**Meeting Minutes**

**Poultney Selectboard**

**Monday, March 10, 2025 – 6:30 PM**

**Poultney Town Hall**

**Zoom Recording located here:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/cTy_Jmw27ZOH1fSHOGy92_iMrwsl-u0NizrGAO0ET55mSYHabEM4vWl4HGB2yW-D.pn3r3oRTEU7EcG-t>

Paul Donaldson called the meeting to order and led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Selectmen present included: Jeff King, Sheryl Porrier, Alan-Glen Burnell, Mark Teetor and Valerie Broughton. Others present included Paul A. Donaldson, Joel Roberts, Krista Rupe, Billy Jones, Dan Williams, Carol Bunce, Mary Sue Reed, Michael Kraus and Mia Kraus. Appearing via Zoom: Kerri Monroe and Ellen Siscom.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Mark Teetor made a motion to adopt the Agenda. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mark Teetor made a motion to approve the minutes of 02-24-2025. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. Sheryl Porrier made a motion to approve the minutes of 02-24-25, amended to correct a typographical error to change the age of the Dodge truck discussed in the Road Report from 2021 to 2012. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Nomination and Election of Chair of the Selectboard; Vice-Chair of the Selectboard:** Mark Teetor made a motion to appoint Jeff King Chair of the Selectboard. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. Jeff King made a motion to appoint Sheryl Porrier Vice- Chair of the Selectboard. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Appointments:**

Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to re-appoint Mary Jo Teetor as the Assessor. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Mark Teeotr made a motion to re-appoint Dale Kerber as the Town Constable. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Mark Teetor made a motion to re-appoint Paul Donaldson as the Town Dog Warden/Animal Control Officer. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Sheryl Porrier made a motion to appoint Sarah Pelkey as the Fourth of July Director. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to re-appoint Jaime Lee, Mark Teetor, Douglas Langdon, Mary Sue Reed and Jonathan Andrews to the Planning Commission. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor, with Mark Teetor abstaining.

Valerie Broughton made a motion to -reappoint Sheryl Porrier as the Recreation Director. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to -reappoint Sarah Pelkey to the Recreation Commission. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Mark Teetor made a motion to re-appoint Paul Donaldson as the RCSWD Representative. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Sheryl Porrier made a motion to appoint Sarah Pelkey as the Rutland Regional Planning Commissioner and Paul Donaldson as the Alternant. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Mark Teetor made a motion to appoint Sarah Pelkey as the Rutland Regional Transportation Council and Paul Donaldson as the Alternant. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Mark Teetor made motions to appoint Paul Donaldson as the Tax Collector. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Alan-Glen Burnell made motions to appoint Paul Donaldson as the Town Energy Coordinator. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Sheryl Porrier made motions to appoint Paul Donaldson as the Town Services Officer. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Sheryl Porrier made a motion to appoint Stephens Handfield as the Tree Warden. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Sheryl Porrier made a motion to appoint Mark Teetor as the Otter Creek Communications Union District representative. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor, with Mark Teetor abstaining.

Sheryl Porrier made a motion to appoint Aaron Kerber as the Emergency Management Coordinator. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Sheryl Porrier made a motion to appoint Paul Donaldson as the Emergency Management Director. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Adoption of Notice-Posting Policy/Publishing in the Newspaper:** Discussion re: Lakes Region Free Press being digital now instead of printed. Valerie Broughton made a motion that we continue to post Agendas and Minutes at the Town’s Website, Post Office, Library, Town Office and message board by Toad’s Burgers.. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Mark Teetor made a motion that we publish Notices in the Rutland Herald. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Road Report:** Joel Roberts reported the following:

-The foundation at the highway garage is failing; the crew will keep an eye on it.

-Discussion re: Truck 3, Ram 5500. Joel should order the 2025 Ford F600, at a cost of $69,225 for the chassis, and $85,400 for the up-fit.

-The crew, with the assistance of a private contractor, did some emergency repairs on a failing culvert on Route 140, placing metal plates over the culvert until we are able to replace the culvert, hopefully this spring/summer.

-We have been advertising road closures on VT Alert and the website.

**Community Development:** Sarah Pelkey was not at the meeting.

**Town Managers Report:**

-Discussion re: Regenerative Land Holdings (“RLH”). Paul Donaldson stated again for the record that because RLH has appealed the campus assessment to the VT Superior Court, the Selectboard has decided to put any negotiations on a Tax Stabilization Agreement on hold pending the resolution of that court proceeding.

-Billy Jones, Regional Coordinator for Vermont Emergency Management, presented to the board a DRAFT of the Town’s Local Emergency Management Plan. Discussion followed.

-Paul Donaldson stated he had a phone conference with The State, and the RRPC, and VEM, Sarah Pelkey, and others, about the BRIC project. He stated it appears as though the State will not be ready to proceed to seek funding until further discussions, as well as Cost Benefit Analysis can prove out that changes to the bridge or rail bed have a positive result on relieving flooding during significant rain events.

**Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business:** Mark Teetor made a motion to approve the Liquor License renewals for Shaws. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Paul Donaldson updated the board re: Bhakta dogs, and advised that Title 20 VSA Sections 3741-3747 Had been repealed in 2011. He again advised the public to consider not relying on social media as a source of reliable information.

**Health Officer:**  None.

**Rutland Regional Planning Commission:** Sarah Pelkey was not at the meeting.

**Public Comments on matters (limit of 10 minutes total):**

-Mary Sue Reed thanked Joel Roberts and the road crew on their temporary repairs to the culvert on Route 104. She also pointed out a typographical error on the minutes of 02-24-2025 minutes which were acknowledged and corrected by the board. She asked who is the architect that is consulting on the bankl building. Paul Donaldson stated it was Vermont Integrated Architecture. She asked about the RLH discussion, and Paul Donaldson stated he could send copies of the minutes to reiterate the board’s position.

-Michael Krauss urged the board to put something to the voters about the RLH tax stabilization agreement, and let the voters decide to say yes or no.

-Carol Bunce had questions about the Employee HRA accounts. Paul Donaldson stated he had not had time to sit down with Neisja Crawford to account for the same yet.

**Executive Session:** None.

**Board Orders:** Sheryl Porrier made a motion to approve the board orders. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Adjournment:** Sheryl Porrier made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

s/Paul A. Donaldson