

**Town of Royalton
Royalton Selectboard Regular Meeting
November 13, 2018 at 7pm
Town Office on Route 14**

Royalton Selectboard: Larry Trottler, Sandy Conrad, Gidget Lyman, Tim Dreisbach
Late: Chris Noble 8:00pm

Town Staff: Town Administrator, Rose Hemond, Royalton Treasurer LuAnn Bingham, Royalton Road Foreman Paul Brock, Royalton Road Foreman Demi Boles, Royalton Highway Crew Nick Stone and Jeffrey Shores

Public: Jojo Levasseur, Stuart Levasseur, Pam Levasseur, John Dumville, Jason Caron, Mary Sue Turner, Bonnie Kenyon, Theresa Manning, Cynthia Dalrymple, Brian Thomas

Royalton Selectboard Chairman Larry Trottier opened the meeting at 7:00pm

Agenda Change requested by Larry Trottier

Gidget Lyman presented a letter of resignation as Stagecoach Transportation Representative for the Town of Royalton of 12/06/2018. S. Conrad motioned and T. Dreisbach seconded to accept Gidgets resignation with regrets. Motion passed 3-0. Gidget was thanked for all her service to the Stagecoach Transportation Board.

Mary Sue Turner introduced herself to the Selectboard and said her interest to become Stagecoach Transportation Representative for the Town of Royalton was because she was a Stagecoach rider for years and understands the importance of this service. S. Conrad motioned and T. Dreisbach seconded to appoint Mary Sue Turner as Stagecoach Representative as of 12/06/2018 for the Town of Royalton.

Motion passed 3-0

Sandy thanked Royalton Treasurer LuAnn Bingham for all her hard work during tax season. LuAnn with the help of Assistant Treasurer Rita Hull collects and processes almost 1300 property tax bills with 80% of them arriving less than two weeks before the deadline.

Stuart Levasseur mentioned a section of the Middlebury Vermont Railroad will be closed for 10 weeks in the summer of 2020. Those trains will be re-routed through South Royalton. The freight will be mostly natural gas. The necessary emergency management department should be notified of this situation.

Public Concerns: Royalton resident Bryan Thomas spoke about Bingham Road. Each year he says the town plow truck does not completely clear the snow in his cull de sac, The Selectboard will speak about this issue with the Royalton Highway Department.

Royalton Highway Department Personnel Policy Amendment Currently the Royalton Personnel Policy does not include any reference to “summer hours” for the Royalton Highway Department. Demi requested from May to November that the Selectboard allow the road crew to work four 10 hour days. (Monday-Thursday) from May to November. The Selectboard countered with May to September. Demi said the road crew is more productive on 10 hour days. Demi said after working a long winter, this is something the road crew looks forward to. He also stated other surrounding towns allow this. The Selectboard asked that someone from the road crew be on call for Fridays. This matter will be under consideration by the board and discussed at another meeting.

Award Mowing Bid for 2019 Mowing Season Discussion ensued about the mowing bid for Spring/Summer 2019. Gidget expressed concerns about Jason not having workers compensation insurance. Jason informed Gidget that the workers comp insurance was expensive. Larry commented that Jason was A Royalton citizen and has done a great job for several years. **L. Trottier motioned and T. Dreisbach seconded to award the Spring Summer 2019 Mowing bid to Jason Caron motion passed 3-0 with one abstention**

Town of Royalton Health Insurance 2019 Town Contribution Amounts: The Selectboard reviewed information about healthcare contributions for town employees. **G. Lyman motioned and S. Conrad seconded to increase the town of Royalton Healthcare Premium contributions for eligible employees effective January 1, 2019 to \$575.00 for individual, \$1150.00 for couples and \$1620.36 for family. Motion passed 3-0**

19/20 Budget Review The Selectboard reviewed the following organizations FY 19/20 budgets and appropriation requests Royalton Memorial Library, Royalton Fire Department and Royalton Rescue Squad.

The Selectboard made various inquiries for all budgets. The Selectboard members are concerned about increased expenses. The library trustees were asked about reserve funds they included as revenue in their budget. The Selectboard inquired as to how long the library can draw on their reserve to cover expenditures. This information was not readily available.

Tim spoke about a meeting on 11/15/2018 at 9am at the town office with Kevin Geiger from Two River Regional Planning. He will ask Kevin about being a facilitator at a Royalton Strategic Planning Retreat. Rose and Victoria from the water department will attend.

Royalton Academy Building: Sandy presented the FY 19/20 Royalton Academy Budget. The Selectboard was informed the Academy Fund still has a deficit that needs to be addressed.

G. Lyman motioned and t. Dreisbach seconded to increase the Royalton Academy Building Hourly Rental rate from \$25.00 and hour to \$30.00 an hour starting January 1, 2019. Those that already have a reservation for 2019 the rate will remain the same at \$25.00 Motion passed 4-0

T. Dreisbach motioned and C. Nobel seconded to approve and sign the Royalton Police Department Policies. Motion passed 4-0

The Selectboard will send a letter to the wife of Larry Drown about the trailer on her property on North Windsor Street. It is in the town right of way and posing a hazard for the plow trucks.

Chief Stalnaker stated there will be a Thanksgiving click it or ticket campaign in Royalton from 11/21/2018-11/25/2018. She will be doing extra patrols during this time.

Gidget Announced the Royalton Town Service open house will be 5:30pm to 7:30pm on Wednesday 12/05/2018.

Town of Royalton Personnel Policy was tabled for further review.

Other Business: Sandy said she was able to contact James Northrop who built the cigarette receptacles that were placed on the sidewalk of the business block. James also removed the trash cans from the poles and built benches for the sidewalks. Sandy expressed appreciation for his hard work but informed him of a process to be followed for such modifications. James told Sandy that he had informed the Town Clerk, Karmen Bascom, of his activities. Sandy said the Selectboard was never informed and they are the ones who grant approval for such projects. Sandy said James needed to remove the cigarette receptacles and place the trash bins back on the poles. Sandy invited James to participate in the sidewalk scoping study. The next Sidewalk Scoping Study meeting will be 11/27/2018 at the Royalton Town Office at 6pm before the Regular Selectboard meeting.

The Selectboard reviewed and approved Accounts Payable as prepared by Town Treasurer LuAnn Bingham Meeting Minutes.

Chris spoke about the EC Fiber expansion taking place in Royalton.

Discussion ensued about road issues in town.

Meeting Adjourned 10:45pm
Respectfully Submitted by
Royalton Town Administrator Rose Hemond