

Pre-Town Meeting
Royalton Selectboard and Royalton School Board
Royalton Academy Building

February 28, 2012

Royalton Selectboard: Chairman Larry Trottier, Ernie Amsden, Peggy Ainsworth, Joan Goldstein, and Phil Gates

School Board Members: Chairman Frank Berk, Tim Murphy, Tom “Geo” Honigford, Christine Hudson, and Daphne Moritz

Town Moderator David Ainsworth welcomed the audience to the meeting and stated that he would be moderating the meeting.

Mr. Ainsworth began discussion on the articles on the warning for the 2012 annual Town Meeting.

Article 3- Appropriation requests from Royalton organizations. Corrine Ingraham noted that the rescue squad would be making a motion to reduce the requested amount at the town meeting.

Article 8 – Question to purchase land on Gilman road for a price not to exceed \$50,000. Admin Assistant Nathan Cleveland reported on past expenses to the road and the estimated cost of two repair options (either relocate and build a new road or replacement of the road in its current location).

Article 9 – Sell property “hope”

Chairman Larry Trottier introduce Mr. Joseph Andriano, an attorney with Frank Berk’s law office who was asked to review the article as written. Mr. Andriano reported on the Vermont statute VSA 23 § 1061 which governs how a town may sell property. The legal opinion and recommendation is that as the article is written the article is not sufficient and would not be binding as there would need to be a buyer and selling price stated. Currently the town does not have either of these requirements. Mr. Andriano recommend that a motion be made that is known as an objection to the consideration of the question be made at town meeting. Discussion continued on the potential sale of the “Hope property” and the potential purchase the former “Crawford Autoland property”.

Conclude with discussion on Article 1 (election of officers) it was noted that there is one contested officer (school board member for 2 years). Laurie Smith a candidate for the School Board member introduced herself and presented her background. Frank Berk, Chairman of the School Board, noted that the other candidate for the School Board member is Grady George, who has 4 children in the school system. Carmen Bascom, candidate for Town Clerk introduced herself and noted that she has served as a Justice of the Peace. The Selectboard town meeting discussion was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

School Board Town Meeting Discussion ensued at 8:43 p.m. Chairman Frank Berk thanked outgoing School Board member Daphne Moritz for her years of service to the school and town. He also reported that a new Principal has been hired.

Chairman Frank Berk opened discussion on Article 4 – asking to transfer a sum not to exceed \$50,000 to the building reserve. Discussion ensued on the repairs to the School as a result of the flooding caused by Tropical Storm Irene.

Article 3 – Discussion ensued on the proposed budget. School Board member Geo Honigford discussed the role of the Supervisory Union with the management of the Royalton School District.

The School District portion of the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Chairman Larry Trottier called the Regular Selectboard meeting to order at 9:10

Selectboard Minutes of February 14, and February 21, 2012

Peg/Joan 2/14/12 as amended Phil/Peg 2/21/12 as amended. Passed.

Public Concerns

The Selectboard read a letter from Town Clerk Leanna Zick concerning voter registration. The Selectboard discussed the letter and Chief of Police Robert Hull noted that director of voting at the Vermont Secretary of State office directed Chief Hull that there is no action that could be taken. The Selectboard took no action on the letter concerning voter registration. It was noted that the BCA should review the voter check list to ensure that the new registered voters are valid.

Retirement Plan

The Selectboard discussed a loan implementation program for the town employee's retirement plan. **L. Trottier made a motion, P. Ainsworth seconded, to implement the retirement loan program. The motion passed unanimously.**

Overweight Permits

The Selectboard reviewed overweight applications received from Gurney Brothers Construction Inc., Newport sand and Gravel Co., Inc. (Carroll Concrete), Pike Industries, and LE Weed & sons. **J. Goldstein made a motion, P. Ainsworth seconded, to approve the excess weight permit applications received from Newport Sand and Gravel Co., Inc, Pike Industries, LE Weed & Sons, and Gurney Brothers Construction Inc. with a restriction of 2 axle trucks being limited to 40,000 lbs. The motion passed unanimously.**

Liquor License Renewal Application (Green Grape/Cross Roads, and RB's Delicatessen)

J. Goldstein made a motion, P. Gates seconded, to approve the liquor license and tobacco license renewal applications for green Grape Inc., and RB's Delicatessen. The motion passed unanimously.

Sewer Permit Application

The Selectboard acknowledge receipt of a permit application for proposed development on North Street. The permit application was sent to the Sewer operator for review and the application will be on the agenda at the next regular Selectboard meeting (March 13, 2012).

Town Clerk

Agreed to recognize outgoing Town Clerk Leanna Zick for her service as Assistant Clerk and Clerk (7 years)

Accounts Payable and Payroll

Selectboard reviewed and approved the accounts payable and payroll vouchers as prepared by the Town Treasurer.

Adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Nathan P. Cleveland