

**Town of Royalton
Royalton Selectboard Regular Meeting
July 26, 2016 7:00pm
Town Office on Route 14**

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

Public Present: Jojo Levasseur, Royalton Fire Chief Paul Brock, Tom Trottier, Cyndy Gates, Greg and Lizzie Tischer, Cynthia Dalrymple, Giselle Macharg, Theresa Manning, Jay White

Town Staff: Rose Hemond Town Administrator, Police Chief Jim Beraldi and Officer John Breault

Royalton Library Renovation: Jay White gave a general overview of the Royalton Library renovation plans to the Selectboard. Discussion ensued about funding sources for the library. Joan asked about operating costs for the new library. That information was not available. The Library Trustees and Jay were thanked for attending the meeting.

Royalton Fire Chief Paul Brock spoke to the Selectboard about purchasing the Journey Church for the Royalton Fire Department. Paul said the Fire Department would put a 10% deposit down on the property and they wanted the Selectboard to ask the town to bond for the purchase. Paul asked the town to buy it and lease it back to the Fire Department. Joan and Sandy did not feel prepared to make a decision on this transaction and requested more information. Joan and Sandy wanted more time to research and understand what the true costs of acquiring and renovating the property would be. . It was stated that the property could be purchased for \$350K and the renovations may cost as much as \$150K although there was no certainty behind the renovation cost. **P. Gates motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded to authorize the Royalton Fire Department to place a deposit on the Journey Church to hold the property until March 2017 as the time there can be a bond vote. Motion passed 3 in favor and 2 (Joan and Sandy abstain because they did not feel they had all the information necessary to make any decision.** Rose expressed concern about the town taking on more debt. She will research if there is a threshold to the amount of debt the town can take on.

It was suggested that the bond vote include selling the Hope Property.

Close Park Street P. Gates motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded to close Park Street and relocate the Royalton Farmers Market to Park Street on 07/28/2016 due to Old Home Days on the South Royalton Green. Motion passed 4-0.

Meredith Boardman's' home sustained a lot of damage during the storm on July 23, 2016. Her daughter contacted the Selectboard office to find out what services may be available to help her repair her home that was damaged when a tree fell on it. Sandy Conrad suggested she call the Central Vermont Council on Aging.

Royalton Planning Commission Appointments J. Goldstein motioned and P. Gates seconded to re appoint Bushrod Powers and Beth Willhite to the Royalton Planning Commission for another term. Motion passed 4-0.

Sign Nuisance Letters: P. Gates motioned and J. Goldstein seconded to sign the Public Nuisance Letter and send certified mail to Don Boule and Sean Hurdle Motion passed 4-0.

Judy Blossom will receive a letter information her the Selectboard has received a complaint about her pigs on Pleasant Street.

A letter will be written to David Farnsworth about granite posts that were recently installed in the town right of way. The letter will request that they are moved back.

Larry asked if the town has a junkyard ordinance. Royalton does not. A model ordinance will be presented to the Selectboard for consideration.

David Palmer Royalton Rescue Squad Director will be appointed Royalton Health officer,

Next Selectboard Meeting will be rescheduled to MONDAY 08/08/2016 due to the Primary Election on Tuesday 08/09/2016.

Contested Parking Tickets #5663 McClelland and #5667 Berk. The Selectboard decided to uphold both traffic violations.

A letter from Neil Goodwin was read and it mentioned a concern about a camp on Broad Brook Road. The Health Officer visited and found no violations. It is up to the state to uphold the rules of a primitive camp and enforce them. The State of Vermont will be contacted and informed of the situation.

Royalton Police Department Review FY 16/17 Budget: Chief Beraldi presented activity reports for June and July for the police department. He discussed how busy the department has been. He suggested hiring a part time officer. The Selectboard was not sure there was enough funds budgeted this year to hire a new officer. Sandy and Larry will meet with Jim on 08/08/2016 at 10am to do a 90 day performance evaluation. Officer John Breault was brought in to discuss attending the police academy and becoming full time certified. He said he was considering it.

Compensation Reviews J. Goldstein motioned and P. Gates seconded to give the wages increases (to Richie Bestenbostel, Demi Boles, and Steve Kondi. And Corey Rogers. Motion passed 4-0.

Rose consulted with Vermont Leagues of Cities and towns to create a more accurate job title and description for her position. The job description for Town Administrator closely resembles the work Rose does for Royalton. She has more financial responsibilities than the typical town administrator. She asked the Selectboard to allow her to use this title instead of Administration and Finance Manager which causes some confusion as to what her position entails. They agreed. She told the Selectboard it was her goal to create job descriptions for all town employees for this upcoming fiscal year.

Meeting Minutes 07/12/2016 J. Goldstein motioned and P. Gates seconded to approve 07/12/2016 meeting minutes. Motion passed 4-0

Special Meeting Minutes 07/19/2016 J. Goldstein motioned and S. Conrad seconded to approve meeting minutes for 07/19/2019 motion passed 3-1 abstention (Phil).

Trash Bins Trash Bins for the South Royalton Green were discussed. It was decided to get rid of the green baskets on the poles and put more receptacles on the South Royalton green.

Accounts Payable were reviewed and approved by the Selectboard

Royalton Wastewater Operator J. Goldstein motioned and S. Conrad seconded to enter executive session at 10:50pm to discuss personnel matters. Phil Gates excused himself and left the meeting. Motion passed 3-0

**11:25 J. Goldstein motioned and S, Conrad seconded to exit executive session. Motion passed 3-0
Action Taken: P. Ainsworth motioned and J. Goldstein seconded to renew the SOS contract for a year with the option to terminate the contract without cause after 60 days. Motion passed 3-0**

Sandy informed the Selectboard that Arthur White accepted the job offer for the Royalton Wastewater Facility Operator. Tim Mills agreed to work 8 hours at the Royalton Wastewater Facility to mentor Arthur. Both will start 09/01/2016.

**Meeting Adjourned 11:45pm
Respectfully submitted
Rose Hemond Town Administrator**