

Poultney Board of Selectmen
Meeting
Monday, January 27, 2020 – 6:30 pm
Poultney Town Hall
Agenda

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Approval of Minutes: 01/13/20
- 3) Public Comments and Concerns
- 4) Road Report
- 5) Town Manager's Report
 - Municipal Planning Grant – Town Plan update
 - Warning
 - Rutland County Sheriff Department
 - Poultney Properties, LLC Environmental Court pending motion
 - Certificate of Highway Mileage
 - Special Weight Limit for highway and bridges
- 6) Transact Any Other Lawful Business
- 7) Executive Session
 - Economic Development Coordinator interview
- 8) Health Officer's Report
- 9) Rutland Regional Planning Commission
- 10) Board Orders
- 11) Adjourn

Meeting Minutes

Poultney Board of Selectmen

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Jeff King called the meeting to order. Selectmen present included: Jeff King, Terry Williams, George Miller, Carol Bunce, and Kim Rupe. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Town Manager, Ron Kelley, Highway Foreman, Tyler Ballard, Tim Johnson, and Steven J. Taran.

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

Approval of Minutes: Carol Bunce made a motion to approve the minutes of 1/13/20. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comments and Concerns: Tyler Ballard and Steven J. Taran both presented to the board for consideration “A Resolution for the defense of the Right to Keep and Bear Arms.” Mr. Taran requested that this resolution be added to the Warning. Paul Donaldson advised that the Warning had already been set and in fact the board is poised to sign the Warning at this meeting. Discussion followed. Mr. Ballard and Mr. Taran requested the board to pass a non-binding resolution establishing the Town of Poultney as a municipal sanctuary for the 2nd Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and Article XVI of the Vermont Constitution, protecting the rights of Vermonters to keep and bear arms. Such resolutions have recently been made in several towns in Vermont, including Holland, Irasburgh, Cavendish, and Pittsford. Discussion followed. Paul Donaldson advised it may be prudent to ask an attorney to review the resolution. Terry Williams made a motion to table the matter until input is received by an attorney. George Miller seconded the motion, Motion carried with all in favor.

Tim Johnson inquired whether the board had objections to him pursuing securing an easement from the trustees of GMC an easement for the Poultney River Rail Trail (bike trails) currently on the GMC campus. Discussion followed. The board consensus was that it would be an asset worth trying to secure with an Easement Agreement.

Road Report:

Ron Kelley reported that:

- The crew has been plowing and salting/sanding as needed, and making repairs as needed. The truck that was overturned on Endless Brook Road continues to be repaired.
- The crew used 4 ½ tons of cold patch on road repairs so far this winter on Thrall, White, and Morse Hollow Roads.

- The crew fabricated a window guard for the excavator from bullet-proof material to avoid damage to the window from brush cutting.

Town Managers Report:

Paul Donaldson reported the following:

- The town has started to work on updates to the Town Plan with assistance from RRPC through a Municipal Planning Grant. Discussion followed. George Miller made a motion to sign the Planning Grant Agreement with Rutland Regional Planning Commission. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- The Warning needs to be signed. Besides the budget and auditor questions, Paul Donaldson added a question on whether Voters will approve stopping the mass mailing of the Town Report and allowing for the mailing of a card with a link to website. Discussion followed. Terry Williams made a motion to sign the Warning. Kim Rupe seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- Donaldson reported that the Rutland County Sheriff Department has indicated we could reduce their hours at the same rate of pay, and that they would use an office if Poultney had one suitable here in town so as to avoid travelling back and forth to Rutland while the deputy is “on the clock.” Discussion followed.
- Paul Donaldson updated the board that there is a pending motion in the Poultney Properties, LLC Environmental Court case seeking a determination that many of the bylaws are too vague as to be enforceable. Our attorney is reviewing the same and preparing a response. Discussion followed.
- We need to sign the Certificate of Highway Mileage. This is done on a yearly basis. There has been no change since last year. Terry Williams made a motion to sign the Certificate. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Transact any Other Lawful Business:

The board set a special meeting for 02-3-20 between 4:00 P.M. and 4:30 P.M. for meet in Executive Session with another candidate for the Economic Development position.

Health Officer: None.

Rutland Regional Planning Commission: There was an annual meeting on 1-21-20 Terry Williams was unable to attend. Terry Williams stated there is a meeting on January 30, which he intends to attend to discuss town bridges.

Executive Session: At 7:08 P.M. Terry Williams made a motion to enter into Executive Session to meet with a candidate for the Economic Development Coordinator. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor. At 8:05 P.M. Terry Williams made a motion to leave Executive Session. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor. No action taken.

At 8:28 P.M. George Miller made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor. At 8:29 P.M. Terry Williams made a motion to leave Executive Session. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Board Orders:

Terry Williams made a motion to pay board orders. George Miller 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