**Meeting Minutes**

**Poultney Selectboard**

**Monday, March 24, 2025 – 6:30 PM**

**Poultney Town Hall**

**Zoom Recording located here:**

[**https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/srZGON\_JoGsB2fwM04pP49g-Wm6OrMUUjsFWxi-BboziTl7F5qPQOaDQ7dgjAjkU.CEKGmyLXVYPcx3Jq**](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/srZGON_JoGsB2fwM04pP49g-Wm6OrMUUjsFWxi-BboziTl7F5qPQOaDQ7dgjAjkU.CEKGmyLXVYPcx3Jq)

Jeff King 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, Sarah Pelkey, Courtney Behnken, Carol Bunce, Mia Krauss, Patty Davenport, Mary Sue Reed, Jonathan Andrews and Greg O’Brien. Appearing via Zoom: Mark and Kim Flynn, NB, Nic Stark, iPhone, Janice B. Edwards, Cathy Ferguson, and Jesse Rose.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Alan -Glen Burnell made a motion to approve the minutes of 03-10-25 with the edit of one typo to reflect the name Ellen Sisco. Valeri Broughton seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

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

-We have ordered the 2025 F600. Joel was able to extend the warranty to start once the truck is upfitted since we will be sitting on the truck for some time before we are able to upfit.

-We have purchased another used boom mower, and Gun Runner will pick up and deliver for free from PA this weekend, pending the weather.

-The steel plate on Route 140 has shifted as little, probably the ground settling, nut we will continue to keep an eye on it.

-Discussion about road cones.

-He thanked the Poultney High School art department for painting the old plow, which is on display in front of the highway garage.

**Community Development:** Sarah Pelkey reported the following:

-The highway garage study was kicked off on 2-25-25.

-The PDRC held a Community Trust meeting/discussion on 2-25-25. There is another meeting scheduled for this Wednesday at 5:30PM.

-The T2T Steering Committee for the ORR grant/potential recreation hub awarded the grant to a company out of Stowe.

-We are working on bringing the Poultney Recreation Website live.

-The MERP projects are in “pre-construction” phase, and seeking project management.

**Town Managers Report:**

-Courtney Behnken and Greg O’Brien presented to the board the progress report of the Slate Valley Trails for 2024/2025, and their continued mission.

-Paul Donaldson presented a proposed contract with the RRPC to conduct a Road Erosion Inventory. Mark Teetor made a motion to approve Paul Donaldson to execute the contract. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

-Paul Donaldson updated the board on the progress of the South Street bridge replacement. It is progressing, the State has agreements with 5 of the 6 impacted landowners for ROW/Easement issues. If all goes well, we should be seeing a temporary bridge this fall. There may be sone lead paint contamination, at the cost of the Town, which we may be facing. Discussion followed. Paul Donaldson is waiting for a memo re: lead paint, and we will continue the discussion. Patty Davenport asked about the historical use of autos to reinforce the riprap in that area. Discussion followed. Paul Donaldson is unaware of that potential issue.

-Paul Donaldson stated that Billy Jones had assisted with updating the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Alan-Glen Burnell made a motion to approve Paul Donaldson to execute the plan. Sheryl Porrier seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

-There are 3 liquor licenses presented to the board: 2 Tenney Brook locations, and the LSCCC. Mark Teetor made a motion to approve the licenses. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

-We will be applying for a Class 2 paving grant to pave Route 140, and On The Green. We are second on the State’s list, so we are hopeful we will get a grant.

**Transact any Other Lawful Selectboard Business:** None.

**Health Officer:** None.

**Rutland Regional Planning Commission:** Sarah Pelkey reported the following:

-The last Tac meeting was 3-18-25. There is a county-wide Selectboard meeting on April9, 2025. Discussion re: Future Land Use districts, Brownfield projects, Congressionally Directed Spending request for the Town Garage.

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

-Patty Davenport inquired about transfer station stickers. She stated that during bottle drives she sees many out-of-staters, Wells, and Hampton residents with yellow bags. Paul Donaldson stated we do our best to issue stickers to only Poultney residents/property owners. She asked where the Town publishes tax sales. Paul Donaldson stated that we publish in the Rutland Herald (previously in the Lakes Region Free Press before they went digital). Discussion followed. We comply with State statues and publish where and when we are required. Discussion also about the South Street bridge and previous use of autos to reinforce the banks of the river.

-Mary Sue Reed asked about the cost of the boom mower, which was $61,000. She asked about the Merger Study/Meetings. Paul Donaldson stated we continue to work with the consultant, and we hope to have another meeting in the near future.

-Mia Krauss commended the Rec. Department for utilizing the internet for allowing people to register for rec. programs over the internet. She also stated that the Poultney Elementary School PE director has incorporating mountain biking into the curriculum. She asked about the GMC development. We have asked Mr. Bhakta for a proposal.

-Jesse Rose inquired about an ordinance or a petition allowing ATVs travelling on town roads. Paul Donaldson suggested he contact the Town Clerk re: proceedings for a petition. He stated the board could put forth an ordinance on its own if they choose to go that direction.

**Executive Session:**

At 7:51PM, Alan-Glen Burnell made the following motion: “Pursuant to ONE V.S.A. 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 and legal matters were discussed outside of an executive session. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

Alan-Glen Burnell further made the following motion: “Pursuant to ONE V.S.A. section 313(a)(1)(A), I make a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss contract matters, and legal matters. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

At 8:44PM, Sheryl Porrier made a motion to leave Executive Session. Valerie Broughton seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor. No action taken.

**Board Orders:** Sheryl Porriermade a motion to approve the board orders. Mark Teetor seconded the motion. Motion passed with all in favor.

**Adjournment:** Sheryl Porrier made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alan-Glen Burnell seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

s/Paul A. Donaldson