

## Meeting Minutes

### Poultney Board of Selectmen

Monday, November 8, 2021 – 6:30 PM

Poultney Town Hall

Jeff King called the meeting to order. Selectmen present included: Jeff King, Terry Williams, Carol Bunce, and Sheryl Porrier. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Mark Teetor, Judy Leech, and Mary Sue Reed.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Terry Williams asked that the proposed Lily Pond property transfer be added to the agenda, Jeff King requested discussion of pavilion binds at Young At Heart be added to the agenda, Carol Bunce requested that discussion of Transfer Station part-time position and holiday schedule be added to the agenda. Carol Bunce made a motion to adopt the agenda with the added items. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Approval of Minutes:** Terry Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of 10/25/2021. CAROL Bunce seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

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

Mary Sue Reed inquired about the timeline to identify ARPA projects. Paul Donaldson stated, as well as Carol Bunce, that it has been difficult to get answers as to what qualifies for ARPA funding in seminars they have attended. The deadline to identify projects is April, 2022. Terry Williams suggested that we work on a “wish list” and then pose that to the authorities that approve funding to see what would qualify and what would not. Jeff King suggested during budget discussions would be the ripe time to discuss potential ARPA projects.

**Road Report:** Paul Donaldson reported the following:

- the new truck should be ready the week of November 15, 2021. Paul Donaldson needs to contact the State to schedule the disabling of the old truck;
- the sand shed is almost full;
- the salt shed is full;
- the crew continues to grade;
- sanders and plows are ready for the winter, with two trucks fitted with salter and sanders;
- Paul Donaldson has prepared the Notice of Reclassification of Pomeroy Place, and proposed a date in December (30-day notice is required). Discussion followed. Because of the winter and days getting shorter, Terry Williams made a motion to table the matter until the Spring of 2022. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

### **Town Managers Report:**

-Paul Donaldson stated that today was the first day of a schedule 3-day trial regarding the Poultney Properties, LLC application for placement of a Dollar General Store. He advised that today the applicant/appellant had two engineers testify as to the Site Plan and Traffic and Pedestrian Safety.

-Paul Donaldson stated that the State negotiators continue to work with several landowners regarding the East Poultney Gorge Bridge. The negotiations need to be wrapped up by November 15, 2021 in order to move forward with construction in 2022, otherwise we are looking at construction in 2023. He has had the town attorney prepare for condemnation, but we are still waiting for clear direction as to who needs to be condemned. Discussion followed.

-Paul Donaldson requested the scheduling of Special Budget Meetings. The dates of 11-15-21 at 4:15PM and 11-29-21 at 4:15PM were decided on. Paul Donaldson to confirm these dates work with Rick LaPierre. Paul Donaldson stated he will provide updated expense and revenue reports to the board this week, and Neisja Crawford is updating the spreadsheets as to insurance premiums and expenses.

-Paul Donaldson stated the Planning Commission is set to meet on November 17, 2021 to put final touches on proposed updated Town Plan, and Mark Teetor confirmed the same will be forwarded to the Selectboard, and set for a public meeting to solicit comments and concerns before the Selectboard will consider the adoption of the same.

-Paul Donaldson stated that the Planning Commission is working on applying for a grant to update the Zoning Bylaws. The grant requires a 10% match, with the maximum amount of \$25,000 for the grant. Discussion followed. Terry Williams made a motion to apply for the Municipal Planning Grant, and allow Jeff King to sign the resolution for the same. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

-Paul Donaldson had circulated a Letter of interest from Mary Sue Reed to join the Planning Commission. Mark Teetor, and Paul Donaldson stated that Ms. Reed has been attending many PC meetings, and has had positive contributions to the discussions. Discussion followed. Terry Williams made a motion to appoint Mary S. Reed to the Planning Commission. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

-Paul Donaldson stated that the Auditor has verified that we can input grants in budget spreadsheets to show as anticipated income as well as expense, so grants won't appear as unanticipated expenses. The Auditor also suggested that we insert match requirements. Discussion followed.

### **Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business:**

-Paul Donaldson stated he was approached about placing Caution Children signs on Hampshire Hollow. He needs to check with VLCT because his memory is that VLCT discourages the town from putting up such signs, but he will check. Discussion followed.

-Terry Williams stated that the current assessed value of the Lily Pond parcel has discouraged the Federation of taking ownership as the tax liability is too high. The suggestion from the

Lister Office is to have the town appeal the assessment next year and then transfer the property if the assessment is reduced to a more palatable number.

-Paul Donaldson stated that Jonas Rosenthal had stopped at the office this morning about the project at the Senior Center, but Paul Donaldson was unable to talk with him as he was in a meeting. Jeff King reiterated that any bids for the project need to be reviewed and approved by the Selectboard.

-Paul Donaldson and Jeff King will discuss with Dan Williams regarding the need for additional help at the transfer station and report back to the board. The crew is working on Veterans Day –a decision they made without speaking to Paul Donaldson and the board.

**Health Officer:** Paul Donaldson stated there is a septic complaint he received today that he needs to investigate and possibly loop in the State.

**Rutland Regional Planning Commission:** Terry Williams stated the following:

-the next meeting is November 16, and the TAC meeting is usually the third Thursday of the month with this month being Thanksgiving, so no meeting this month.

**Executive Session:** At 7:27PM Terry Williams made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters.. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor. At 8:14PM Terry Williams made a motion to leave Executive Session. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor. No action taken.

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

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

s/Paul A. Donaldson