

**Town of Royalton
Royalton Selectboard Meeting
January 23, 2019
Town Office on Route 14**

Royalton Selectboard: Larry Trottier, Sandy Conrad, Tim Dreisbach, Gidget Lyman

Regrets: Peggy Ainsworth

Public Present: Jojo Levasseur, Evangeline Williams, Rachel and James Bigelow, Sam Carlson

Town Staff: Town Administrator Rose Hemond

Chairman Larry Trottier opened the meeting at 7:00pm

Evangeline Lilly from the Vermont Law School asked the Selectboard about getting warning lights on a railroad crossing on North Windsor Street due to a car accident that occurred there involving Vermont Law School students. She was informed she needs to speak with the railroad company or the landowner. A railroad crossing is very expensive.

Evangeline also asked about more lighting on North Windsor Street. Rose will contact Green Mountain Power to find out the possibility and cost of installing more street lighting.

Sam Carlson spoke to the Selectboard briefly about the solar project on the Bethel Royalton Landfill site. He stated since the solar array was not going on the Bethel Royalton landfill cap and instead on the landfill parcel the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources required a “preferred site” letter to be signed by the Selectboard, the Royalton Planning Commissions and Two River Ottaquechee Regional Planning Commission. T. Dreisbach motioned and **S. Conrad seconded to sign the preferred site letter. Motion passed 3-0**

The Bigelows were in attendance to discuss the Gilman Road solar array. They were informed that discussion was postponed until the 02/23/2018 meeting in which Sam will be in attendance again.

T. Dreisbach motioned and G. Lyman seconded to set the 07/01/2017-12/31/2017 sewer rate at .0241 which excludes the bond payment. Each bill will reflect an increase based on the bond payment structure as approved at the 02/21/2017 Selectboard meeting. Motion passed 3-0

The Selectboard reviewed a revised Royalton Appropriation Policy. One item needed to be changed to be compliant with current Vermont statutes, **S. Conrad motioned and G. Lyman seconded to approve the amended Town of Royalton Appropriation Policy. Motion passed 3-0**

S. Conrad motioned and G. Lyman seconded to include the appropriation request (in accordance with current state statutes) of \$1,000.00 for the South Royalton School Based Health Clinic in the FY 18/19 budget and include on the annual town meeting warning as a stand-alone article. Motion passed 3-0

T. Dreisbach motioned and G. Lyman seconded to purchase a solid cherry wood desk valued at \$750.00 for the police chief's office for \$250.00 from Sandy Conrad. Motion passed 3 with on recusal.

The Selectboard agreed to dedicate this year's town report to recently retired Road Foreman Roger McCrillis.

Town of Royalton Proposed Fiscal Year 2018-2019 General Fund and Highway Fund Budgets. The Selectboard reviewed the FY 18/19 General Fund, Highway, Wastewater and Academy Budgets. More modifications were made and discussion ensued in regards to the overall impact of the final budget on the tax rate. The Selectboard and the Town Administrator spent many hours reviewing the FY 18/19 and felt this final proposed budget was fiscally responsible. Tim was concerned that Royalton taxpayers think that appropriation requests are under the governance of the Selectboard since they appear in the budget and the budget is approved by the Selectboard. It was suggested that Tim write something for the town report explaining the budget process and those aspects that are not under the control of the Selectboard.

Setting the Town of Royalton Vermont Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budgets T. Dreisbach motioned and L. Trottier seconded to set the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year General Fund Budget at \$1,185,151.00 and the 2018-2019 Highway Fund budget at \$942, 600.00 Motion passed 4-0.

S. Conrad motioned and T. Dreisbach seconded to approve the 01/09/2018 Selectboard meeting minutes. Motion passed 3-0.

T. Dreisbach motioned and G. Lyman seconded to go into executive session at 9:10pm pm to discuss Personnel Matters. Rose Hemond was invited to stay. Motion passed 3-0

S. Conrad motioned and T. Dreisbach seconded to exit executive session at 9:25pm. Motion passed 3-0

Action Taken

References will be contacted for the two police chief candidates by the hiring committee.

The Selectboard decided to have a Special meeting on 01/29/2018 to finalize the annual meeting warning.

Meeting adjourned 10:00pm

Respectfully submitted by

Town Administrator Rose Hemond