

Poultney Selectboard
Meeting In-Person and via Zoom
Monday, September 26, 2022 – 6:30 pm
Poultney Town Hall

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83935723883?pwd=QnEvcVVrSkN2OUpCMIFEM0lPTzBjdz09>

Meeting ID: 839 3572 3883
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Agenda

- 1) Call Meeting To Order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Adoption of the Agenda
- 4) Approval of Minutes: September 12, 2022
- 5) Road Report:
- 6) Town Manager's Report
 - East Poultney Bridge construction: October 3, 2022
 - South Poultney Bridge progress report
- 7) Transact Any Other Lawful Selectboard Business
- 8) Health Officer's Report
- 9) Rutland Regional Planning Commission
- 10) Board Orders
- 11) Public Comments (limit of 15 minutes)
- 12) Executive Session: Meeting with Sara Pelkey, Poultney EDC, and Tyler Richardson,
CEDRR re: Tax Stabilization re: Regenerative Land Holdings
- 13) Adjourn

**Meeting Minutes
Poultney Selectboard**

**Monday, September 26, 2022 – 6:30 PM
Poultney Town Hall**

Jeff King called the meeting to order and led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Selectmen present included: Jeff Jing, Terry Williams, Carol Bunce, Sheryl Porrier and Richard LaPierre. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Ronald Kelley, Highway Foreman, Mark Teetor, Fire Chief Aaron Kerber, Bill Jones, Nate Bourn, Jaime and Louis Milazzo, CB Hall, Nic Stark, Margaret Mug, Kim Carter, Mary Sue Reed, Sarah Pelkey, and Tyler Richardson. Attending via Zoom members included Karen Atwood, Alex Arpnia, Alex Hilliard, Andrew Ohl, Ben and Kim Thirkield, Mark and Kim Flynn, Nancy ?, Judy Holcolm, Betty Thomad, and Nan Greer.

Adoption of the Agenda: Carol Bunce made a motion to adopt the Agenda with the addition of Fire Chief Aaron Kerber under “Transact Other Lawful Selectboard Business.” Richard LaPierre seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Approval of Minutes: Carol Bunce made a motion to approve the minutes of September 12, 2022. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Road Report: Ron Kelley reported the following:

- The crew did roadside brush cutting on Gorhamtown Road, and Route 140 towards Finel Hollow Road.
- Grading continues when it is not raining.
- Miller Construction has placed catch nets under the E. Poultney bridge, and are preparing to remove the decking, with plans to san it in pieces.
- We are still waiting to sign a contract for winter sand. Ron had gone to the supplier but he was out sick.
- Signs are up on Hampshire Hollow Road.
- Bridge patching demonstration had been moved to this coming Wednesday at 10AM.
- We have a meeting scheduled with RRPC to go over the Grants In Aid work on Pond Hill so we can close that grant out.

Town Managers Report: Paul Donaldson reported:

- East Poultney Bridge construction has started and the crew is preparing to remove the decking.
- Paul Donaldson spoke with the State of Vermont and VHB re: The South Street bridge. In about 1-2 months the Scoping Report will be finished. At this point, it is sounding like the bridge will be a candidate for rehabilitation as opposed to full replacement. They cannot project the scheduling yet as right of way acquisition will be critical to this timeline. They are still waiting on the hydraulic study as well.

Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business: CB Hall delivered to Paul Donaldson \$360.00 in cash that was collected at the bottle drive at the transfer station for benches, and trees on the East Poultney Green. The Taran brothers also offered some slate benches as well. Danny Lang has offered to repair the old benches, and he suggested new flower barrels be purchased. Paul Donaldson stated that new trees should not be planted under the power lines.

Fire Chief Kerber presented the board with the Captain's Report for year to date. He stated that the air compressor project is completely installed with the assistance of a \$7,500 VLCT grant. The crew has had in service training on the new extraction equipment, and plan to be at the Chili Cook Off to show the public the new equipment. Staffing continues to be an issue although there are upcoming interviews for new staff.

Discussion re: Department's Truck Replacement Plan. The department is ready to buy the next truck in line which is an F550. Discussion regarding the thickness of the steel that we can have on the truck. The cost is a little over \$363,000 which amount should be in the replacement fund. To date that fund should have about \$482,550 in it. Paul Donaldson to confirm that amount. The plan would be to sell the truck that is being replaced with should net between \$20,000 to \$25,000. Discussion followed. Chief Kerber will get more specific specs. on the truck and report back to the board. He would like to put a \$63,270 deposit on the chassis, and there is a 330 day turn-around for delivery. The next large purchase will be 2027, in the cost range of \$650,000 to \$700,000.

The board noted that our next meeting is on a holiday, October 10, 2022. The meeting will be October 17, 2022 instead.

Paul Donaldson advised the board that the Village Board of Trustees would like to meet at 6:30PM on October 20 to discuss the offer of purchase of jointly owned property by Mr. and Mrs. Loomis.

Health Officer: None.

Rutland Regional Planning Commission: Terry Williams stated he was unable to attend the last TAC meeting; the next meeting is this coming Thursday.

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

Public Comments on matters (limit of 10 minutes total)

Jaime Milazzo stated she was concerned to learn that the board may consider moving town offices to the Stonebridge. Her business has been there for 14 years, and has educated 420 students and has a staff of 5-6 people. She circulated a printed statement of all the work she has done to the building over the years, including recent carpet replacement. Terry Williams asked if there was a written lease with Leap Frog, which Paul Donaldson stated to his knowledge there

was never a lease. Mrs. Milazzo stated if her business is displaced she will be closed forever as it would be too much work to reopen. She currently has 130 kids on a waitlist between now and 2026. Jeff King reminded her that the board is only considering it, and if they do decide to move they plan to give her and other tenants in the building a good amount of notice.

Mary Sue Reed noted that Richard LaPierre was not present at the last meeting although the meeting notes indicated otherwise. Paul Donaldson will revise the minutes.

Someone inquired about the progress of the town office sign. Paul Donaldson stated he will be working with Danny Lang to get the new design done.

Mark Teetor asked Jeff King whether the town is considering the old bank building for a new town office. Mr. King stated that some board members and the clerk looked at the building, but we did not feel it would be a good fit.

Mark Flynn asked if the town was looking at other spaces for a new town office. Jeff King stated the board was considering repairs to the current space, looking at the Stonebridge. He stated we would have to get voter approval to purchase anything new. He also stated that the town garage is in need of replacement.

Executive Session: At 7:28PM Richard LaPierre made a motion to enter into Executive Session with Sarah Pelkey and Tyler Richardson from CEDRE to discuss Tax Stabilization Agreement negotiations with Regenerative Land Holdings. Carol Bunce seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. At 8:13PM Richard LaPierre made a motion to leave Executive Session. Terry Williams seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. No action taken.

Adjournment: Terry Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Richard LaPierre seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

s/Paul A. Donaldson