

Poultney Board of Selectmen  
Meeting  
**Monday, September 9, 2019 – 6:30 pm**  
Poultney Town Hall  
Agenda

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Approval of Minutes: 8/26/19
- 3) Public Comments and Concerns
- 4) Road Report
- 5) Town Manager's Report
  - Recreation Economy Planning Grant
  - Economic Development Coordinator
  - FEMA damage inventory – 9/22/2019 due date
  - Liquor License
  - Errors and Omission – Poultney Lister – Kurtz Family Properties LLC
- 6) Transact Any Other Lawful Business
  - East Poultney Gorge Bridge
  - Lake Saint Catherine Watershed Implementation Meeting
  - Mountain Bike Skills Park – Poultney Elementary School
- 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, September 9, 2019 – 6:30 PM

### Poultney Town Hall

Jeff King called the meeting to order. Selectmen present included: Jeff King, Carol Bunce, George Miller, Kim Rupe and Terry Williams. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Town Manager, Ron Kelley, Road Foreman, Neisja Crawford, Bookkeeper, Sadie Brown, Neal Vreeland, and Fire Chief Aaron Kerber.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** George Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of 8/26/19. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

- Terry Williams thanked the Town for paving.

### **Road Report:**

Ron Kelley reported the following:

- Culvert on the back end of Rt 140 is eroding. Set up on blocks ordered from J.P. Carrara with approval from AOT.
- Graded and put chloride on New Boston Rd. and Hampshire Hollow to Finel Hollow Rd.
- Working in shop putting a new brake lines in truck. It's about a two day job.
- Raymond Petty hit a stone on the tractor, pulling a wire from the alternator while mowing through difficult rock ledges of South Poultney.
  - Will continue mowing Ferncliff Rd.
- Reshimmed culvert on Farnham Rd.
- Filling potholes.
- Terry Williams: Have the crews done any ditching?
  - Ron Kelley: Still trying to figure out which jobs to sub-out. The third FEMA damage list is due Sept. 22, 2019.
- Rt 140 is a Federal Assisted Road and therefore, does not qualify for FEMA funds. Ron would like the Highway Crew to work on Rt 140. He received an email from Barbara

Noyes-Pulling, with RRPC, that said the Town can pick up \$20,000 - \$30,000 in funds with the Hydraulic Roads, Grants in Aid, Grant, with a \$5,000 match. Work should start now, though, the project will be included in the FY 20.21 budget.

### **Town Managers Report:**

Paul Donaldson reported the following:

- Recreation Economy Planning Grant:
  - The Town is still in consideration for the grant. Should be hearing from them soon.
- Economic Development Coordinator:
  - Paul Donaldson is working with VLCT on the job description.
- FEMA damage inventory-9/22/2019 due date:
  - One more list to fine tune due Sept. 22, 2019, then go into cost phase.
- Liquor License
  - Whaleback Vineyard is hosting a wedding reception Sept. 21, 2019 from 11am – 10:30pm, requesting a liquor license. They're fully insured.

Carol Bunce made a motion to approve the Whaleback Vineyard Liquor License for Sept. 21, 2019. Kim Rupe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Errors and Omission-Poultney Lister-Kurtz Family Properties LLC
  - Discovered that part of their property is owned by the neighbor, changing the assessed value by \$2,100 resulting in \$40.41 to be omitted from FY 19.20.

Terry Williams made a motion to approve the Errors and Omission-Poultney Lister-Kurtz Family Properties LLC. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Transact any Other Lawful Business:**

- Lake Saint Catherine Watershed Implementation Meeting
  - Sadie Brown, Nursery Manager, Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District (PMNRCD) reported the following:
    - The PMNRCD will be meeting Monday Sept. 16, 2019 at 10 o'clock (get details from Town Manager) to put together a list of future projects and ascertain feasibility of projects.
    - PMNRCD is presently prioritizing watersheds of Lake St Catherine and Poultney River.
    - Terry Williams: What does the PMNRCD do?
    - Sadie Brown: The PMNRCD is a municipality essentially working on water and soil conservation. It's the first of fourteen conservation districts in Vermont working

with state government, municipalities, farmers and land owners, funded mostly by grants.

- Carol Bunce: Does the PMNRCD hire local contractors for tasks such as excavating?
  - Sadie Brown: Not that I know of, but I can ask.
  - Paul Donaldson: The Planning Commission should be invited to attend the meeting.
- Fire Dept. Captains Report  
Chief Aaron Kerber reported the following:
    - Presented the Captain's Report for August 2019. Included in the report was one bike accident (off road rescue call). Granville, NY Rescue responded to the mutual aid call as Poultney Fire Dept. did not have the equipment to respond in timely manner.
    - Chief Kerber requesting permission from the Select Board to purchase a utility vehicle to respond to off-road calls, initially discussed in April 2019, to access the newly formed mountain bike trails and other off-road calls.  
New 2020, Polaris Sportsman 6x6 from Ronnie's Cycle in Bennington, price: \$13,667.18, to be paid from the safety equipment fund. We can still talk with the Slate Valley Trials about funding contribution. Paul Donaldson and Jeff King both think the Town should show good faith support in the trail development and purchase the vehicle. The stretcher/basket is a separate purchase totaling approximately \$1,250, which will be purchased through the VLCT PACIF Grant (50/50 match).

Carol Bunce made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2020, Polaris Sportsman 6x6 from the safety equipment fund. Kim Rupe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- East Poultney Gorge Bridge
  - Paul Donaldson: The State is pushing for an answer.
  - Terry Williams: Are there any problems with landowners if we widen the bridge and go with the state recommendation of a full bridge replacement?
  - Paul Donaldson: I don't think there are any problems

Kim Rupe made a motion to approve the VTrans recommendation of 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.

- Mountain Bike Skills Park – Poultney Elementary School

- Paul Donaldson handed out document “The Poultney Elementary School / Veteran’s Park Bicycle Project” outlining details of the construction of a Mountain Bike Skills Park partnered with Poultney Elementary School, Johnson and Son Bikeworks and Sustainable Trailworks. Grants were applied for but not awarded. The park will be built with local donations and by volunteers. Tim Johnson is asking if Sustainable Trailworks has the continued support of the Select Board. After asking each board member if they support the project, Jeff King announced that Sustainable Trailworks has the select board’s support. Terry Williams gave support, but would like formal bike safety classes with the Constable involved concerning enforcement. Tim Johnson teaches bike safety.

**Health Officer:** None.

**Rutland Regional Planning Commission:** None. The next meeting is Sept. 26, 2019.

**Executive Session:** Terry Williams made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:32 P.M. to discuss Personnel Matters. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. George Miller made a motion to leave Executive Session at 7:54 P.M. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. No action taken.

**Board Orders:**

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

Motion carried.

**Adjournment:**

George Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kim Rupe seconded the Motion.

Motion carried.

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s/Neisja Crawford