

**Town of Royalton
Royalton Selectboard Meeting
October 27, 2015 7pm
Royalton Town Office Building**

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

Public Present Royalton Recreation Committee Chairperson Vicki Braley, Royalton Recreation Committee Members Jenn Morse, Billie Jean Vesper, and Kim Hebard, Fred Glanzberg, Brett Lewis, Valley Trail Alliance Warren Johnston, Becky Lewandowski, John Taylor, Reporter Jojo Levasseur, Pat Barry

Town Staff: Administration and Finance Manager Rose Hemond, Chief Bob Hull and Officer John Breault, Town Clerk Karmen Bascom, Royalton Listers Jeff Barcelow and Walter Hastings.

Upper Valley Trails Alliance: Becky Lewandowski spoke about the purpose of the Upper Valley Trails Alliance: They promote active lifestyles for Upper Valley residents. Trails Program Director John Taylor spoke about volunteer recruitment and training in their organization. They also offer trail service. (Clean up trails in town) He mentioned grant opportunities for towns to fund trail clean up. Becky spoke about their work with the Royalton One Planet Program and the success they have with the Passport to Fun. Joan mentioned that none of the Royalton Trails were listed on their website. John made it clear that no trail goes on trail finder without permission from the land owners. This is something Royalton can work on.

Fred Glanzberg spoke the Selectboard about logging the former Crawford Property. He described the layout of the property. He said the first step is to create a logging plan and submit it to the State of Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife for approval. Fred said there is a lot of low value trees on the property. They are called pulp trees and need to be chipped. Fish and Wildlife has 30 days to respond to Fred's plan. Brett Lewis was suggested to log the property. Fred will do an inventory and plan to be submitted to Ryegate forester who will send to Fish and Wildlife. Fred will develop a cut plan that the state will sign off on. **P. Gates motioned to hire Fred Glanzberg for \$1,000.00 to be paid out of the Community Betterment Fund P Ainsworth seconded. Motion passed 4-0.**

Brett Lewis addressed the Selectboard about logging the property. He presented a contract to Selectboard. Brett needs to wait until Fred is done with his part of the project. Fred suggested to the Selectboard this would not be a good project to put out to bid because of the low grade timber. He said not many people can handle this type of work. Joan was concerned about lack of a plan for the property. **P. Gates motioned to hire Brett Lewis to log the Crawford Property Motion passed 4-0. Town Attorney will review the contract.**

Use of the South Royalton Green for the Christmas Pageant on 12/20/2015 from 6:30pm - 8pm J. Goldstein motioned and P. Ainsworth seconded to approve the use of the green.

Contested Royalton Parking Tickets #5269, 5270, 5271, 5273, 5275, and 5277: Pat Barry from Tunbridge objected to his \$50.00 parking ticket based on the fact there was no warning to the public the ordinance was going to be enforced. There are signs posted in town. If a person chooses to violate the ordinance, they run the risk of getting a ticket. The signs are the warning. Larry spoke about the origin of the two hour parking ordinance in South Royalton. This ordinance was created to encourage customer parking and visiting businesses in town. This was a way to free up parking spots in town. The Selectboard is asking the Royalton Police Department to enforce parking ordinance more frequently. The Recreation Committee members would like to see the “no dog ordinance” enforced more, especially on Carpenter Field.

P. Gates made a motion to reduce the contested tickets to \$25.00 and from now first offense \$25.00 then \$35.00 then \$50.00. Motion not seconded. Select board will uphold the parking violations. Letters will be sent to the parking ticket recipients.

FY 16/17 Royalton Recreation Budget: Vicki Braley addressed the Selectboard about the FY 16/17 Recreation Budget. Peggy asked about repairs and maintenance expenses. Vicki explained some of the repair maintenance expenses include a new sign for the Carpenter Field and taking care of the structures that are already there plus filed maintenance beyond mowing. Vicki also discussed the possibility of installing a play structure at Carpenter Field to be used by children who are attending the games with parents.

Billie Jean asked about paying a recreation board member to run sports programs. According to their bylaws, it is not allowed. They felt it is was a conflict of interest to have volunteers getting paid. It was suggested they have their recreation director coordinate sports as well. They said she does not have time. It was suggested they hire an athletic director for coordinating the sports programs for the Recreation Department. Vicki will find out how many hours it requires to coordinate the various sports programs and amend their budget to include this position for FY 16/17.

Law Enforcement Budget: The Selectboard reviewed the Royalton Police Budget for FY 16/17. They are concerned about running a deficit. The budget proposed include weekends and night coverage totaling 100 hours a week for Royalton and 20 hours dedicated to covering the town of Sharon as per contractual agreement.

Jeff Barcelow Royalton e911 Coordinator addressed the Selectboard about Christine Demers road address. It is wrong and has to be changed. Many of the 911 addresses that were mapped years ago are incorrect. Jeff explained that there are address numbers that are out of order. Walter explained mapping has gotten better over the years. **P. Gates make a motion to change to Christine Demers 911 address P Ainsworth seconded. Motion passed 3 in favor and 2 abstain. (Joan and Sandy) A letter to inform the homeowner of this change will be mailed.**

Jeff Barcelow spoke about the FY 16/17 Lister budget. There are increases to the lister budget that required some explanation. Jeff discussed using some supply funds to purchase a fire proof file cabinet and a table in the lister conference room. Jeff and Walter explained classes they would like to take together that would require traveling. Jeff mentioned setting up a computer

kiosk for the public to use to print tax maps and lister cards. Lister education and the reappraisal fund was also discussed.

Karmen presented a spreadsheet to the Selectboard that contained information about other town clerk's office hours. Sandy mentioned Karmen did have an increase in wages in 2013. Karmen clarified that this was not an increase in the budget line item just an increase in salary paid to her. Sandy reminded Karmen how the town voted to increase her wage budget by \$2,000.00 last year. Karmen explained this was for her assistant so she can work more hours. Discussion ensued about the town clerks budget.

Town Office Building Discussion: The Selectboard decided to host an Open House at the new town office building Monday December 14, 2015 from 2-5pm.

Selectboard Meeting Minutes 10/13/2015 P. Ainsworth motioned and P. Gates seconded to approve the meeting minutes for 10/13/2015. Motion Passed 4-0.

Meeting minutes 10/15/2015 P. Gates motioned and J. Goldstein seconded to approve the special meeting minutes for 10/15/2015. Motion passed 3-0 (abstain Peggy)

J. Goldstein motioned and S. Conrad seconded to purchase a storage shed (cost \$9,899.60) to be placed behind the new office building from Carriage Shed to be paid from the Community Betterment Fund. Motion passed 4-0

The Selectboard was informed of a grant was available through the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland security for a generator for the new town office building. More information will be presented at a later meeting.

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

**Meeting Adjourned 11:45pm
Respectfully submitted by
Rose Hemond**