

Poultney Board of Selectmen
Meeting
Monday, September 14, 2020 – 6:30 pm
Poultney Town Hall & Virtual
Agenda

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Approval of Minutes: August 24, 2020
- 3) Public Comments and Concerns
- 4) Road Report
 - New truck purchase discussion
 - Cleaner emissions grant application
- 5) Town Manager's Report
 - Jewish Cemetery restoration project - Netanel Crispe
 - Date for deliberation meeting re: Ames Hollow and Birds Eye Road
 - Date for further discussion re: East Poultney Gorge Bridge lane amounts
- 6) Transact Any Other Lawful Business
- 7) Executive Session: Personnel matters
Personnel handbook
- 8) Health Officer's Report
- 9) Rutland Regional Planning Commission
- 10) Board Orders
- 11) Adjourn

Meeting Minutes

Poultney Board of Selectmen

Monday, September 14, 2020 – 6:30 PM

Poultney Town Hall and Virtual

Jeff King called the meeting to order. Selectmen present included: Jeff King, Terry Williams, George Miller (via Zoom Meeting), Carol Bunce, and Sheryl Porrier. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Town Manager, Ron Kelley, Highway Foreman, and Netanel Crispe (via Zoom Meeting).

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

Approval of Minutes: Terry Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of August 24, 2020. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Public Comments and Concerns: None.

Road Report:

Discussion regarding purchase of new truck. We applied for a cleaner emissions grant to possibly help fund the purchase. We cannot order a truck before getting the grant.

Discussion re: Pomeroy Place Road. We need to have ANR and RRPC look at the road to see where and what repairs would need to be made to the road, if any. We want to be sure that any work undertaken, if any complies with the MRGP.

Discussion re: paving Stonehedge Lane. We also plan to skim coat portions of Thrall Road, but discussions to hold off on Thrall Road paving until we can budget enough to pave the entire road. In the meantime, where patching needs to be done, that should happen.

Ron Kelley has spoken with GEO Scales in Williston re: scales at the transfer station at a \$2,300 cost. Ron to follow up to see what material the scales would need to be placed on.

Ron Kelley stated the crew has done re-ditching, removal of grader berm, and stone-lined ditches on Hillside Road and Fenton Road.

The crew is working on re-ditching and stone lining sections of Hampshire Hollow Road. Mr. Werneke provided lunch for the crew.

Grading continues on Lewis Road, Hillside, Fenton.

A cross drain on Lewis Road will be replaced soon.

Ron spoke with Ed Savage in Castleton re: continued mutual aid.

The crew did do some road repairs on Birdseye Road with 12 tandem loads of crushed slate from Hadeka. Ron has not inquired with Castleton re: assisting with the road. Discussion as to whether some board members should try to meet with some board members in Castleton. Probably best for Ron and Paul to discuss with their counterparts to begin with.

The crew did some brush trimming at the end of Morse Hollow Road. Gary Mead was contracted to trim around guardrails.

Discussion re: the washout by Slate Valley Trails road crossing on Route 140. Hilary Solomon looked at it and its not a project that she could get funding for. Ron Kelley stated that the cross drain is working, and not impacting the road, so it is not a priority at the moment.

Town Managers Report:

The board set a date to deliberate the Ames Hollow/Birdseye Road reclassification for 10-1-20 at 4PM. Paul Donaldson to discuss the same with Attorney Kupferer.

The board set a date of 9-28-20 to further discuss the East Poultney Gorge Bridge lane amounts and other safety measures.

Netanel Crispe presented his progress of seeking funds for restoration to the Jewish Cemetery. He received an estimate from Bowker and Sons in West Rutland for \$15,000 to repair and clean all the stones. There are also companies in St. Albans and Granville, NY where he plans to get estimates from. He wants to repair the 7 oldest stones in the fall and the remainder in the spring. There are 83 or so stones. He has started a Go Fund Me Page, and received pledges of \$3500, and also received a grant of \$6,000 from an private source to be unnamed. Paul Donaldson to look in our records to see what information we have as to who owns and/or maintains the cemetery.

Continued discussion re: the Personnel Policy handbook. Terry Williams made a motion to change the vacation leave/length of service to the following, effective as of July 1, 2020: 1 through 3 years of service accrues 10 days per year (.84 days/month); 4 through 7 years of service accrues 15 days per year (1.25 days/month); 8+ years of service accrues 20 days per year (1.67 days/month). Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Sheryl Porrier made a motion to revise the official holidays in the Personnel Policy handbook, effective as of July 1, 2020 as follows: Washington's Birthday shall be called Presidents' Day; Martin Luther King Day, the third Monday in January shall be a holiday, Columbus Day shall be called Indigenous Day; Christmas Eve shall be a full day of Holiday; the Friday after Thanksgiving shall be a full day Holiday. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Brief discussion re: Halloween and whether the town should put some official word out on whether to support or discourage trick-or-treating. No action taken.

Transact any Other Lawful Business: None.

Health Officer: None.

Rutland Regional Planning Commission: None.

Executive Session: Terry Williams made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel matter at 8:00PM. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor. Terry Williams made a motion to leave Executive Session at 8:35PM. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor. George Miller made a motion to place an ad in the paper seeking a part-time supervisor at the Transfer Station. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor. Carol Bunce made a motion to notify contractors who charge at the Transfer Station that effective November 1, 2020, charging will no longer be permitted. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Paul Donaldson will have the staff monitor the burn pile and advise folks that the pile is to burn brush only.

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. Terry Williams seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

s/Paul A. Donaldson