

Town of Royalton
Royalton Selectboard Regular Meeting
Tuesday January 8, 2019 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 Constable Marc Preston, Royalton Town Lister Jeff Barcelow

Public: Jojo Levasseur, Stuart Levasseur, John Dumville, Theresa Manning, Cynthia Dalrymple, Sarah Danly, Jeff Tucker, Lincoln and Louise Clark, Marianne Pysarchyk, Maria Lamson, Bonnie Kenyon, Bob Slattery, Nell Gwin, Pam Levasseur, Tim Miller, James Northrop

Chairman Larry Trottier opened the meeting at 7:00pm

Jeff Tucker, President of Dubois and King Engineering, spoke to the Selectboard about the repair/replacement of the Fox Stand Bridge in Royalton. Jeff said back in 2014 when the Gilman Road project was being completed, the town and his firm discussed the useful life of this bridge which was less than 8 years at the time. The town was informed that the Fox Stand Bridge is currently ranked 6th on the pre-candidate town highway bridge list. It is within the top 10 town highway bridges regional priority to recommend to VTrans to become a project which means the project could qualify for grant funds. The Selectboard asked Jeff to consult with the Vermont Agency of Transportation and advise the Selectboard what should be done to repair/replace the bridge and the cost associated with it.

Royalton Memorial Library the Royalton Memorial Library Trustees have worked diligently on revisions to the library renovation plan that they hope would result in a reduction of costs to the project. Theron Manning, who was the director of engineering for Gifford Medical Center for many years, presented the modified plan to the Selectboard. He explained by eliminating the third floor, which was to be used for storage, will reduce the cost of the project and the need for a sprinkler system. The revised plans stack the plumbing which is more efficient and cost effective. The vault will not be removed and instead used as office space.

The library is requesting a lump sum bid from a contractor. This requires the contractor to provide a cost not to exceed amount for the project. The risk is on the contractor to bring the project in on budget. They are currently working Upland Construction. The expectation is that the project cost will be about \$650K with a \$100K contingency. The total square footage will be 3588 sq. ft. (three times the already existing space.) Theron said at this price, the estimated project is cost is \$209 per square foot. The library trustees should have a cost estimate to present as well as updated specifications by February 1, 2019. Theron stated they would like to start the project in April 2019.

Larry thanked the library for all their hard work on revising the renovation plans and their presentation to the board. Larry and Tim both asked questions about change orders or costs associated with unforeseen circumstances that could arise once the project is underway. Theron said in some cases the town is responsible for paying these expenses such as hazardous material abatement.

The Selectboard would like to consult with an attorney to inquire if this revised project needs to go out to bid again. Sandy asked if there was any study that shows increased attendance that would justify the added space. Cynthia said attendance for the library has increased. Chris asked if this was the same project that was presented to the voters for the bond vote and Theron said it was pretty much the same.

Bob Slattery, who introduced himself as a Royalton resident and library supporter, stated the town has three libraries and how does this project fit into the long term needs of the town? Bob also asked if there were earlier plans that were rejected. Where were the alternate plans? Marianne stated that VLS has a library but does not have the staffing to assist the public and they do not permit the public to borrow books.

Tim prepared a list of project questions for Chris to address. A list of these questions will be posted along with the meeting minutes on the town website. Next time the library trustees meet with the Selectboard they will have the project cost estimate and the project specifications available for review. All were thanked again for their time and effort.

Agenda change

Request for Article on the 2018 Royalton Annual Meeting Warning Property Tax Exemption for the Royalton Food Shelf. Tim Miller presented the following article to be placed on the 2019 Royalton Annual meeting warning “*Shall the voters exempt from taxation 1.5 acre and dwelling of the Royalton Area Food Shelf owned by the United Church of South Royalton at 2955 VT. RT 14 South Royalton, VT 05068 for a period of 5 years pursuant to 32 V.S.A §3840?* Tim explained that they were seeking a partial exemption for only the land and the food shelf not the trailer. Payne’s Beach is the only other town entity that received this exemption. **C. Noble motioned and T. Dreisbach seconded to add this article to the 2019 Royalton Annual Town Meeting warning. Motioned passed 4-0**

Royalton Highway Department Selectboard sign certificate of Royalton Highway Mileage for FY 19 T. Dreisbach motioned and S. Conrad seconded to sign the annual certificate of Highway Mileage. Motion passed 4-0

Parking Tickets Appeal #5233 and #5235. Marc said these tickets were written in error. T. Dreisbach motioned and G. Lyman seconded to rescind all two hour parking violations written on 01/03/2019 including tickets #5233 and 5235. Motion passed 4-0

Parking ticket appeal #5226, T. Dreisbach motioned and S. Conrad seconded to uphold the parking violation #5226 due to lack of evidence to the claim that his vehicle was making a delivery to First Branch Coffee. Motion passed 4-0

Chief Stalnaker reviewed Royalton Police Department Internal Investigation policy with the Selectboard. T. Dreisbach motioned and C. Noble seconded to adopt an internal investigation policy as recommended by the Royalton Police Chief Loretta Stalnaker. Motion passed 4-0

S. Conrad motioned and G. Lyman seconded to authorize Larry to sign Two Rivers Contract for Municipal Planning Services* to assist updating Royalton Town Plan motion passed 4-0

S. Conrad motioned and G. Lyman seconded to authorize Larry to approve and sign Permit Application Pollution Royalton Wastewater Permit #PA-1901 motioned passed 4-0

T. Dreisbach motioned and G. Lyman seconded to schedule a Special Selectboard Meeting 01/15/2015 at 7pm to review draft of FY 19/20 Budget motion passed 4-0

Royalton Operations Manager tabled

Structure on North Windsor Street Larry spoke to owner who moved the structure out of the town right away.

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

T. Dreisbach motioned and G. Lyman seconded to approve the meeting Minutes for 11/28/2018 and 12/11/2018

Additional Business:

Issue on bridge Street. The town will contact landowner by letter to discuss cutting back hedges.

Complaints about the flags not being taken down in town. Larry will speak with the Royalton Highway department members.

The Selectboard discussed the revised plans for the library and agreed the space is being used in a more efficient matter.

The Selectboard discussed the municipal tax rate and how rising taxes effects the majority of landowners in Royalton.

Meeting Adjourned 10:00pm

Respectfully submitted by

Royalton Town Administrator Rose Hemond

