

Poultney Board of Selectmen  
Meeting  
**Monday, October 12, 2020 – 6:30 pm**  
Poultney Town Hall & Virtual

Note: To join this meeting via Zoom, use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82359504792?pwd=MytZL2x5Z2Jmc2RjVWdzcE9wcUJlXUT09>

Meeting ID: 823 5950 4792

Passcode: 807972

### Agenda

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Approval of Minutes:           September 28, 2020
- 3) Road Report
- 4) Public Comments and Concerns
- 5) Town Manager's Report
  - Slate Quarry Park bid
  - Halloween trick or treating
  - Communications Union District (for broadband and internet connectivity)
  - Poultney Properties LLC (VEMAS property update)
  - East Poultney Jewish Cemetery
  - Economic Development Office
- 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, October 18, 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), Carol Bunce, and Sheryl Porrier. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Town Manager, Ron Kelley, Highway Foreman, Michelle McCarron and Erynn Connors.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** George Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of September 28, 2020. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

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

Michelle McCarron, Director of the Young At Heart Senior Center, discussed some issues and ideas at the center. The center received a donation of shelving from the owners of the Stone Valley Co-op building. She stated the thrift store has been open for a couple of days per week. They have received COVID funds to purchase new tables, and a tent (\$500 for the tent and \$1100 for tables. They were able to receive Hazard Pay funds for March to June. She also discussed the Vermonters feeding Vermonters program and the \$2400 grant for that. They are up to 100 meals with the Everyone Eats program. She stated that there have been 508 hours of volunteer time last year, and she would like to discuss some sort of pay for that. She also discussed some budget figures and gave the board some information regarding the same. She thanked the highway crew for picking up their garbage.

Erynn Connors had some questions regarding the dog ordinance in town and Village. She stated a number of people have complaints about aggressive dogs. Paul Donaldson stated it is best for the information to come from the offended person(s), so he can adequately follow up on those matters.

### **Road Report:**

Ron Kelley reported the following:

-The crew continues to ditch and grade.

-He is putting together information for our Grants In Aid that is due October 18, 2020, we have about \$20,000 of eligible work. We have been addressing MRGP standards.

-Discussion re: Better Road Grants

-Discussion re: scales for the transfer station.

-We are still waiting to hear about the Emission Reduction grant we applied for. Paul Donaldson stated we should hear around October 19, 2020.

-The equipment trailer needs to be replaced. Ron is pricing this out.-

We filled the two front tires of the backhoe at the transfer station with foam at a cost of \$700.00 We were getting a lot of nails in the tires.

### **Town Managers Report:**

We received one bid for the Slate Quarry Park project, and there is another meeting with the bidder to be sure all matters are covered in the bid.

Further discussion re: Halloween and Trick or Treating. The consensus was for the town to not participate in any trick or treating nor endorse a plan. It is known that Revive Church will be hosting a "trunk or treating" while practicing social distancing. Paul Donaldson stated that he had polled the Village Board of Trustees, and at least two members were against encouraging trick or treaters.

Discussion re: Communications Union District., and whether the Town of Poultney should join. A couple of members of the board are fairly familiar with the program, some not so much. Paul Donaldson to get some more information to share with the board.

Paul Donaldson stated that the Poultney Properties appeal (former VEMAS) continues and that the developer has filed motions to limit the amount of participants in the proceedings.

Further discussion re: East Poultney Cemetery project. Terry Williams made a motion to require the town to be the steward of the funds and have them placed in the Jewish Cemetery bank account. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Discussion of receiving a report from Sarah Pelkey and Cecelia Ward re: Economic Development. Paul Donaldson tried to secure the High School gym, but the school is not letting large groups use the facility. Paul Donaldson will try to speak with either the RC Church, or the Young At Heart to use their facilities, or maybe GMC.

Paul Donaldson stated he was advised that the Emerald Ash Borer is been found in West Rutland, and the town should start planning to remove ash trees from ROWs. Steven Handfield will start inventory Ash trees in the ROW. We need to start budgeting for a two-five year game plan to deal with Ash trees.

Paul Donaldson stated he is exploring reviving Internet boosters on Main Street as a project that we may be able to receive some funding for.

**Transact any Other Lawful Business:** Terry Williams asked about enforcing junk yard ordinances around town. He pointed to the Delany parcel and the Walden parcel on Upper Road. Paul Donaldson stated he had drafted a letter to the Delany parcel, and was unaware of the Waldens. Paul Donaldson stated he has concerns with budgetary restraints as there are many parcels with multiple unregistered vehicles that could require enforcement actions.

Someone asked why Fair haven tax bills went up and were concerned the same would happen in Poultney. The issue related to the School Budget in Fair Haven, and not state taxes.

**Health Officer:** None.

**Rutland Regional Planning Commission:** None.

**Executive Session:** None

**Board Orders:** Carol Bunce made a motion to pay board orders. George Miller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:** Terry Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. George Miller seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

s/Paul A. Donaldson