

**Town of Royalton
Royalton Selectboard Regular Meeting
April 9, 2019 7:00pm
Town Office on Route 14**

Royalton Selectboard: Tim Dreisbach, Chris Noble, Phoebe Preston, Tim Murphy

Regrets: Sandy Conrad

Town Staff: Town Administrator, Rose Hemond, Police Chief Loretta Stalnaker, Royalton Constable Marc Preston, Royalton Road Foremen Demi Boles and Paul Brock

Public: Stuart Levasseur, Jojo Levasseur, John Dumville, Donald Murray, David Fink, Bob Gray

Vice Chairman Tim Dreisbach opened the Selectboard Meeting at 7:00pm

C. Noble motioned and P. Preston seconded to enter executive session at 7:03pm to speak about personnel matters. Police Chief Loretta Stalnaker, Royalton Constable Marc Preston, and Rose Hemond were invited to stay. Motion passed 3-0

**T. Murphy motioned and P. Preston seconded to exit executive session at 7:14pm
Motion passed 3-0**

Action Taken: C. Noble motioned and P. Preston seconded to hire John Hartman (contingent upon a successful background check) as the administrative assistant to the Royalton Police Department. After careful review of candidates by Chief Loretta Stalnaker, Johns' skills and background most closely match the job description. His rate of pay will be \$13.00 per hour for less than 20 hours per week. Start date will be immediately after completion of background check. Motion passed 3-0

C. Noble motioned and T. Murphy seconded to approve and sign the Royalton Police Department Bias Policy Motion passed 3-0

Chief Stalnaker spoke about the community meetings at the Tunbridge School on Wednesday for community involvement to help fight crime.

Royalton Highway Department Roads and Future Strategy Tim Murphy spoke about developing a highway calendar to help the public get information about upcoming road projects or issues.

The Selectboard reviewed bids for Post Farm Road Ditching Project to be paid for with a grant and a 20% match from the town. Discussion ensued about the lowest bidder and the contractor recommended by the road foremen. Demi stated all those that submitted bids were qualified to do the work. C. Noble motioned and T. Murphy seconded to award the bid for the Post Farm Road Ditching project to G&N Excavation for \$4500.00 Motion passed 3-1

Donald Murray and David Fink from Rock of Ages resubmitted their excess weight permit and explained they are looking to get approval for 108,000lbs on 6 axles for a short stretch of road in Royalton. They already have state approval for the same weight and axles and explained that the nature of their business does not allow them to break up loads. C. Noble motioned and P. Preston seconded to authorize Tim Dreisbach to sign the resubmitted excess weight permit for Rock of Ages allowing 108,000 for indivisible loads and 99,000lbs for divisible loads on 6 axles for short stretch of Christian Hill Road in Royalton. Motion passed 3-0

**Demi mentioned a residents helping with road maintenance during mud season. T. Murphy motioned and C. Noble seconded to write a letter recognize the assistance provided by residents Larry Trottier and Tim Hart. Motion passed 3-0
Tim will work on letters with Paul and Demi.**

The Selectboard thanked the Royalton Highway Department for all their hard work during a most challenging mud season.

Royalton resident, Bob Gray spoke to the Selectboard about the quality of material being placed on town roads. He said the town must use gravel because the sand was useless. It was mentioned the road material is expensive. Phoebe stated that there are other non-financial costs to consider for residents who have to deal with poor road conditions. Bob asked the Selectboard to consider creating a summer maintenance schedule. Tim Dreisbach agreed that an analysis of town roads should be done and a maintenance schedule should be created from the results of this analysis. The most troublesome road segments should be repaired first.

Royalton Memorial Library Project: C. Noble motioned and P. Preston seconded to authorize Town Treasurer LuAnn Bingham to make advance requests on the Mascoma Bank Line of Credit for the Royalton Memorial Library Renovation Project. Motion passed 3-0.

C. Noble motioned and T. Murphy seconded to authorize use of funds from the Community Betterment Fund to pay the pay for the Clerk of the Works for the Royalton Memorial Library Renovation Project. Motion passed 3-0

C. Noble motioned and T. Murphy seconded to authorize use of funds from the Community Betterment Fund to pay the pay for Builders risk insurance for the Royalton Memorial Library Renovation Project. Motion passed 3-0

C. Noble motioned and P. Preston seconded to authorize the town to donate sand and gravel (100 yards) for the Royalton Memorial Library Renovation Project from town highway inventory. Donation will be accounted for in project costs. Motion passed 3-0.

P. Preston motioned and T. Murphy seconded give conditional approval to Upland Construction to stockpile topsoil (300 yards) for the Royalton Memorial Library Project at a location subject to approval by the Royalton Highway Department. Motion passed 3-0

Bob Gray discussed a fine (\$250) for pedestrians crossing railroad tracks. (Enforced by the railroad company) Chris Noble suggested the town look into the safety of railroad crossings in town.

T. Murphy motioned and P. Preston seconded to approve a Liquor License for Crossroads Bar and Grill. Motion passed 3-0

Royalton Planning Commission Appointment: T. Murphy motioned and C. Noble sounded to approve Roni Johnson for another 3 year term on the Royalton Planning Commission. Motion passed 3-0

Stuart Levasseur, Royalton Planning Commission Chair, commented on the continued work being done on a draft of the Royalton Town Plan. They are currently working on the land use section.

T. Murphy motioned and C. noble seconded to approve the following excess weight permits including those with weight limit approval reduction by the Selectboard Barnett Trucking, G. W Tatro Inc., Miller Construction, Xcav8 LLC, and Camp Pre-Cast Motion passed 3-0

Accounts Payable as prepared by Town Treasurer LuAnn Bingham were reviewed and approved by the Selectboard.

T. Murphy motioned and C. Noble seconded to approve the Selectboard Meeting Minutes for 03/26/2019

Tim Dreisbach mentioned policies the Selectboard will review and consider in the near future such as a Royalton Municipal Office Building Posting Policy and a Social Media Policy. He would also like to explore media training for town officials. Rose will look into any courses or workshops VLCT may offer. Phoebe suggested getting other towns involved as to share the costs of the workshop.

Meeting Adjourned 9:13pm

Respectfully Submitted By

Town Administrator Rose Hemond