

Poultney Board of Selectmen
Meeting
Monday, June 14, 2021 – 6:30 pm
Poultney Town Hall

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87534604338?pwd=dm9Zd3FXSmxtRUl0WGVDkRoU2d4UT09>

Meeting ID: 875 3460 4338 Passcode: 948329

OR Dial by your location: +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

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Agenda

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Approval of Minutes: 05/24/2021
- 3) Public Comments and Concerns (limit of 15 minutes per topic):
- 4) Road Report:
- 5) Town Manager's Report
 - Bridge #4 – Route 31 / Grove and South Streets
 - Fourth of July Parade
 - Fourth of July Fireworks
 - Bhakta cook out Fourth of July
 - Town Office sign
 - Slate Quarry Park project
 - Transfer of Lily Pond property to be advertised in the paper
 - Proposed revisions to Zoning Bylaws received from Regenerative Holdings
 - Emergency Management Office
 - Governor Scott lifts COVID restrictions
- 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, June 14, 2021 – 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, Ron Kelley, Highway Foreman, Jonas Rosenthal, Shawn Camara, Richard Rupe, Matty Schinski. Larry Sullivan, Mark Flynn (via Zoom), Francis Kinney (via Zoom) , Pat Davenport (via Zoom), Janice Edwards (via Zoom), Susan, Cooler Communities (?), (via Zoom).

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

Approval of Minutes: Carol Bunce made a motion to approve the minutes of May 24, 2021. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Public Comments and Concerns: Sheryl Porrier made a motion to address the Slate Quarry Park Group first. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. Shawn Camara addressed the board regarding materials used for the park, and discussed the different paver options. The park was designed around 4 inches x 8 inches x 2 inches slate pavers. Paul Donaldson pointed out that these pavers are new material, and have never been tested so he has a concern that is shared by Matt Schinski, and Dave Fielder (the wall builder) that using them in the amphitheater may cause water to collect and push against the wall. Shawn Camara stated that if space is left between the pavers the issue of pooling water should be alleviated. Shawn Camara says he needs about 3-5 weeks to finish creating the materials. Some of the pavers are also supposed to be engraved with names of slate quarry companies that have been present in the area throughout history. Discussion regarding the use of 1 inch slate pieces for the walkways. Shawn Camara stated that his contacts in the industry state that 2 inch pavers are the norm. Larry Sullivan and Shawn Camara discussed the importance of the Nautilus in the design. Matt Schinski stated he has never received the design to scale so it is difficult to know what is expected for the design. Matt stated that if he receives a drawing to scale and the correct material he can construct the Nautilus. Shawn stated he would have the materials at the park within 3-5 weeks.

-Jonas Rosenthal presented the board with additional information that is needed for the Young At Heart Senior Center grant. The board needs to adopt a Conflict of Interest Policy. Jonas presented the board with a copy that the Town of Castleton adopted. Paul Donaldson stated that it appeared the policy Castleton adopted mirrors the VLCT template. The board will review and decide if it wants to adopt the policy.

-Mark Flynn presented his concerns about the Route 31 bridge and the lack of access by fire services and ambulances. Paul Donaldson stated that Granville, NY services are on standby/call if there does present any emergencies. Mr. Flynn advised that he had been told that the secretary at the Town Office is telling people that the fire department or the rescue squad will be able to move the barriers if there is an emergency and will cross the bridge. Paul Donaldson stated this is not true and those services will not use the bridge if the State has deemed it unsafe to use. Paul Donaldson will clarify this issue with Neisja Crawford, Secretary/Bookkeeper.

-Francis Kinney brought three issues for the board's consideration: 1. The town should adopt a policy forbidding fire pits within the village limits. 2. Does the town have an ordinance against fireworks in the Village? Paul Donaldson stated the town does issue fireworks permits, but did not and would not issue a permit for a display in the Village. 3. He would like the road crew to address the potholes on Wilson Avenue Extension.

Road Report: Ron Kelley reported the following:

-The new truck is in Westminster, we are waiting for the dump box the truck should be ready for this winter.

-The crew has been ditching on Evergreen Road.

-Ron continues to grade roads.

-There are beavers on DeBonis Quarry Road again. We have been trying to find the beavers and are considering game cameras.

-The crew is finishing up work on Tucker Road and Old Lake Road.

-Thrall Road will be paved the third of fourth week of July. We did receive a Class 2 grant for that project.

-The crew needs to do some work on West Lake Road , and this will possibly be paved this year as well.

Town Managers Report:

-Paul Donaldson advised the board that engineers have designed a plan to repair the Route 31 bridge. The contractor has most of the material needed to complete the project, and believes it will have the rest of the material by tomorrow, June 15, 2021. The State has made a couple comments about the design. Part of the delay is that the engineer is on vacation this week, and will be back to work on Monday. Paul Donaldson stated he has yet to see cost estimates but

the State of Vermont has indicated grant money will be available to assist with the costs. We already received a grant for the engineering work. Once the engineer is back, we hope to wrap up the plan and schedule the work.

-Further discussion re: 4th of July parade. The parade is scheduled to start at noon.

-Raj Bhakta has pledged to host some festivities at the former GMC campus from 1:30 to 3:30PM. There will be a bounce house for children, Enerjazz Band, a magician, and various food vendors. Mr. Bhakta has also offered to donate \$5,000, \$2,500 of which will go towards the fireworks, and the balance to the entertainment. The board discussed the issue of a bounce house for festivities on July 4, 2021, at the former Green Mountain College campus and were opposed to having a bounce house there due to concerns with liability for the same.

-Paul Donaldson showed the board the mock-up of the new Town Office sign. He is still working with Danny Lang on some of the finer particulars of the sign.

-Paul Donaldson stated he still needs to advertise the proposed transfer of the Lily Pond parcel to the VT Sports Federation.

-Paul Donaldson circulated the proposed revisions to the Zoning Bylaws received from Regenerative Holdings re: College Campus Zoning District. The Planning Commission will be discussing the same prior to making recommendations to the Selectboard.

-Discussion re; Emergency Management Office. Terry Williams feels strongly that the town needs to budget funds to implement a proper office to house the Emergency Management team.

-Discussion re: lifting of COVID restrictions by Governor Scott. Discussion as to whether we should continue to require masks for visitors to the Town Office. Terry Williams made a motion that we sign the Town Office as follows: "Wear a mask at your own comfort level. Kindly think of others if you are not fully vaccinated." Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Transact any Other Lawful Business: Further discussion re; continued or discontinued Zoom meetings. Terry Williams made a motion to discontinue having Zoom meetings. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. All in favor of the motion except George Miller opposed the motion. Motion passed.

Carol Bunce requested that the board be provided Expense and Revenue Reports prior to the next Selectboard Meeting.

Health Officer: None.

Rutland Regional Planning Commission: Terry Williams stated there is a TAC meeting tomorrow night.

Executive Session: None.

Board Orders: Terry Williams made a motion to pay board orders. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjournment: George Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sheryl Porrier seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

s/Paul A. Donaldson