

**Town of Royalton  
Royalton Selectboard Regular Meeting  
September 13, 2016 7:00pm  
Town Office on Route 14**

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

**Late** Joan Goldstein 8:40pm

**Public Present:** Stuart Levasseur, Royalton Fire Chief Paul Brock, Cheryl Manning, James May, John Dumville, Royalton Police Officer John Breault

**Town Staff:** Rose Hemond Town Administrator,

**Larry Trottier opened the meeting at 7:00pm**

**Jim May: Vermont Law School** James May spoke about the Town of Royalton (on behalf of the Vermont Law School) reapplying for CDBG funding for the VLS Veterans Legal Clinic. He discussed being better prepared for the state board's questions in regards to program sustainability. The application will be going before the board again in 10/13/2016.

**Adopt Resolution for VCDP Grant Application Authority for the Vermont Veterans Legal Assistance Project.** P.Gates motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded sign authority to apply for funding. Motion passed 3-0.

**Gidget Lyman: VT Alert System** Gidget gave a background on what Vermont Alert is to the Selectboard. This was something she felt the town needed to adopt. There will be a two hour training session for those involved. A letter needs to be sent to the state. **P. Gates motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded to adopt the VT Alert System for the Town of Royalton. Motion passed 3-0**

**Cheryl Morrill: Pig Issue on Pleasant Street** Cheryl Morrill voiced her concern about the smell of her neighbor's pigs and where the pigs are stored over the winter. She is also concerned about a well contamination from pig waste. Larry visited the area and did not smell any pigs or see any pile of manure. The pigs were being fed and had water. Selectboard members mentioned the pigs would not be there much longer. Larry said the town did not have any authority in this matter. He said the state will enforce their rules come November 2016. Sandy suggested waiting until spring to see what the situation will be.

**Royalton Fire Chief Paul Brock: Journey Church** Paul Brock spoke to the Selectboard about a purchase and sale agreement for the Journey Church. The Fire Department wanted to purchase the building and renovate it. Nothing can be done without an environmental review. Research has revealed this location was a fuel storage business. If so there may be a brownfield on the property. Larry stated the property is a good price but there is concern about a brownfield and this will turn into a major project. Paul said this will be costly if it turns into a brownfield. Fuel Depot Ownership has transferred ownership 3 times. Larry said if sellers agree to do an environmental study to make certain there is no contamination. **P.Gates motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded to not pursue the purchase of the Journey Church because of possible brownfield contamination and not wanting to take on additional debt. . Motion passed 3-0...**

James McCleery: RPD file on burglary and Fence Viewer Appointment Did not attend meeting

**Public Concerns** Larry spoke of homeless people living in town. Sandy will get in touch with the pastor of the red door church to give him contact information on organizations that will help these people.

The Royalton Food shelf will be closing 09/29/2016. It has to vacate the Journey Church and currently there is no other location in town to move the food shelf to.

**Request for Use of Bandstand 09/28/2016 at noon Press Announcement Alliance for Vermont Communities working to stop New Vista Development** John Dumville explained this was an advisement group being formed as 501C3. There is board made up of Sharon, Strafford, Tunbridge, and Royalton residents. **P. Ainsworth motioned and P. Gates seconded to approve use of the South Royalton Bandstand on 09/28/2016. Motion passed 3-0.**

**Use of the South Royalton Green 10/29/2016 Fallfest** P. Gates motioned and P, Ainsworth seconded to permit use of the South Royalton Green for fall fest. Motion passed 3-0

**Estimate to Fix Chelsea Street Bridge Lights** P. Gates motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded to approve the estimate for the repair of the Chelsea Street Bridge lights to be paid out of the Royalton Community Betterment fund. Before any work commences it will be confirmed that energy efficient sensor lights are to be installed. Motion passed 3-0.

**Driveway Permit 16-02.** Phil mentioned the Planning Commission questioned why the driveway was installed prior to approval. The owner was logging the property and had all the equipment there to create the driveway. Roger McCrillis gave preliminary approval. There is a process to follow and it should be done in 30 days. **P. Ainsworth motioned and P. Gate's seconded to approve driveway permit 16-02 located on Rix Road Royalton. Motion passed 3-0**

Sign Standing Order for Payroll the Selectboard signed the annual standing order for payroll.

Equipment Rental Account Highway Fund the Selectboard signed the annual highway rental account adjusting entry.

**Loan Agreement for WWF Loan** P. Ainsworth motioned and J. Goldstein seconded to sign the Vermont Clean Water State revolving loan Fund Documents for a loan in the amount of \$176,275.00 for the planning and design phase of the Royalton Wastewater Refurbishment Project. Motion passed 3-0. 1 abstention.

**Recreation Committee Resignation: Vicki Braley:** Vicki served 3.5 years as Royalton Recreation Chairperson. All her hard work is greatly appreciated. **P. Ainsworth motioned and P. Gates seconded to accept resignation of Vicki Braley. Motion passed 4-0.**

**Royalton Academy Building:** Discussion ensued about Sandy Conrad managing the Royalton Academy Building. The current cleaning service was discussed. Sandy will research other cleaning options for the building. She will remain on as building manager for the short term and eventually the town will hire someone to take on this responsibility.

**Meeting Minutes** P. Ainsworth motioned and P. Goldstein seconded to approve the meeting minutes for 08/23/2016 and the Gilman Road Hearing Minutes. Motion passed 3-0. 1 abstention.

Discussion ensued about the Royalton Wastewater Operator position. At the 08/23/2016 the Selectboard had requested more research to be done in regards to the legality of having an unlicensed, uncertified, person

operating the facility unsupervised for 17 out of a 25 hours a week. Carol Fowler, Environmental Analyst (Permit and application administrative review for the Wastewater Program.) for the State of Vermont Environmental Conservation Department, educated the town that the information on how to run the facility was in the Royalton discharge permit. She referred to page eleven of the permit which stated "*the operations and maintenance of this facility shall be performed only by qualified personal. The personnel shall be certified as required under the Vermont Water Pollution Abatement Facility Operator Certification regulations.*" The town was told by Carol that the moment any testing or wastewater operations was done by someone who was not supervised by a Chief Operator or certified, was a violation of the towns discharge permit. The Selectboard agreed that the implication from their request for more information at the 08/23/2016 meeting, was that if this employment arrangement was illegal and would result in a violation of the permit, the town could no longer move forward with hiring Arthur White.

**Performance Reviews Royalton Road Foreman and Town Administrator: J. Goldstein motioned and S. Conrad seconded to enter in to executive session at 9:27pm to discuss personnel matters. Motion passed 4-0 J. Goldstein motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded to exit executive session at 10:50pm. Motion passed 4-0**

**Action taken the Royalton Road Foreman will be receive a 3.5% wage increase and the Town Administrator will receive a 3.3% wage increase for FY 16/17.**

**Meeting adjourned at 11:00pm**

**Respectfully submitted**

**Rose Hemond**

**Royalton Town Administrator**