

Town of Royalton
Regular Selectboard Meeting
Selectboard Office

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

Royalton Selectboard: Chairman Larry Trottier, Phil Gates, and Ernie Amsden
Royalton Selectboard late arrival Joan Goldstein (9:09pm)
Royalton Selectboard absence: Peggy Ainsworth

Public present: Rose Hemond, Roger McCrillis, Walter Hastings, Dave Whitney,
Gary Demara, Carol Flint, Jason Flint, Frank Berk, Noel Cirisian, Gidget Lyman, Stuart Levasseur,
Jo Levasseur, Jeff Barcelow, Chief Bob Hull, Dave Palmer, Joni Lyman

Chairman Trottier opened the Regular Selectboard Meeting at 7:00pm

Approval of Selectboard Meeting Minutes for 01/08/13

E. Amsden motion, P Gates seconded (with correction) Motion to approve meeting minutes passed 2-0

Contested Parking Tickets Charlie Painsi wrote a letter and requested to do community service in lieu of paying \$50.00 parking ticket. P. Gates motioned to offer work to Mr. Painsi at the Town Clerks Office
L. Trottier seconded motion. One abstention

Motion passed 2-0 E. Amsden abstained

Emma Kimball contested parking ticket. Parking ticket reviewed. No action taken.

Chairman Trottier welcomed Dave Palmer from the Royalton Rescue Squad to the meeting. Dave presented the Selectboard with copies of financial documents pertaining to the Royalton Rescue Squad. The Selectboard reviewed the documentation. There were some questions about debt and Joni Lyman reported that the loan on the ambulance was their largest debt and there was some small due to from accounts as well. Joni reported that she is in the process of extracting the Royalton Rescue Squad accounts from Royalton Fire Dept. Currently they are combined in the same accounts. Rose Hemond inquired if the bank reconciliations were current and the terms of the loan on the ambulance. Joni responded that bank reconciliations are current and Joni also provided a copy of the ambulance loan.

Chairman Trottier asked who would like to speak about the intentions of the Rescue Squad in regards to the town. Dave Palmer, who is the current manager of the Royalton Rescue Squad, spoke of the current governance of the Rescue Squad under the Water district is a pressing issue. He expressed long term financial stability is what they are looking for. Larry referred to the increase in the rescue Squads appropriation request for the FY 13/14. He said it will be the townspeople who vote on the appropriation on town meeting day. Larry expressed how difficult it is to continue to ask the Royalton taxpayers for more money each year. One of the possibilities to be explored will include working with another rescue company. Larry requested the Rescue Squad to present more accurate financials so the Selectboard can be better informed in regards to the whole undertaking. P.Gates asked about the need to provide housing for the Rescue Squad. Dave agreed that would be the goal.

Larry expressed making room for the Rescue Squad at Crawford Property. Rose asked how much of the VLS donation goes to the Rescue Squad, Joni reported none of it. Rose also asked about the funds raised from the Fire and Rescue not for profit. Would the Rescue Squad still be entitled to some of these funds? Dave Whitney reported that those funds are from fundraising and the association decides what to do with those funds. Only if the association decides to give it to the Rescue Squad will they receive any monies. Larry expressed all the

many concerns that need to be looked into prior to making any decisions. He said there is not enough time prior to town meeting to discuss this possibility. Should be discussed at Town Meeting.

Larry thanked everyone for attending.

JoJo Levasseur Chair of the Planning Commission asked the Selectboard if the Planning Commission can run an ad in the Herald for a note taker. Ernie said permission was not necessary since it is in the budget. Ernie appreciated JoJo asking and thanked her for coming in.

JoJo also informed the Selectboard that the Planning Commission currently has a 9 member board. Two people would like to take interim positions. Bushrod Powers will accept a 1 year interim term and Bob Slattery will accept a 2 year interim term. She said this would be more efficient. All 3 year terms are staggered. Every year appoint 3 members.

P. Gates motioned to appoint 2 people to interim Planning Commission terms E Amsden seconded. Motion Pass 2-0 to accept interim terms for Planning Commission.

David Laurin Architect presented E.F Wall's pricing on renovating the Crawford Building. Renovation and new construction presented in a detailed estimate. To renovate the existing structure would cost approximately \$1.5 million. New construction would cost just under 2 million. There is value in the existing structure.

Larry had some questions in regards to the estimate. Construction Testing, Building Codes require soil compaction tests. Test concrete and steel according to Vermont Building codes. Building permit through state of Vermont based on value of project.

Utility charges going into the building. Storage and moving estimates as well. Larry said they were not thinking of renovating the entire building, but perhaps the consideration of including the Rescue Squad in this building.

There may be room for bunks David mentioned these are future structure dollars. Discussion ensued about what will be done to the existing structure to fortify and modernize the structure. And to make room for the rescue Squad.

Asked David to recognize floor plan for include bunks for the 2 on duty rescue Squad Larry invited Chief Hull to the discussion about the layout of the renovated building how to modify the police dept area for the rescue Squad. Jeff Barcelow discussed the presented floor plan Mentioned that an upstairs would accommodate a bed and bathroom. He presented some of his own modifications to the existing floor plan.

Larry thanked Jeff for his suggestions and ideas.

The facility will be a municipal center that will serve the town for many years.

Larry told Dave Laurin he did a fine job and now we will present this at Town Meeting.

Chief Hull reported meeting with the Sharon School Board about Royalton Staffing a Resource Officer for the Sharon Elementary School. This officer would patrol around the school grounds and town offices. Most of the time the officer would be located at the school. Chief Hull reported that the Royalton Police department is not interested in staffing this position for Sharon.

Setting the Royalton Sewer Rate. Phil Gates reported that he and the town Treasurer Theresa Harrington discussed the current sewer billing. July through December 2012 Gallonage was off from the previous six month billing, and set budget is \$68,000. Gallons used 3,723,416. The sewer rate is \$1.84 per 100 gallons rate (was at \$1.55) Meter readings 80% of budget is fixed and when usage is down costs per gallon go up.

Ask Theresa to put note in the billing to let customers know that usage is down but fixed costs remain the same. Discussed study on restructuring the sewer billing. Phil expressed not liking the rate but unable to cut the budget enough to make a difference. Larry mentioned with the current sewer bill would help customers understand why the rate has gone up. P Gates mentioned replacing manhole cover would eliminate the evaporation. **E. Amsden motioned to set sewer rate at \$1.84 per 100 gallons**

L. Trottier seconded the motion. Motion passed to set sewer rate at \$1.84 per 100 gallons.

Motion passed 2-0 One abstention

Request to serve alcohol on 02/07/13 Williams Lecture Dinner at the VLS Chase Center. E Amsden discussed the necessity to serve alcohol at an event to have a good time. He feels by approving such requests, the Selectboard is condoning such activities. He stated it is a moral issue. Chief Hull mentioned that that VLS should inform the town of such events and if they are going to have many in attendance that perhaps they should have some police presence. E. Amsden asked who will patrol after the party. **P. Gates motion to approve the request. L Trottier seconded. Motion passed 2-0 E. Amsden opposed.**

Set the FY 13/14 Budgets L Trottier said further review was not necessary. The Selectboard took a great deal of time creating and reviewing the FY 13/14 budgets. L Trotter said the townspeople will let the Selectboard know if there are any issues with the budget. **E. Amsden motioned to approve the FY 13/14 budgets as presented P.Gates seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0 FY 13/14 Budget is set for Town Report.**

Academy Building Repairs. Chris Clark (Royalton Academy building Manager) submitted a list of repairs for the Academy Building Ernie suggested the building manager present the Selectboard with estimates for the work that needs to be done. Rose will contact Chris and ask for this information.

Handicap Parking signs Discussion ensued about the handicap parking signs on Chelsea Street and handicap parking spots in front of the businesses on Chelsea Street. Roger McCrillis expressed concern about the condition of the handicap parking spots. Chief Hull mentioned putting a sign around the corner from Sherries Headquarters on the side where the Thrift store is located around from Sherries Headquarters. Roger checked to see if there was a handicap signed across the street. Put one sign on the corner of Chelsea Street by the Freck building and the other around the corner from Sherries Headquarters.

Logging on class 4 Road Roger told the Selectboard about a logger who wants to use the Otto Merrill for logging. Will grate and fix road when done Alan Turner is the Forester. Bring logs onto Otto Merrill to Frary road. Any class 4 Need E Amsden motion to allow logging operation fix road when done. P. Gates seconded. Motion passes to allow 2-0

Gidget Lyman addressed the Selectboard Disaster Lan training. Gidget will work with Rose Hemond to set up this training. L Trottier will see no problem with that. Computer based sight get supplies and such during Gidget will be taking a course.

Frank Berk discussed with the Selectboard that Fire and Rescue was looking into getting more financial information. The problem with the Fire and Rescue is there financial information is combined with the Fire Department. Frank needs to review bylaws. All assets are combined at this point. The rescue Squad needs to determine how to extract all the financial information from the lire Department. The need to be removed from the Fire and Rescue Corporation. They do have 990's Need to review by laws. Rochester and Granville are going through that. Dr Minsinger would be someone to consult in regards to the Town taking over the Royalton rescue Squad\

Frank spoke to Keith Grimes taking over the Branvhview Cemetery. Need to dissolve the association and then the town gets deed the property? Cemetery is up on Rt 110. They have money in the Trust Fund. Deed property over to town. 17 different pieces in that area. Each plot is a separate piece. Need to check each owner. Get a deed when you buy a lot. Deeded to person that owns it. Every person buried in the Cemetery. L Trottier asked to have the area surveyed. Title work need to be done.

L Trottier requested executive session 9:24pm
Exited Executive Session 10:05 No action Taken
Respectfully submitted by:
Rose Hemond