

**Town of Royalton
Royalton Selectboard Regular Meeting
June 14, 2016 7:00pm
Town Office on Route 14**

Royalton Selectboard: Larry Trottier, Peggy Ainsworth, Sandy Conrad, Phil Gates

Regrets: Joan Goldstein

Town Staff: Administration and Finance Manager: Rose Hemond, Chief Jim Beraldi

Planning Commission Tim Dreisbach, Beth Willhite

Public Present: Jojo Levasseur, Kirby Craven, Lois Craven, Annette Ruotlo, Jennifer Stratton, Jessica Carpenter, Jud Arbuiso, Paula Clark, Frederick Swett, Tammy Blakeney, Paige Ballantine, Eliza Mabey, Chris Mabey, Laurie Smith, Sara Ballantine, Todd Ballantine, Tyler Ballantine, Paige Ballantine

Royalton Selectboard Chairman Larry Trottier opened the meeting at 7pm

Walter Hastings Royalton Flood Plain Issues: Walter discussed a flood plain violation, and informed the Selectboard he did as much as he could. He needs to find out what the fine is.

Resignation from the Royalton Planning Committee: P. Ainsworth motioned and P. Gates seconded to accept Ashton Roberts's resignation from the Royalton Planning Commission. They wished her well at her new job in Alaska. Motion passed 3-0.

Request to place Bench on Carpenter Field: The Selectboard was informed that Patsy Winters would like to donate a granite bench at Carpenter Field to honor her son Jake who played soccer there. Peggy asked if the Recreation Committee will write a thank you letter to Patsy. This will be suggested to the Recreation Committee Chairperson.

Request to Use South Royalton Green: P. Gates motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded to approve use of the South Royalton Green after 2pm on 08/06/2016 for a retirement gathering for Frank Lamson hosted by Royalton Health Center. Motion passed 3-0

Excess Weight Permit: P. Ainsworth motioned and P. Gates seconded to approve Harvey Ballou Excess Weight permit Motion passed 3-0

V Trans Paving Grant Paving on Broad Brook Road: The Town of Royalton was awarded a \$43,785.00 grant to pave a portion of Broad Brook Road. P. Gates motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded to sign the grant agreement. Motion passed 3-0.

Bids for FY 15/16 Auditing Services: The Selectboard previously reviewed bids for auditing services. P. Gates motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded to hire the CPA firm of Fothergill, Segale and Valley to do the towns FY 15/16 audit for \$17,000.00. Motion passed 3-0.

USDA Grant/Loan Documents: The Town of Royalton was awarded an \$834,375.00 grant and a loan in the amount of \$1,106,000 from the USDA for the Royalton Wastewater Refurbishment Project. P. Ainsworth motioned and S. Conrad seconded to approve the loan resolution for the \$1,106,000.00 USDA Loan and authorize Larry Trottier to sign all loan and grant documents on behalf of the Town of Royalton. Motion passed 3-0

Royalton Wastewater Proposals: The town sent out RFP's for Wastewater Facility Services and are currently awaiting responses. Sandy asked for permission to advertise for a Wastewater Operator in an attempt to save the system users \$20K-\$30K a year. The current contract with SOS is over \$63,000.00 a year, for 22 hours of service a week. The Royalton Wastewater Facility is a Grade 1 Domestic facility and only requires its operator to be licensed as such. The Selectboard agreed the position should be advertised.

Chief Jim Beraldi: Residents from Trescott Lane discussed with the Selectboard an animal problem involving a neighbor and his pigs. There are pigs and pig waste on the property that are a nuisance and pose a health hazard in regards to their water supply. The smell is interfering with their quality of life. The neighbors expressed frustration in the lack of response in regards to this matter, The Selectboard will consult with an attorney to see what authority they have in regards to what is deemed a public nuisance. The State of Vermont is monitoring the situation. It was recommended they contact their public officials and write letters to let others know what is going on

Monthly Report to the Selectboard: Chief Beraldi presented and discussed a police log of activity for the month of May 2016.

Expense submission: Chief Beraldi presented some equipment expense requests to the Selectboard. He also discussed the need for another new vehicle for the police department. He presented leasing options to the Selectboard. The Selectboard will consider this request.

Laurie Smith discussed SADD's previous request for smoking ban on the South Royalton Green, Carpenter Field, and Hope Field. Laurie presented a letter of support from the Royalton Recreation Commission to the Selectboard. **S. Conrad motioned and Larry Trottier seconded to ban smoking on South Royalton Green, Carpenter Field, and Hope Field. Motion did not pass 2 against -1 in favor.**

Recreational Facilities Grant Commitment of Funds. P. Gates motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded to commit \$4,867.50 from the Coogan Fund and \$1,132.50 from the Community Betterment Fund as match for a State of Vermont 2017 Recreation Facilities Grant and to authorize Larry Trottier to sign a letter of support for this project. Motion passed 3-0.

Tim Dreisbach and Beth Willhite spoke to the Selectboard about moving their meeting nights to the first and third Tuesday of each month so they do not conflict with the Recreation Commission meetings at the town office building. Peggy mentioned the Selectboard meets every Tuesday for budgets in January. Beth said they not meet in January. They are also working on a land management plan for the former Crawford Property.

Meeting with Town of Sharon Selectboard: Sandy Conrad. Larry Trottier and Chief Beraldi will attend the Sharon Selectboard meeting on 06/20/2016 to discuss the Sharon police contract.

Mowing Contract Discussion: The Selectboard reviewed the mowing specifications and determined the contracted amount was for one mowing per week and to remove the language of grass height from future mowing specs. P. Gates motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded to cancel the remaining fertilization treatments from Chippers which is causing the grass to grow at an accelerated pace and thereby requiring addition mowing. Motion passed 3-0

Trash Receptacles: The Selectboard discussed the possibility of not having any trash receptacle on any town owned property.

Larry mentioned the Royalton Food Shelf is currently looking for a new location. They have to be out of the Journey Church by 08/31/2016. Larry says 50 people a week came to the Royalton Food Shelf.

Meeting Minutes 05/24/2016 P. Ainsworth motioned and P. Gates seconded to approve the 05/24/2016 meeting minutes. Motion passed 3-0

Expense Submissions P. Gates motioned and P. Ainsworth second to approve Babe Ruth Baseball League Insurance payment to the Recreation Commission. Motion passed 3-0

The Selectboard did not approve the purchase of \$1,000.00 of baseball field beam clay. They asked for an estimate in writing before they will approve.

Accounts Payable as prepared by Town Treasurer LuAnn Bingham was reviewed and approved by the Selectboard.

P. Gates motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded to enter into executive session at 10:30pm to discuss a personnel matter. Motion passed 3-0.

P. Ainsworth motioned and P. Gates seconded to exit executive session at 10:50pm
Motion passed 3-0
No action taken.

Meeting Adjourned 10:55 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Rose Hemond

Royalton Administration and Finance Manager