

**Royalton Selectboard
Meeting Minutes
March 26, 2013**

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

Public Present: Walter Hastings, Frank Berk, Sandy Manouvolos, Jeff Tucker from Dubois and King, Chief Bob Hull, Noel Cirisian, Stuart Levasseur, Finance and Administration Manager Rose Hemond

Chairman Larry Trotter called the Selectboard Meeting to order at 7pm

Committee Appointment of Frank Lamson: P Gates motioned and E. seconded to appoint Frank Lamson as Tree Warden Motion passed 3-0

Approval of a Guide sign on 1-89 for the Joseph P Smith Memorial.

Joseph P Smith Memorial requested approval from the Royalton Selectboard to place a sign on south bound I-89 exit 3. Phil expressed concern about tour busses and large campers fitting through the 12'1" underpass. **P Gates made a motion to deny approval of the sign because of the issues with the underpass. E Amsden seconded. Motion passed 3-0 to deny approval for sign on I-89 for the Joseph P Smith Memorial sign.**

Larry spoke of a call he received from Carol Hodgen who would like to ride her horses on the Bloss Ballou Road. She asked the town to cut the brush on the road. Larry informed Carol that she needs to come to the Selectboard meeting to make the request. Larry would inform Carol that she could look at the road survey found at the town Clerks office.

Randy Leavitt emailed the Selectboard Office about putting up guard rails on Broad Brook Road in front of Bella Machree Farms. Discussion ensued The Selectboard determined it is not possible to install guard rails at that location.

Approve the Meeting Minutes for 02/26/13 Motion made by P. Gates seconded by P Ainsworth to approve meeting minutes for 02/26/13 Motion passed 3-0

Charter Business phone and internet: Rose contacted several phone and internet carriers. She reported that Charter came through with the best pricing for internet and phone service. **P.Gates motioned and E Amsden seconded. Motion passed 3-0 to have Charter Business as the town's phone and internet vendor.**

Vermont Law School request to use the Town Green on Saturday May 18, 2013 for the Vermont Law School commencement. **P. Ainsworth motioned and P. Gates seconded. Motion passed 3-0 to allow use of the green by VLS**

Request to use town bandstand for a wedding on 04/20/13 late afternoon. P Gates motioned E Amsden seconded. Motion passed 3-0 to approve use of bandstand for wedding

Cigarette butt receptacle by Royalton Library. The town could attach a receptacle to the phone pole and pay for it out of the Community Betterment Fund. **P Gates motioned to attached something to the telephone pole E Amsden seconded Motion passed 3-0**

Larry welcomed Jeff Tucker President of Dubois and King to the meeting. Jeff discussed the FEMA project Parley Farm Road. Parley Farm Road plans are almost completed. D&K are awaiting a permit from the Army Corp of Engineers. There is a lot more stone that is needed for this project than originally estimated. There is \$292K allotted from FEMA and Jeff said with the added materials, it will push the cost up to \$500K. Jeff informed Ben Rose from the Vermont Emergency Management Division about the increase in materials needed for this project. Ben did not think it would be a problem since it was approved as a large project. As long as the town stays within the scope of the original project, FEMA should approve the cost of the increased amount of materials to use for Parley Farm Road. Jeff wants to get this in writing from the state.

Jeff went on to speak about the status of the Fox Stand Bridge. A bridge inspection by VTrans reported that the Fox Stand Bridge has 8-10 years of useful life left as is. It may be a rehab project unless the town pushes for a replacement. Jeff is advising the town to continue with already approved FEMA project. Johnson Hill Culvert will be put out to bid for summer 2013

Larry welcomed Walter Hastings. Walter presented a memo from Nate Cleveland, the former Flood Plain administrator discussing a fee for Royalton Flood Plain permits. It was never discussed with the Selectboard. Larry advised Walter to with the Flood Plain Commission and determine a rate for the permit. Walter also created a Royalton Flood Plain Permit.

Walter also spoke about the proposed Royalton Town Offices. He expressed his opinion in regards to building on the Hope property as oppose to the Crawford Property.

Discussion of the CAP for the Crawford Property. The potential costs of the clean up of the Crawford Property is \$285K. There may be petro funds available for immediate clean up or the town may have to wait until September 2013. The state would like a week to review the ECS report. Larry said we need to purchase the Crawford Property so the town can start extracting gravel. Phil would like to move forward with the purchase of the Crawford Property. Peggy said regardless of the town office building, we need to purchase the property and start extracting gravel. Larry asked Frank Berk about his opinion. Frank thought the land purchase was good decision. Larry said the primary reason for the purchase is the town's need of gravel for its roads. Frank also mentioned the town needed to purchase the land to be able to apply for clean up funds.

Roger McGill's brought up that we need to apply for Act 250 before gravel can be extracted. Larry agreed we need to start the process. It will take up to 60 days. The ACT 250 application should be only for the gravel. (Less than 10 acres) Larry outlined how the Crawford Property was to be paid for from various funds from the General Fund. Sarnoff Property \$63,325.00, Community Betterment Fund,\$77,253.00 Capital Improvement Fund, \$246,122.00 Revolving Loan Fund \$113,300.00 only revolving loan fund to be paid back within 5 years. If there was extra money to be for fees and closing costs they could be taken out of the Revolving Loan Fund.

Larry said he spoke with Town Treasurer Theresa Harrington and she said it was acceptable to use the revolving loan funds for the land purchase. Ernie said it is a matter of principal with him and he felt the Selectboard should not use the revolving loan funds for purchase of this land. Larry thanked Ernie for his opinion.

P. Ainsworth motioned, P. Gates seconded Ernie wanted to go on record to say he not opposing the purchase of the Crawford Property but that he opposed using the revolving Loan Funds. Motion passed 2-1.

Sandy Manouvolos asked if the town was going to sell the Hope Property and Larry reminded her town voted that the Selectboard should not ask to sell the Hope Property. Sandy had some questions about changing the school budget meeting to the same day as Town Meeting. She was advised to attend the next school board meeting.

Excessive Weight Permits Rock of Ages Jonathan Beebe, United Natural Foods, G.W. Tatro Construction,, Blaktop Inc.,, New England Quality Services, NOËL Eastman Excavation, Romano Trucking Inc.,, Bethel Mills, Harvey Plumbing, Terry Rogers, Barrett Trucking Company, Cardinal Logistics, Arthur Whitcomb,Hartigen Company
Rejected New England Quality Services weights are too high for the axles. And Hartigan Company did not include weight requests on the permit application. Amended Harvey Plumbing weight requests to 45,000lbs. **Out of 15 weight permits rejected 2 and amended P. Ainsworth motioned to approve 13 of the 15 overweight permits and E Amsden seconded Motion passed 3-0**

Liquor License Renewal Ground Hog Restaurant 5 Olde Tavern and First Class Restaurant AKA Fitz Vogt Enterprises **E. Amsden motioned and P.Ainsworth seconded to approve the liquor licenses. Motioned passed 3-0**

The Selectboard reviewed and approved Accounts Payable and Payroll as prepared by the Town Treasurer.

Review Wastewater Reports Phil Gates reported on the status of Royalton Wastewater. He spoke of various repairs and maintenance to the facility. He spoke of the problem with poor aeration due to the cold weather. He spoke of the difficulty, because of the cold weather, to meet the required Biochemical Oxygen Demand levels. He is going to speak to the engineers about the final report on the new rate structures. If the Wastewater is not going to have a bond vote for the upgrades then the money that the facility has set aside needs to be applied to work that needs to be done on Lagoon 2 to remove the sludge. Discussion on rate structure change may change the outlook. How some of these repairs and upgrades can be paid for.

Review of Contested parking ticket from Cassandra Talbert. Selectboard read through the letter from Ms Talbert. **P Gates motioned that the ticket stands P.Ainsworth seconded. Motion pass 3-0**

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Rose Hemond