

**Town of Royalton  
Royalton Selectboard Regular Meeting  
August 14, 2018 at 7pm  
Town Office on Route 14**

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

**Town Staff:** Town Administrator, Rose Hemond, Royalton Police Chief Loretta Stalnaker, Royalton Road Foreman Demi Boles, Town Constable Marc Preston.

**Public:** Jojo Levasseur, Stuart Levasseur, Phoebe Preston, Clifton and Ingrid Pease and son, Eliza Mabey, Nancy Hobart, Gaylynn Huyghebaert, Geo Honigford, Sharon O Connor, Michele Gaboriau

**Larry opened the Royalton Selectboard Meeting at 7pm**

**Cliff Pease Crawford Property Field Usage:** Cliff spoke to the Selectboard about using 10 acres for growing crops at the Crawford Property. Both Cliff and Ingrid gave some background on their farming experience and how difficult it has been to be dairy farmers. Larry suggested a 5 year contract to rent the land for 5 years renewable one year at a time for \$400.00 a year. Sandy said there were other farmers interested in this property. The Selectboard told Cliff they would discuss this topic in greater length later in the meeting. Someone from the Selectboard will contact Cliff in the near future.

**White River Valley Unified School Educator** Gaylynn Huyghebaert ECO Program White River Valley Unified School: Gaylynn spoke of a new program to be offered at White River Valley School for students in grade K-2 called ECO (Educating Children Outdoors). She would like permission to use the town property beyond alumni field as class space. She also mentioned trees branches that needed to be trimmed or removed. It was suggested Frank Lamson look over the trees. Sandy will meet with Gaylynn and walk the paths together. Gaylynn will provide a map of the area she was thinking of using.

**Royalton Planning Commission T. Dreisbach motioned and G. Lyman seconded to appoint Geo Honigford to the Royalton Planning Commission. Motion passed 4-0**

**Stuart Levasseur discussed a Town Planning Grant that Town Rivers Ottaquechee Planning Commission will assist them with. S. Conrad motioned and T. Dreisbach seconded to approve the 10% grant match funds for the Town Planning grant to be paid out the Planning Commission Budget. Motion passed 4-0**

Stuart informed the Selectboard the Planning Commission will have land use ideas present for the Crawford Property within a couple of months.

**Royalton Police Department Fair and Impartial Policing Policy Review. Police Chief Loretta Stalnaker reviewed the Royalton Police department policies with the Selectboard. S. Conrad motioned and G. Lyman seconded to adopt the Royalton Police Department Mission Statement and Vision and the Fair and Impartial Policing Policy with edits. Motion passed 4-0.**

**T. Dreisbach motioned and C. Noble seconded to approve utility permit UP-1801. Motion passed 4-0.**

**Public Concern:** Jojo Levasseur discussed the state providing funds to repair class 4 roads. She said that there will be additional costs that state aid will not cover for class 4 roads. She will continue to investigate this topic for more discussion at a future Selectboard meeting.

**Set FY 18/19 Town of Royalton Tax Rate T. Dreisbach motioned and C. Noble seconded to set the FY 18/19 Residential Tax at \$2.1858 and the Non-residential Tax rate at \$2.2405. Motion passed 4-0**

**Town of Royalton Happy Hollow Road Culvert Project** Michele Gaboriau, Owner of G&N Construction, who is the contractor on the Happy Hollow Road Culvert Project, explained Change Order # 2 to the Selectboard board. Michele explained that the receiving channels were not part of the original engineering and should have been. The Selectboard would like to speak with a Dubois and King engineer about this matter. Chris asked if the integrity of the project is better with the change orders. Michele said it is the same. Michele thanked the townspeople of Royalton for their patience with this project.

**Town of Royalton Happy Hollow Culvert Project Change Order # 2 and Invoice # 2. G. Lyman motioned and T. Dreisbach seconded to approve payment on Change Order # 2 in the amount of \$5,698.00 and Payment Invoice # 2 in the amount of \$66, 252.60. Motion passed 4-0**

**Town of Royalton Traffic Ordinance Review** Gidget suggested that overnight parking bans for the Foxville parks and Carpenter Field be included in the traffic ordinance. Gidget and Police Chief Stalnaker will meet to gather the details and write up the correct entries to the traffic ordinance to present at a later date. It was suggested that road crew and police take note of any missing signs around town. Sandy asked to check on the speed limit signs to make sure they match with the traffic ordinance.

**Demi recommended Jeff Shores as a new hire for the Royalton Road Crew. T. Dreisbach motioned and C. Noble seconded to hire Jeff Shores as a Royalton Road Crew Member for \$16.00 per hour with a 90 day probationary period. Motion passed 4-0**

**Wastewater Facility C. Noble motioned and T. Dreisbach seconded to approve the purchase of the 26' x 30' Hudson Garage from LaValleys for \$28,900.00 to be paid with the USDA Wastewater Facility Grant funds and the remainder being paid out of the Royalton Wastewater Capital Improvement Fund. Motion passed 4-0.**

**C. Noble motioned and G. Lyman seconded to contact Terry Shearer at Vermont DEC about wastewater that has leaked into a dormant sewer line on Vermont Route 110. Motion passed 4-0**

Sandy asked Town Health Officer Marc Preston to submit a monthly Health Officer Report to the Selectboard. Marc said he will comply with this request.

**SOS Wastewater Contract:** Larry informed the board he negotiated a reduced monthly rate of \$5,275.00 for the SOS Wastewater contract which is \$225.00 less per month than the original with owner Phyllis Simon.

Sandy presented a Wastewater and Building and Grounds job description for review by the Selectboard. Sandy was given 60 days by the Selectboard to create a job description. She expressed frustration at Larry negotiating a new contract before she had completed her task. Tim stated there was a provision in the contract that allows the Selectboard to terminate the contract without cause given 90 day notice. Some board members felt there was no risk involved with signing the new contract and still giving Sandy time to work on her job description. Tim and

Chris felt the job description had too many different jobs at different levels. Sandy wanted to offer \$50K for this position. Larry stipulated that the person hired for the position already have their certification to operate a wastewater facility. Discussion ensued about risks involved with the town taking over the Royalton Wastewater Facility, budget issues regarding wages and succession plan for the water department. Gidget suggested that this job description be placed on future agendas so this task is not overlooked. Chris asked Sandy to inquire about the future plans of the town water department, determine the risk involved with taking over the sewer facility for the town and the financial aspect of hiring someone and report this back to the Selectboard.

**C. Noble motioned to sign the SOS Contract for three years and allow Sandy to proceed with finding an alternative to the SOS contract. Sandy should continue to work on the job description for one position for one person. Motion passed 3 Yes 1 No 1 Abstention.**

**Royalton Personnel Policy Review** tabled until a future meeting.

Gidget stated she will be involved with meetings regarding the Bridge Street Bridge Issues along with the White River Partnership and state officials. She will keep the board informed.

Chris informed the Selectboard that the Bethel Selectboard signed the Solid Waste Facility Land Lease Agreement with Green Lantern Solar.

**G. Lyman motioned and C. Noble seconded to approve hiring Valley Artesian Well Company to install a well pump at the Royalton Highway Garage for \$3400.00 plus the cost of hiring an electrician Motion passed 4-0**

**T. Dreisbach motioned and C. Noble seconded to increase Town Treasurer LuAnn Bingham's hours wage by .50 per hour effective July 1, 2018 Motion passed 4-0.**

**New Business: Royalton Police Chief Loretta Stalnaker** spoke of a structure located on 201 North Windsor Street in the town right of way. There are many issues with this structure and the town needs to send a letter to the former land owner (Larry Drown) stating this structure is in the town right of way amongst other violations and safety issues. The current land owner can have the structure towed away.

**T. Dreisbach motioned and C. Noble seconded to approve a wage increase of .50 per hour for Corey Rogers and \$1.00 per hour for Nick Stone both effective July 1, 2018. Motion passed 4-0**

**T. Dreisbach motioned and C. Noble seconded to approve hiring Josh Smith for no more than \$5000.00 to do work on Sewall Brook Road turnaround. Motion passed 4-0**

The Selectboard decided some members should visit with Clifton Pease

The Selectboard reviewed and approved accounts payable as prepared by Town Treasurer LuAnn Bingham.

**Meeting Adjourned at 11:00pm**

**Respectfully Submitted by**

**Royalton Town Administrator Rose Hemond**