 29, 2019. Mr. Bove is requesting a letter of support and match agreement. The greater the match the higher the Town will score on the grant. Recommending a match of 50.1%.
 - Possible salary figure ranges between \$50,000 - \$60,000 to serve for a period of time between 12 – 18 months.
 - The position would start in the fall. The Town would facilitate the hire and the State of VT can help to fill the position.
 - Paul Donaldson: I think we have the resources to match the salary figure.
 - Tom Coloutti: Has this proven to be effective? Will we need to provide benefits with an hourly wage? We will need a job description and a scope of work.
 - Ed Bove: The Town can structure salary & benefits as it sees fit. It doesn't have to be a full-time position.
 - Ernie DeMattis: This is a big job for one person. Hiring a company that specializes in economic development with greater resources will be more efficient.
 - Ceclia Ward: Ms. Ward, a new Poultney resident and certified planner with over 30 years' experience (JC Consulting), is offering her assistance with the position.
 - Ed Bove: When applying for the grant, the Town will be committed to the match.

Tom Coloutti made a motion for Ed Bove to apply for the USDA Rural Development Grant. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Bylaw Amendment petitions with Planning Commission recommendations.
 - Jamie Lee: The petition submitted by Poultney Properties is not in compliance with the Town Plan. The mixed / industrial use poses environmental concerns and over sight would be gone.
 - Ernie DeMattis: Mr. DeMattis posed the question, why have a Town Plan and zoning, if the Town isn't going to follow it? Mixed-use raises safety issues. This case is in the Environmental Court. Let the court case run its course.

- The Planning Commission reviews the Town Plan every five years, it is up for review in one year.
- David Carpenter, with Facey Goss & McPhee, is attorney for Len Knappmiller. Mr. Carpenter read a prepared statement to the Select Board, requesting the board vote now, to change the zoning, to permit mixed commercial / light industrial use within the village industrial zoning district.
- Paul Donaldson: This case is presently under de novo review in the economic court. Over turning the Development Review Board decision, would require no site plan review, which would essentially “rubber stamp” any entity activities.
- Terry Williams: I need more time to review.
- George miller: Let’s wait for the court’s decision.
- Tom Coloutti: How is the college zoned?
- Jamie Lee: Educational.
- Tom Coloutti: Zoning will have to change.
- Carol Bunce: I need more time to review and maybe we should meet with the Village Board of Trustees.
- Paul Donaldson: The Town is in charge of zoning. I recommend the board decide tonight.
- Neal Vreeland provided a brief history of the case, emphasized without the Development Review Board there would be no site plan review and asked the board to decide tonight.

Terry Williams made a motion to table the bylaw amendment petitions with Planning Commission recommendations for discussion at the next select board meeting, April 8, 2019. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Road Report:

Ron Kelley reported the following:

- Mud season.
 - Highway crew working overtime.
 - Put approximately \$6,000 of crushed stone down on severely muddy roads.
 - Scouting out places to start grading.
 - Hauling stone.
 - Terry Williams: Are the roads posted?
 - Ron Kelley: If we post, we’ll have to go through AOT. I’ve asked some of the big trucks and school buses to not travel back roads.
- Need to expand Pond Hill Rd by pushing the road bank up.
- Prepping Hampshire Hollow Rd for the bridge closure.
 - The roads we close for restoration will have to be reported to the state police, rescue squad and fire department.

- Tom Coloutti: We should look at Watkins Hill Rd. Maybe cut brush down, post signs or timed lights.
- Ron Kelley: Timed lights are very expensive. Talked with the road sign company about work safe signs. The cost of signs will not go towards the Town's match for the bridge repair.
- Paul Donaldson: Maybe post signs that say not part of detour, class IV road, travel at your own risk.
- Highway crews will work 10 hours per day four days a week, Monday – Thursday, from the beginning of June to the end of August.

Town Managers Report:

Paul Donaldson reported the following:

- Slate Quarry Park Group Memorandum of Understanding.
 - Talked with Paul Hancock and asked him to remove a few things from the draft relating to the design and build of Slate Quarry Park, which the board would not accept.
 - Jeff King: Table the discussion for next select board meeting, April 8, 2019.

Appoint Town Officers:

- Fire Warden and Tree Warden.

Terry Williams made a motion to appoint Town Officers Nathan Bourne, Fire Warden and Steve Hanfield, Tree Warden. Tom Coloutti seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Transact any Other Lawful Business:

- Fire Department Report

Chief Aaron Kerber reported the following:

- Completed Fire Instructors course.
- Trained five volunteers and added one new certified person.
- The new RAM utility / brush truck is equip.
- Sold the Utility 555 truck for \$35,000 which will be deposited back into the public safety fund (a 10% fee will be deducted and paid to the broker). That is beyond the \$25,000 estimate. Delivering the truck 3/26/19 to the buyer in PA.
- Put the jaws of life on the old engine. It's now a rescue truck. Not yet selling the rescue truck.

Carol Bunce: Does the Fire Department have a plan during the bridge repair?

- Aaron Kerber: Yes, Middletown Springs and Castletown will be on call.
- Liquor License applications – Full Belly Deli and Green Mountain College.

Terry Williams made a motion to sign the Liquor Licenses for Full Belly Deli and Green Mountain College. Tom Coloutti seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- REDC, Rutland Economic Development Corp.
 - Terry Williams: Talked to Kim Rupe about the Town joining REDC for \$500 annual membership.

Terry Williams made a motion to REDC for the \$500 annual membership. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Health Officer: None.

Executive Session: None.

Board Orders:

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

Motion carried.

Adjournment:

George Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tom Coloutti seconded the Motion.

Motion carried.

s/Neisja Crawford