

Poultney Selectboard
Meeting
Monday, August 22, 2022 – 6:30 pm
Poultney Town Hall

Agenda

- 1) Call Meeting To Order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Adoption of the Agenda
- 4) Approval of Minutes: August 8, 2022 Special
- 5) Public Comments on matters (not on the agenda) (limit of 10 minutes)
- 6) Road Report:
- 7) Town Manager's Report
 - Personnel Policy
 - Pomeroy Place Reclassification
 - Signage re: Hampshire Hollow and Finel Hollow
 - Resolution for Senior Center grant
- 8) Transact Any Other Lawful Selectboard Business
- 9) Health Officer's Report
- 10) Rutland Regional Planning Commission
- 11) Board Orders
- 12) Public Comments on matters discussed at this meeting (limit of 5 minutes)
- 13) Executive Session:
- 14) Adjourn

**Meeting Minutes
Poultney Selectboard**

**Monday, August 22, 2022 – 6:30 PM
Poultney Town Hall**

Terry Williams called the meeting to order. Selectmen present included: Terry Williams, Carol Bunce, Sheryl Porrier and Richard LaPierre. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Ronald Kelley, Highway Foreman, Mark Teetor, Mary Sue Reed, Jonas Rosenthal, CB Hall, Kim Carter, Dale Kerber, Lauri Provin and Jane Williams.

Terry Williams called the meeting to order and led the group reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of the Agenda: Richard LaPierre requested that all public comments be moved to right before “Executive Session” on the Agenda and total time allotted shall be 10 minutes. Sheryl Porrier made a motion to adopt the Agenda with that revision. Richard LaPierre seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Approval of Minutes: Carol Bunce made a motion to approve the minutes of August 8, 2022. Richard LaPierre seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Road Report: Ron Kelley reported the following:

-the crew has started the Grants-In-Aid project on Pond Hill Ranch Road. Ron has had a discussion with the O'Rourke family as to what the crew will be doing.

-the crew removed some brush in front of stop signs on Stonehenge Road.

-the crew has been hauling gravel.

-he has solicited 2 bids for winter sand from Stan Martell and Chet McClellan. He will ask one more vendor for a bid.

-he will be back to roadside mowing; we were waiting on a part to repair the wheel on the mower.

-the crew finished Watkins Hill. Al Bacon provided some Danish pastries to the crew.

-Sheryl Porrier mentioned that Michael Mott did weed whacking in front of the East Poultney Cemetery.

-Sheryl Porrier thanked the crew for filling a couple of large potholes on Hampshire Hollow Road.

-we are ahead of the MRGP requirements into 2025.

-the Route 140 detour/Thrall Road detour and Blind Person signs have been installed.

Town Managers Report: Paul Donaldson reported:

-He requested that the board set aside a special meeting to discuss revisions to the Personnel Policy since we were unable to have a quorum at the last meeting. The board reminded Paul Donaldson that they had set a meeting at 6:00PM, Wednesday, September 7 for further discussions on the tax stabilization agreement with Regenerative Land Holdings. The board set a time at 4:30PM on that same date to discuss rewriting the Personnel Policy.

-The board executed the Pomeroy Place Reclassification that Paul Donaldson had previously circulated to members of the board.

-Paul Donaldson stated that the new signs for Hampshire Hollow Road and Finel Hollow Road were in and the crew will be putting them up in the next couple of weeks.

-Sheryl Porrier made a motion to execute the Resolution for the Senior Center grant. Richard LaPierre seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

-Paul Donaldson reported all the Zoom equipment is in, and he hopes to have it installed before the next meeting.

-Paul Donaldson and Ron Kelley met with Bob Chesnut about the draining swale in front of Jane Williams' house. The plan is to present a plan to Jane Williams before the work is done.

-It was reported to Paul Donaldson that the Horace Greeley sign was taken down by the State for repairs; the sign was not stolen.

Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business:

Sheryl Porrier asked Paul Donaldson if the Library has a separate ARPA funding. Paul Donaldson stated that it did.

Health Officer: Paul Donaldson stated that he has been working with a couple of rental units regarding rodent issues and bedbug issues. He also reported that there had been a bear getting into the compost at the transfer station and we have placed a shed there to house the compost bins.

Rutland Regional Planning Commission: Terry Williams stated that there was no summer RRPC meeting and that September 13 is the first annual meeting.

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

Public Comments on matters (limit of 10 minutes total)

Jonas Rosenthal gave an update on the project at the Senior Center. He stated there were some architectural fees that would be paid through the Maslack Fund. We are waiting to have Surface

America install the rubberized track. The pavilion electrical work has been installed. Sheryl Porrier inquired as to whether the entrance would be fixed where water currently pools. Jonas stated the idea was to pave over that area.

CB Hall inquired as to whether there was a plan to plant more trees on the East Poultney Green. He requests that three more benches be placed on the green – 2 repaired by Danny Lang (not sure of the cost) and the Taran Brothers Slate has offered to donate a slate bench. He thanked the board for having the crosswalks painted. He stated there is another effort to place a gazebo on the East Poultney Green.

Dale Kerber reported that the speed card has not been working; he plans to take it apart and try to diagnose the issue.

Mary Sue Reed questioned whether the new benches on the East Poultney Green will be secured. Paul Donaldson said they would not be. The old benches were never secured and there were no issues with people stealing them. The four benches cost just under \$400.00. She cautioned the board to reconsider selling land to the Loomis family particularly at the offer they made. She believes the town should hold onto the land in case it ever needs land for future projects. She also stated that an ANR list had a value of \$27,900 for that property, and the Loomis family only offered \$1,000 per acre so this seems low. She questioned, again, whether the Selectboard will permit people from the public to weigh in on Tax Stabilization Agreement negotiations with Regenerative Land Holdings. Discussion followed. Paul Donaldson stated that the public had voted to authorize the board to negotiate an agreement that will have to be ratified by a special vote. He stated the board will likely have public hearings on the matter prior to a vote.

Jane Williams questioned whether the town should consider taxing Airbnb rentals. Discussion followed. Jane Williams asked about the crosswalk on the corner of Beaman Street and Church Street. Paul Donaldson stated the State required the Village to remove it as it was not ADA complaint with the steps.

Mark Teetor questioned whether the Selectboard had looked at the old bank building to consider moving the town offices there. Paul Donaldson stated the full board did not look at the building but that some members had along with himself.

Executive Session: At 7:18PM Richard LaPierre made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. At 7:58PM Carol Bunce made a motion to leave Executive Session. Richard LaPierre seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

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

s/Paul A. Donaldson

