

Poultney Board of Selectmen
Meeting
Monday, May 23, 2022 – 6:30 pm
Poultney Town Hall

Agenda

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda
- 2) Approval of Minutes: 5-9-2022
- 3) Public Comments and Concerns (limit of 15 minutes):
 - Nic Stark: branding efforts update
 - Jane Williams: French Drain
- 4) Road Report:
 - Application for Diesel Emissions grant
 - bridge abutment repairs on Lewis Road
 - Culvert repairs re: Route 140 (grant opportunity)
- 5) Town Manager's Report
 - Pomeroy Place visit; reschedule (with rain date?)
 - Hampshire Hollow Road: schedule site visit
 - Quotes for computer equipment
- 6) Transact Any Other Lawful Selectboard 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

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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, Mary Sue Reed, Nic Stark, Margaret Mug, Jane Williams, and Dan Williams.

Adoption of the Agenda: Terry Williams made a motion to adopt the agenda. Richard LaPierre seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Approval of Minutes: Carol Bunce made a motion to approve the minutes of 5-9-2022. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Public Comments and Concerns:

Nic Stark gave a presentation on the Rebranding Effort identified in the RERC Goal 4 Workshop. He collaborated with many stakeholders in town, which provided letters of support for the concept. He also worked with Judy Leech, Castleton Content Lab and Sarah Pelkey. He also spoke with the Slate Quarry Association re: “The Heart of the Slate Valley” and was advised by Craig Markow that he did not see that as a problem slogan from other towns. In the 1930’s Poultney used the slogan “The Heart of the Slate Belt” so there is some precedence for the concept. Discussion followed. Terry Williams made a motion to adopt the proposed branding. Richard LaPierre seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Jame Williams questioned when the town would put in her French Drain that was discussed with Ron Kelley and Paul Donaldson on October 15, 2022. Paul Donaldson stated that the highway crew is quite busy and he cannot commit to when the work will be done without consulting with Ron Kelley. She stated the drain was put in by the town around 1984 and has since failed. Jane Williams questioned whether as part of the Thrall Road bridge project, whether they will put in a temporary foot bridge which she heard was the case. Paul Donaldson and Jeff King advised that that was not part of the scope of work. She asked for the engineered plan that is supposed to go in front of the Ragganet property. Paul Donaldson stated Kim has a copy of the plan that Jane could get.

Dan Williams discussed the bottle drives he is having for different groups in town at the transfer station. Each group is responsible for collecting and returning the bottles. Dan will ask groups to report amounts of money raised to keep track of figures. Discussion on placing tin cans in

the metal bin. Discussion on addressing the crack on the building cement as it is causing trouble opening the door.

Mary Sue Reed asked about where the town is with ARPA fund commitments. Paul Donaldson stated he was going to ask Neisja Crawford for a report, but she had to leave early today. He will get it. Nic Stark would also like a report. He suggested using Trello.

We are working on a Priority List for outstanding matters under the Selectboard's purview.

Road Report: Paul Donaldson reported the following:

- Application for Diesel Emissions grant: Paul and Ron are exploring applying for a grant to replace the 1999 backhoe
- bridge abutment repairs on Lewis Road: We received a permit from ANR to do some bank repairs along the abutments for bridge on Lewis Road. The project is too deep for our machine to reach the road; we will request bids for the work.
- Culvert repairs re: Route 140 (grant opportunity): We have one culvert that needs to be upsized on Route 140 that may be eligible for a grant. Paul is exploring this

Town Managers Report:

-Pomeroy Place visit; reschedule (with rain date?): The board set a date of June 29, 2022 at 4:30PM, and a rain date of June 30, 2022 at 4:30PM for a site visit. Paul Donaldson needs to send certified letters to abutters.

-Hampshire Hollow Road: schedule site visit: The board set a site visit date of June 10, 2022 at 4:15PM for a site visit.

-Quotes for computer equipment: Paul Donaldson is still looking for some clarifications. One vendor had COVID so this caused further delay.

Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business: Terry Williams inquired as to whether the Town should start discussions with Peter Kelley about obtaining a right of way through his farm in the event Bridge 4 closes again unexpectedly. Discussion followed.

Paul Donaldson stated it was time to renew the Rutland Regional Planning Commission Mutual Aid Agreement. Paul Donaldson stated it is the same Agreement we have adopted in the past. He stated that he has been listed as the primary contact and Terry Williams as the secondary contact. Terry Williams made a motion to adopt the Agreement and have Jeff King sign it. Richard LaPierre seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

The board continued its discussion with Margaret Mug in connection with her desire to join the Development Review Board. Paul Donaldson had circulated Ms. Mug's resume to the board. Discussion followed. Carol Bunce made a motion to appoint Margaret Mug to the Development Review Board. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Carol Bunce requested Revenue and Expenditure Reports a week before the next Selectboard Meeting.

Discussion re: moving the speed cart to another location. Paul Donaldson will speak with Dale Kerber.

Health Officer: Paul Donaldson has been dealing with a couple of rental properties and accumulated trash, as well as some social service agencies in an attempt to get the renters to clean up the properties.

Rutland Regional Planning Commission: Terry Williams stated that the last TAC meeting for May had been cancelled.

Executive Session: None.

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

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

s/Paul A. Donaldson