

Poultney Board of Selectmen
Meeting
Monday, September 23, 2019 – 5:00 pm
Poultney Town Hall
Agenda

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Approval of Minutes: 9/9/19
- 3) Public Comments and Concerns
- 4) Road Report
- 5) Town Manager's Report
 - Personnel Policy Revisions
 - Recreation Economy Planning Grant
 - FY20 Municipal Planning Grant – Updating Town Plan
 - FEMA damage inventory
 - Liquor Licenses
 - Poultney Properties LLC – appeal trial postponed
- 6) Transact Any Other Lawful Business
 - East Poultney Gorge Bridge – Letter from Nanette Greer
- 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 23, 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, Carmena Hailey, Nanette Greer, Lori Provin, Jane Williams, Neal Vreeland and John Swenor.

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

Approval of Minutes: Kim Rupe made a motion to approve the minutes of 9/9/19. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comments and Concerns:

- Richard Rupe asked for permission to place 1000-2000 yards of material to the Class 4 road on the south end of High Road. Discussion followed. Donaldson stated he would like to speak with VLCT regarding liability, insurance, etc.
- Nanette Greer, Jane Williams, Lori Provin and Carmon Hailey expressed concerns about the safety of the bridge over East Poultney Gorge. There are concerns about people running stop signs, travelling over the bridge in excess of weight limit. Mrs. Greer presented photos of pieces of the bridge that were fallen into the water, or in the process of falling off the bridge. Ron Kelley stated that the bridge is inspected by the State, and the State of Vermont deems it safe. Donaldson stated that the town just purchased a speed cart with radar and perhaps Thrall Road would be the first place we could place it. There were questions about whether the State takes into account that overweight trucks go over the bridge when the State determines the bridge is safe. Donaldson did not know the answer but will try to get the answer from the State. Much discussion followed. The bridge is slated to be replaced around 2024, and in the meantime we have been told if the State deems it unsafe to travel, it will have to be closed. Donaldson stated that the Sheriff Department has been patrolling there more as has Dale Kerber, and Mr. Kerber has in fact issued a number of speeding tickets recently on Thrall Road. We will continue to monitor the bridge and the road.
- John Swenor asked about the hemp processor at the VEMAS building, the noise is bothersome to his tenants at the Schoolhouse Apartments. Donaldson has been trying

to get VT Dept. of Agriculture to respond – is it a licensed hemp processor, does it comply with Ag. Regulations? Donaldson will investigate more what is going on there.

Road Report:

Ron Kelley reported the following:

- The guys assembled the new speed cart.
- We attended the final bridge inspection on Route 140. Ron will have Pike Paving put some more pavement on the shoulder of Finel Hollow Road to help when plowing.
- The crew has placed two more new culverts on Stonehedge and done some additional ditching.
- Grading and chloride was done again on Hampshire Hollow to Ames Hollow intersection.
- Winter sand will commence delivery this week.
- Ron learned that the culvert for York Street Extension project was 10 gauge versus 12 gauge. Ron needs to verify with ANR if that discrepancy will be an issue.
- George Miller asked a question regarding Endless Brook Road and whether the road near Hayes will be fixed where the river bank is washed out. This work is part of FEMA damage, and will likely go out to bid, along with tree removal. We do need to speak with Army Corps on whether a permit is required from them to work in the water.
- We learned that FEMA will not assist with repairs on Route 140, Ron will investigate other federal aid we could apply for for Route 140 work.
- Terry Williams questioned about broken asphalt on Upper Road, and the Dunster culvert that is supposed to be replaced near Barbara DeBonis Road. Ron stated Sam Dunster was supposed to replace it and will have to look into that.
- Carol Bunce asked about the closing of Route 31 and detour for the culvert project to be done by State. Donaldson stated last he heard they were waiting on a culvert to be built. There will be no detour mapped, just road closed overnight.

Town Managers Report:

Paul Donaldson reported the following:

- The board discussed further revisions to The Personnel Policy. Donaldson to compile notes and put together draft of new policy.
- Donaldson stated that the Planning Commission would like to apply for FY20 Municipal Planning Grant to work on updated to the Town Plan. Discussion followed. Terry Williams made a motion to sign the Resolution to apply for the grant. Kim Rupe seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- Donaldson and Ron Kelley continue to meet with FEMA on Damage inventory.

- Donaldson presented Liquor License application for Taco Experiment to have an outdoor consumption permit. Discussion followed. Terry Williams made a motion to permit outdoor consumption from 3:00 P.M. to midnight Monday through Friday, and from 10:00 A.M. to midnight Saturday and Sunday. Kim Rupe seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- Donaldson presented a Liquor License application for a one-time event at Stone Valley Arts. Kim Rupe made a motion to approve that application. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- Donaldson presented a Liquor License application for a one-time event at Whaleback Vineyard. Terry Williams made a motion to approve that application. Kim Rupe seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- Donaldson advised that the Environmental Appeal of Poultney Properties LLC has been postponed at the request of Poultney Properties LLC, and the matter will be revisited at the beginning of December, 2019.
- Recreation Economy Planning Grant:
 - The Town was selected for this grant. Of approximately 170 applications Poultney was one of ten towns awarded the grant.

Transact any Other Lawful Business: Donaldson presented Letter of Interest from Melanie Potter in the DRB. Donaldson to invite her to a board meeting to discuss the position.

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:

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

Motion carried.

s/Paul A. Donaldson