

Royalton Selectboard
Royalton Town Clerk's Office

February 21, 2012

Public Present: Chief of Police Bob Hull, Administrative Assistant Nathan Cleveland

Selectboard Present: Larry Trottier, Ernie Amsden, Peggy Ainsworth, Joan Goldstein, Phil Gates

Chairman Larry Trottier opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Excess weight permit application

The Selectboard reviewed an excess weight permit application received from Bethel Mills.

E. Amsden made a motion, P. Ainsworth seconded, to approve the excess weight permit application received from Bethel Mills. The motion passed 4-0.

Public Concerns

Board member J. Goldstein expressed concerns about decorum at public meeting and wanted to know how we could address these types of behavior. Discussion continued on how to address these types of behavior.

P. Ainsworth moved that during public concern agenda item individuals are limited to 10 minutes and if more time is needed then an appointment must be made with the Administrative Assistant with specific request in writing with the action that they wish the Selectboard to take. Discussion continued. It was noted by Administrative Assistant N. Cleveland that a point of order can be made to keep the discussion focused on the particular agenda item being discussed. He also noted that the Selectboard has adopted a policy concerning the way that public concerns are handled. The Selectboard policy, as adopted on March, 8, 2011 is as follows:

Selectboard Meeting Public Concern Policy

“It is the policy of the Royalton Selectboard, in an effort to maintain a productive and factual meeting, to limit discussion on public concern agenda items to ten (10) minutes per person. Should a resident or interested party seek immediate action on a subject, information requesting the action must be submitted to the Royalton Selectboard's Administrative Assistant by the Wednesday preceding the regular scheduled Selectboard meeting.”

It was also noted that members of the public and interested parties are only permitted to speak during the public concerns agenda item, during a public hearing, or, when recognized by the Chair, during consideration of a specific agenda item. The public will not be permitted to participate when a motion is being discussed, except when specifically requested by the Chair.

Liquor License Renewal and Tobacco License Renewal Application – Cornerstop Mini Mart

The Selectboard reviewed a liquor license renewal and tobacco license renewal application received from the Cornerstop minimart.

E. Amsden moved, P. Ainsworth seconded, to approve the renewal of the Cornerstop Minimart liquor license renewal and tobacco license renewal applications. The motion passed 4-0.

Pre-Town Meeting Agenda

Bullet points – increase in budgets, taxes to be raised, asbestos report, ECS, Gravel report, sight distance at Crawford entrance, renovation estimates, hope property – expected sale price (amount that is not being raised due to the lack of tax income, what have we missed in revenue), what is the capital reserve fund balance?, income from gravel payments, gravel estimates from AC Engineers to Phil, Gilman Road expenses to date

Additional Business

Administrative Assistant N. Cleveland requested that the Selectboard approve the authorization of loan program that would allow employees to use retirement funds to finance a loan of not more than 50% of the total funds in the employees retirement fund. The loan is paid back through contributions. No action was taken.

Administrative Assistant N. Cleveland requested that the Selectboard take action on the proposed bid documents for the reconstruction of the Carpenter Recreation Field.

P. Gates moved, E. Amsden seconded, to move forward with the bid process for the reconstruction of the Carpenter Recreation Field. The motion passed 4-0.

At approximately 9:20 p.m. the electricity was lost.

Response to public concerns raised at February 14, 2012 Selectboard meeting

The Selectboard discussed the concerns raised at the previous meeting and noted that concerns with illegal dumping were reported to the state of Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, and an environmental enforcement officer investigated the claims and that the findings could be provided by contacting the environmental enforcement officer. Concerns with junk vehicles are addressed through the State of Vermont's statute concerning salvage yards (24 V.S.A. § 2441 – 2283) accordingly only 3 "junk vehicles" are permitted on private property. Concerns with trash in junk vehicles cannot be address by the Selectboard or the town health officer unless it can be determined that there is a specific "public health hazard". The concern that a fence was knocked over due to snow removal was addressed a year ago and the fence was found to be in the town's right of way. Concerns with a property boundary marker being covered by maintenance activities will be difficult to address as the alleged incident occurred over 6 years ago. The Selectboard noted that a board member had volunteered to set a new pin or help find the one covered up. The board agreed that they would not pay for a new survey to be completed. Concern with driveways installed without permits; the Selectboard asked for specific information so that appropriate action could be taken on non-conforming driveways. The final concern is a civil matter that the Selectboard will not be able to take action on.

Revolving Loan Fund Committee

Board member and Selectboard representative to the Royalton Revolving Loan Fund Committee reported that a loan needed to be discussed.

J. Goldstein moved, P. Gates seconded, to enter executive session to discuss a revolving loan fund contract. The motion passed 4-0.

Entered executive session at 9:27 p.m.

Exited executive session at 9:34 p.m. with no action taken (PA/JG passed 4-0)

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Nathan P. Cleveland