

Poultney Board of Selectmen
Meeting
Monday, February 14, 2022 – 6:30 pm
Poultney Town Hall

Agenda

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Approval of Minutes: 1-24-2022
- 3) Public Comments and Concerns (limit of 15 minutes):
- 4) Road Report:
- 5) Town Manager's Report
 - Public Meeting for proposed updated Town Plan, comments for the Planning Commission
 - Status of Poultney Unified Bylaws updates
 - ARPA funds discussion
 - Informational Meeting – February 28, 2022
- 6) Transact Any Other Lawful Selectboard Business
- 7) Executive Session: Personnel Matters
- 8) Health Officer's Report
- 9) Rutland Regional Planning Commission
- 10) Board Orders
- 11) Adjourn

Meeting Minutes

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Jeff King called the meeting to order. Selectmen present included: Jeff King, Terry Williams, Carol Bunce, Sheryl Porrier and Richard LaPierre. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Ron Kelley, Mark Teetor, Margaret Mug, Carol Stierl, Mary Sue Reed and Tim Loomis. Dale Kerber joined late in the meeting.

Adoption of the Agenda: Terry Williams made a motion to adopt the agenda with items added: Discussion of Regional Dispatch, and setting a date for a Special Meeting prior to the Informational Meeting. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Approval of Minutes: Carol Bunce made a motion to approve the minutes of 1/24/2021. Richard LaPierre seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Public Comments and Concerns:

Tim Loomis questioned why Constable Kerber ticketed snowmobilers parked on Kerber Lane recently during the snowmobile “Free Weekend” which attracts many out-of-town visitors to the area. He believes the vehicles were not blocking the road, yet the tickets were for impeding emergency vehicles. Paul Donaldson stated that Constable Kerber told him that the trucks would be in the way of fire trucks in the event of a fire or if the firetrucks had to access the fire pond. Discussion followed. We will discuss with Constable Kerber, who is out of town tonight. Late in the meeting after the board left executive session, Constable Kerber attended the meeting and reiterated that the travel lane was in fact blocked. Discussion followed. He agreed to dismiss the tickets and ask that the snow club post at the parking lot that vehicles are not to be parked on Kerber Lane but in the parking area, or in overflow parking at Munch’s garage.

Road Report: Ron Kelley reported the following:

- he and Paul filed the Weight Ratings for bridges and roads with the State.
- they have used 352 tons of salt this winter with \$14,000 left in the budget
- half of the sand stock has been used
- equipment is holding up well
- they are rebuilding the teeth on the grader blade
- replaced some boards on the trailer
- discussion on the broken rail on the wooden fence at the East Poultney Cemetery. Sheryl Porrier will arrange for repair to same

- he is waiting for the quote on guardrail repair where someone had an accident recently so we can submit to the driver's insurance
- repair done to the stop sign on Wilson Ave. Ext.
- discussion on the stolen sign on Evergreen Road
- discussion on site visit on Hampshire Hollow Road this spring to see where signage could be improved

Town Managers Report:

-Public Meeting for proposed updated Town Plan, comments for the Planning Commission. Discussion of same, and date set for February 23, 2022 at 4PM.

-Status of Poultney Unified Bylaws updates: Paul Donaldson explained that the Planning Commission has been meeting in an effort to propose changes to the Bylaws regarding the College Campus, and wish to have public hearing on soon, and then forward to the Selectboard for their review and hearings. Paul Donaldson stated that we received a grant to do a more comprehensive update to the Bylaws in the next couple of years. Tim Loomis opined that the Bylaws should be more favorable to commercial development on the Route 30 corridor.

-ARPA funds discussion: Paul Donaldson stated he is trying to get quotes for work to be done at the Town Office, Stonebridge, and for updated computer equipment. The board needs to identify projects for funds in April.

-Informational Meeting – February 28, 2022: Paul Donaldson reminded the board that the meeting will be at the firehouse at 7PM.

-Regional Dispatching: Terry Williams stated that Commissioner Shirling, Dept. of Public Safety, is toying with the idea of making towns pay for dispatch per call. He stated if this is the route they are going to go towns should band together and try to prevent this. Paul Donaldson stated that with the rates being discussed, and based on last year's 9-1-1 calls from Poultney, that would add almost \$70,000 to our budgets. Discussion followed.

-Special Meeting: Discussion about holding another Selectboard meeting prior to 2-28-21. The board agreed to hold a "Special" Meeting on February 23, 2022 at 4PM.

Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business: Paul Donaldson stated that the State of Vermont has earmarked \$190,000 in the 2022-2023 budget to do a scoping study on the Route 31 bridge. He stated the Thrall Road bridge is supposed to start in 2022, but will not be completed until 2023. Discussion followed.

Health Officer: None.

Rutland Regional Planning Commission: Terry Williams stated the following:

-There is no RRPC meeting this month, but there will be a TAC Meeting.

Executive Session: At 7:30PM Terry Williams made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor. At 7:54PM Terry Williams made a motion to leave Executive Session. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor. No action taken.

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

Adjournment: Sheryl Porrier made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Richard LaPierre seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

s/Paul A. Donaldson