

Royalton Planning Commission

APPROVED – Minutes

Monday, January 10, 2011

Members Attending: Barcelow, Beguin, Gravel, Judge, Levasseur

Guests Attending: Christian Petrangelo (Note Taker), John Lefgren (owner of property in Sharon, VT), Michael Kennedy (President of Joseph Smith Historical Society), Larry Trotter, Ronny Johnson

Meeting came to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Lefgren Property (Guests)

- Kennedy provided background on Joseph Smith Historical Society, stating goal to establish a museum for historical artifacts related to Joseph Smith and open it to the public, possibly at the current Lefgren property in Sharon.
- Judge, welcoming visitors to Royalton, said that the Lefgren property is currently involved in Act 250 litigation at the Vermont Supreme Court. The role of RPC is therefore limited at this time.
- Kennedy said that he wished to gauge community interest in the project.
- Barcelow moved to enter executive session. No member seconded. Motion denied.
- Levasseur reiterated Judge's point that the current litigation limits RPC's ability to take any action at this time.

2. Minutes, November 22, 2010

- Barcelow moved to accept minutes as presented. Beguin seconded. Gravel abstained. Motion carries.

3. RPC Report for Town Report

- Beguin inquired whether the term "zoning" should be used in the report.
 - Levasseur recommended that, for purposes of transparency, "zoning" should be used.
 - Judge asserted that "unified development bylaw" would be better.
 - Gravel offered that "zoning" should be used since it is more direct/honest.
 - Judge referred to a title/heading listing "land development bylaw" and suggested using that diction. Levasseur agreed.
- Discussion ensued regarding diction in report for Select Board approval and further public comment, e.g.:
 - Barcelow: "The proposed process of adoption would begin . . ."
 - Levasseur: "Should the select board approve, the ordinance will be available for public scrutiny . . ."
- Judge recommended adding "at the request of the community" given the 2005

survey results, emphasizing that Select Board asked RPC to take action for this reason.

- Barcelow/Gravel suggested: “Based on a 2005 survey in which the voters . . .”
- Beguin argued that the words should just be left as they were before.
- Gravel recommended replacing public “scrutiny” with public “review” and that the term “hearings” should be maintained.
 - Levasseur agreed and made edits.
- Judge suggested adding in something like “we appreciate the opportunity to participate in Royalton’s town government and to work with the Select Board towards the common good of our town.”
 - Following RPC debate, which resulted in member agreement, Levasseur made edits.
- Judge moved to accept the edits. Beguin seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

4. Capital Budget Process

- Levasseur, presenting three capital budget/improvement documents, said that any capital budget action must be approved by voters. Generally, RPC (or subcommittee) plays important role in creating a 5–7 year plan, which projects how much money will be needed. Voters must approve it since money is being set aside. Projects may “jump” in priority order if/when needed.
- Barcelow said that he recently spoke with Larry, who felt that this is a general “concept” still under development.
- Beguin inquired what RPC’s role is vis-à-vis the Select Board?
 - Judge said that RPC should be a review/advisory board only. Or, if there is a capital budge commission, an RPC member could act as a liaison between the two groups.

5. Executive Session

- Barcelow moved to enter executive session at 8:00 PM. Judge seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.
- Barcelow moved to exit executive session at 8:25 PM. Judge seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

Judge moved to adjourn. Barcelow seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

Meeting ended at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christian Petrangelo
christian.petrangelo@gmail.com