

Poultney Board of Selectmen  
Meeting  
**Monday, August 26, 2019 – 6:30 pm**  
Poultney Town Hall  
Agenda

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Approval of Minutes: 8/12/2019
- 3) Public Comments and Concerns
  - Letters of interest re: Poultney Selectboard
- 4) Road Report
- 5) Town Manager's Report
  - Highland Gray road Grants-In-Aid closeout
  - Bridge # 7, East Poultney Gorge
  - Easement Deed to Village of Poultney for drainage feature
  - FEMA damage inventory
- 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, August 26, 2019 – 6:30 PM

### Poultney Town Hall

Jeff King called the meeting to order. Selectmen present included: Jeff King, Carol Bunce, George Miller and Terry Williams. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Town Manager, Neisja Crawford, Bookkeeper, Tyler Ballard, Dan Kowalski, Scott MacLachlan, Neal Vreeland, Betsy Sinnott and Constable Dale Kerber.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Terry Williams made a motion to adopt the agenda. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** George Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of 8/12/19 with name corrections. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Public Comments and Concerns:**

- Notice of Violation: Signs
  - Neal Vreeland reported Len Knappmiller moved some of the election signs (not all of them) and redirected the bright light.
  - Myron White was not given a Notice of Violation for the election sign mounted to his barn. Paul Donaldson will speak with him.
  
- Finel Hollow Bridge:
  - Scott MacLachlan suggested the Town consider naming the bridge now that work is completed. Jeff King is meeting with the PDRC and will discuss the idea with the group.
  - Carol Bunce wished to thank Bob Williams of Williams Hardware for his *first 100 customers* gifting event to promote the new bridge.
  
- Coin Drop:
  - Paul Donaldson received an email on behalf of Shaw's Grocery Store and the Cancer Society requesting permission to host a coin drop, one day the first week of September, in the Village, to raise money for breast cancer research. The Select Board approved the event upon Village approval.
  
- Letters of Interest re: Poultney Select Board:
  - The Town received four letters of interest from: Tyler Ballard, Dan Kowalski, Scott MacLachlan and Kim Rupe. Kim Rupe unable to attend this board meeting

and asked to reschedule. The board is meeting Tuesday Aug. 27<sup>th</sup> at 4 o'clock to work on the employee handbook, Terry Williams suggested meeting the last candidate then. Paul Donaldson will confirm.

- Scott MacLachlan, Tyler Ballard and Dan Kowalski each spoke briefly stating their interest in serving on the board.
- Pot holes:
  - Scott MacLachlan asked, now that Finel Hollow Bridge is completed, when the pot holes near Alan Gombosi would be repaired and regraded. Paul Donaldson explained that the filling of pot holes and grading for all the detour roads is on the highway schedule.

**Road Report:** None.

**Town Managers Report:**

Paul Donaldson reported the following:

- Highland Gray Road Grants-In-Aid closeout:
  - Submitted all the paperwork last Monday.
  - The road was brought up to state standards.
  - Received a complaint from Fair Haven Postmaster, that the road is built up too high and mailboxes sit much lower now. The mail carrier slid into ditch twice last winter and they are concerned the road is unmanageable. He also mentioned that it is the homeowners responsibility to mount mail box in assessable place.
- Bridge #7, East Poultney Gorge:
  - The Vermont Agency of Transportation is asking for the Select Boards decision regarding which of the construction alternatives to proceed with. The State wants a commitment now.
  - Truss Rehabilitation- remains a one lane bridge with a 40-year life. Total cost (with incentive to close the road) \$2,271,920 the Town share would be \$56,798.
  - VTrans recommends a Full Bridge Replacement, widen to meet minimum standard, includes 5' sidewalk on bridge with a 75-year life. The cost share would be Federal 80%, State 10% and Town 10% (with incentive to close the road). Total cost \$2,683,176 the Town share would be \$134,159.
  - The project would start in 2023/2024.
  - The complete Vtrans presentation can be viewed at:  
[outside.vermont.gov/agency/vtrans/external/projects/structures/16J180](https://outside.vermont.gov/agency/vtrans/external/projects/structures/16J180)
  - Paul Donaldson: Funds must be earmarked for this project.

Terry Williams made a motion to table the Bridge #7 discussion for the next SB meeting. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Easement Deed to Village of Poultney for drainage feature:

- Welsh Presbyterian Church to Village & Town to Village.
- The deed was reviewed by an outside attorney.
- The Church signed the deed.
- Village with temporary detour prepped for the drainage project.

Terry Williams made a motion for Jeff King to sign the Easement Deed to Village of Poultney for drainage feature. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- FEMA damage inventory:
  - Paul Donaldson and Ron Kelley have met with FEMA and are continuing to work through paperwork.
- Economic Development Representative Position:
  - Received Grant approval paperwork last week.
  - Paul Donaldson requested assistance from VLCT in writing the job description.
- Senior Center drainage repair:
  - The Thrift Store at the Senior Center dropped off a list of items damaged by water. Paul Donaldson remarked that the space was not designed to be a thrift store and there needs to be some level of self-help.
  - The Highway crew installed a new drain.
  - Terry Williams: Does VLCT insurance cover the loss?
  - Paul Donaldson: Added the loss to the FEMA list.
  - Carol Bunce: Does the Senior Center receive any funding from other Towns.
  - Paul Donaldson: It does not.
- Slate Quarry Park:
  - Carol Bunce: What is the status of the park?
  - Paul Donaldson: No response from the land water agreement grant yet. The Town needs to know what the grant says before the project can proceed.
- Development Review Board:
  - Carol Bunce: With five positions available on the board and only four positions filled, are we in compliance?
  - Paul Donaldson: Yes, we are complying, though the board would function better with five members.
- Killington Town Meeting:
  - Carol Bunce: Will be attending the October 3, 2019 session. Anyone else who would like to attend should get registration paperwork to Neisja Crawford to take advantage of the reduced registration fee.

**Transact any Other Lawful Business:**

- Incentives Grant Speed Cart
  - Constable Dale Kerber reported \$8,000 in unused Incentives Grant funds which must be used by the end of September 2019.
  - Proposed the purchase of a Speed Cart which would be 100% funded by the grant with approval from Highway Safety.
  - Presented two estimates for the Select Board's consideration, recommending the MS Martin Enterprise equipment package because he is familiar with the software and data reports (it is the same cart used in Fair Haven, VT). The cost is \$7,974.00.
  - The speed cart may be placed anywhere, equip with solar powered batteries and off-site charging, preloaded messages and a two-year warranty.

Terry Williams made a motion to approve the purchase of the speed cart. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Select Board in agreement to mark the cruiser "Poultney Constable"
- Terry Williams is meeting with Sheriff Steve Bernard Aug. 27, 2019.
- Constable Kerber works nights, and expressed concerned about conflicting hours with Sherriff.

**Health Officer:** None.

**Rutland Regional Planning Commission:** None.

**Executive Session:** None.

**Board Orders:**

Carol Bunce made a motion to pay board orders. Terry Williams seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

**Adjournment:**

Terry Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. George Miller seconded the Motion.

Motion carried.

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s/Neisja Crawford