

Poultney Selectboard
Meeting In-Person and via Zoom
Monday, November 13, 2023 – 6:30 pm
Poultney Town Hall

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 839 3572 3883 Passcode: 989910

Or Dial: +1 929 205 6099 US Meeting ID: 839 3572 3883 Passcode: 989910

Agenda

- 1) Call Meeting To Order / Pledge of Allegiance
- 2) Adoption of the Agenda
- 3) Approval of Minutes: 10-23-23, 11-8-23, and 11-9-23
- 4) Road Report
- 5) Community Development
- 6) Town Manager's Report
 - date for Special Budget Meeting
 - East Poultney bridge
- 7) Transact Any Other Lawful Selectboard Business
- 8) Rutland Regional Planning Commission
- 9) Public Comments (limit of 15 minutes)
- 10) Board Orders
- 11) Executive Session: 2 Contract matters; Road Reclassification deliberations
- 12) Adjourn

**Meeting Minutes
Poultney Selectboard**

**Monday, November 13, 2023 – 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 King, Sheryl Porrier and Alan-Glen Burnell. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Joel Roberts, Highway Foreman, Sarah Pelkey, Nic Stark, Kim Carter, Jonathan Andrews, Margaret Mug, and Mary Sue Reed. Attending via Zoom members included Nic Stark, Janice B. Edwards, Karen Atwood, and Idris Atwood.

Adoption of the Agenda: Sheryl Porrier made a motion to adopt the Agenda. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Approval of Minutes: Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to approve the minutes of 10-23-23, 11-8-23 and 11-9-23. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Road Report: Joel Roberts reported the following:

- the crew has all the equipment prepared for winter.
- the crew recently cleaned up the transfer station of the metals, and has stocked the transfer station with winter salt.
- the new truck should arrive the last week of November. It is currently being painted, and will come with a temporary plate. The town will need to insure and register the truck. This truck has a bed chain for road sand in the body and should be able to carry much more materials than our other trucks.
- Joel will run winter chains on the trucks for safety. We go through one to two sets of chains per winter for the costs of \$400 to \$700.
- Further discussion re: four ten hour day work week. The discussion was tabled until December 11, 2023.
- the crew did some ditching on Ferncliff Road. They also cleaned up the turnaround at the end of the road which is on private land (we had permission of the landowner to do this). That work was done with a rented mini-excavator and our own equipment.
- the Watkins Hill Road culvert project should be done late next week. We need to complete this work by end of December of this year for the grant funds we received.

Community Development: Sarah Pelkey reported the following:

- the MPG for the merger study was submitted on 11-1-23. It is an application for \$11,530, with a 10% town match. If we get the grant we hope to submit an RFP in the first quarter of 2024.
- she has been working on the website scope of services proposal. EcoPixel has submitted a proposal. We are considering merging the couple of websites the town has.
- discussion re: recreation website. Jeff King asked if there has been any discussion about bringing the Boys and Girls Club to Poultney. Sara is unaware if there has been but if the town wants to consider it, that would be fine.

-she reminded the board about the Vibrancy Funds that the PDRC received and that the PDRC is looking for a new board member.

-she is working on a VOREC grant application with the Clucking Café, and is asking the board to consider being the sponsor of the application. It is a \$50,000 grant with no match and is to help make the channel on the lake be more accessible via boats, kayaks, etc. Jeremy Jones of the LSCA has helped her with this as well.

Town Managers Report:

-The board set a Special Budget Meeting for 11-20-2023 at 4:30PM.

-Paul Donaldson reported that Miller Construction has targeted the bridge to be passable by Thanksgiving. They will need to come back in the spring to finish some things. Paul Donaldson has been discussing with Miller to have them do the drainage work the Town committed to do for Jane Williams and Kim Ragonnet. Jeff King reminded Paul Donaldson to advise those folks of this plan. Paul Donaldson stated Ms. Ragonnet is aware of this and he will plans advise Jane Williams.

-Lennox Lane discussion:

Alan-Glen Burnell made the following motion: “Pursuant to Title 19 Vermont Statutes Annotated, Section 710, I make a motion that the public good, necessity and convenience of the inhabitants of the Town of Poultney require that Town Highway 67, commonly known as Lennox Lane, shall no longer be a Class 3 road and shall be a Class 4 road as further permitted, and defined in 19 V.S.A., Section 302 (4).” Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Alan-Glen Burnell made the following motion: “I further make a motion that the Poultney Selectboard shall, within 60 days of November 13, 2023, execute, and cause to be recorded, in the Poultney Town Clerk’s Office, a formal Record of Highway Reclassification Proceedings pursuant to Title 19 V.S.A. Section 708 et. seq.”)” Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Alan-Glen Burnell made the following motion: “Notwithstanding the two previous motions, I further move that the Town of Poultney shall continue to provide winter maintenance for the said Lennox Lane, through the winter of 2023-2024 and the spring of 2024, and to explore the possibilities and costs associated with improving the road and turn-around at the top of the road in the springtime of 2024.”)” Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business:

Paul Donaldson presented to the board a beer and wine liquor application submitted to the Town Clerk for the Dollar General location. Johnathan Andrews opined that the town does not need another beer vendor. Discussion followed. Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to approve the application. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Health Officer: None.

Rutland Regional Planning Commission: Sarah Pelkey reported there has been no meeting since the last Selectboard Meeting. The TAC has been discussing a Transportation Resiliency Tool that shows vulnerable roads, bridges, etc. that was developed by VTrans. She will share the same with Joel Roberts.

Public Comments on matters (limit of 10 minutes total)

-Mary Sue Reed inquired about the status of the guardrails at the transfer station. Paul Donaldson stated that Mark Teetor had spoken with Bill Lyle about the estimate. Mr. Lyle has advised that there was a discount proved for the town already. Paul Donaldson suggested we speak with Mark Teetor when he is back to see if he has had any further discussions about the same as well as the ramp at the transfer station.

-Mary Sue Reed asked about the Fairway Lane South Road Reclassification. Paul Donaldson stated the board and the highway foreman had met with the landowners. The Highway Department will continue to plow the road this winter, but will not apply any sand or salt to the road since the truck will be carrying salt and you cannot apply salt to the gravel road. We may revisit this issue in the spring.

Executive Session: At 7:20PM, Alan-Glen Burnell made the following motion: “Pursuant to 1 VSA Section 313(a)(1), I make a motion that this board finds that premature general public knowledge would clearly place this board or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage if certain matters related to contracts were discussed. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. Alan- Glen Burnell further made the following motion: “Pursuant to 1 VSA Section 313(a)(1)(A), I make a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss contract matters.” Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

At 7:43M, Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to leave Executive Session. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. No action taken.

Board Orders: Sheryl Porrier made a motion to pay board orders. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Sheryl Porrier made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

s/Paul A. Donaldson