

Royalton Selectboard
Knights Opera House

June 29, 2010

Public Present: White River Partnership representative Falko Schilling, Peg Elmer, Chief of Police Bob Hull, Stuart Levasseur, and Administrative Assistant Nathan Cleveland

Selectboard Present: Larry Trottier, Ernie Amsden, Peggy Ainsworth, Joan Goldstein, Phil Gates

Chairman Trottier called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed Peg Elmer to the meeting. Mrs. Elmer was present to offer .3 acre parcel of land north of the Chelsea Street Bridge to the town of Royalton. Discussion ensued on the location of the parcel and the possibility of the town accepting the property. Mr. Schilling reported that the goal was for Mrs. Elmer to donate the land to the Vermont River Conservancy and through a landscape auction sponsored by the White River Partnership the cost of transferring the property to the conservancy and creating an easement will be covered, and at that point the property would be donated to the Town of Royalton.

A motion was made by E. Amsden and seconded by J. Goldstein to accept the .3 acre property offered by Mrs. Peg Elmer. The motion passed unanimously.

Royalton Academy Building

Lease Agreements

The Selectboard reviewed the lease agreements for the Royalton Civics Club and the Royalton Pre-School. It was noted that an error on the lease had been discovered by the Civics Club, and the correction has been made.

A motion was made by P. Ainsworth and seconded by P. Gates to sign lease agreements for school district and civics club. Motion passed.

Highway Department

Excess Weight Permit Application

Administrative Assistant Cleveland reported J. P. Sicard has confirmed the requested weight of 99,000 is for the tractor trailer and equipment (equipment weighs 32,000 lbs.) that it will be hauling. The tractor trailer truck and the equipment will not cross the Royalton Village Bridge (BR # 31

A motion was made by J. Goldstein and seconded by P. Gates to accept the Excess weight permit received from J. P. Sicard. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurers Office

Discussion ensued on the new FP Mailing solutions mailing meter. The Town Clerk and Treasurer requested permission to set up automatic withdrawals from a Town bank account to pay for postage. (A \$15.00 fee is added if the postage is paid by credit card.) The Selectboard asked if it is possible to prepay or be invoiced for the postage. No action was taken.

Accounts Payable

The Selectboard reviewed the payment voucher for extra mowing on the little league baseball fields. The Royalton Recreation Commission has approved the payment.

A motion was made by P. Gates and seconded by P. Ainsworth to execute payment for the extra recreation field mowing. The motion passed unanimously.

EC Fiber Network

Board member J. Goldstein opened discussion on the process required to support the EC Fiber Network application for funding by the Community Development Block Grant through the Vermont Community Development Program. Through the program the Town applies for the funds and is considered the lender to the start up organization. There is a required hearing that the Selectboard agreed to hold on July 27, 2010, a regular scheduled meeting. (A public notice will be published in the Randolph Herald on July 8, 2010.)

P. Gates made a motion that was seconded by E. Amsden to support and move forward on the Community Development Block Grant application process. The motion passed 3-0-1 (J. Goldstein abstained).

White River Partnership

Administrative Assistant Cleveland reported that the State of Vermont has approved the Aquatic Nuisance Grant-in-Aid for the White River Partnership to monitor non-native species of crayfish in the white River Watershed. The Town supported the application as the application must be supported by a municipality. The Town has supported the White River Partnership grant applications in the past that included monitoring didymo (rock snot).

A motion was made by P. Ainsworth and seconded by J. Goldstein to authorize Administrative Assistant Cleveland to execute the Aquatic Nuisance Grant-in-Aid agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

Heating Fuel Bids

Administrative Assistant received pricing for heating oil and propane. He reported that he received pricing from Irving Oil, Rymes Heating Oils, Inc., Dead River, and Patriot fuel. **J. Goldstein made a motion that was seconded by E. Amsden to contract with the lowest bid price received from Rymes Heating Oils, Inc. to provide heating oil at a fixed price of \$2.519 per gallon and propane at a price of \$2.729 per gallon. The motion passed unanimously.**

Police Cruiser

Discussion ensued on police vehicle prices received. The recommended vehicle by the Police Chief is a 2004 Ford Crown Victoria. The dealership is asking \$7,500.00 for the vehicle. The vehicle has a new black paint job and has 41,000 miles on it.

J. Goldstein made a motion to authorize P. Gates to initially offer \$6,500 to purchase the 2004 Ford Crown Victoria police cruiser from US Fleet Grace Quality Used Cars, or if the \$6,500.00 offer is not accepted, an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00. The motion was seconded by P. Gates. Discussion ensued on the proposed police cruiser. Motion passed unanimously.

VLS Scholarship

Discussion ensued on the drafted letter that was sent to the Vermont Law School requesting that they offer one scholarship per year rather than one scholarship at a time. The Selectboard asked that Administrative Assistant Cleveland write a letter to Lindsay Cole requesting her to contact Ms. Renee Staudinger concerning splitting the full tuition scholarship as stipulated in the 2009 agreement signed by the Royalton Selectboard.

Selectboard Minutes of June 8, and June 15, 2010

The Selectboard reviewed the draft minutes of June 8, and June 15, 2010.

A motion was made by P. Ainsworth and seconded by P. Gates to approve the Selectboard minutes of June 8 and 15, 2010 as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Bond Vote Results

The Selectboard reported that the bond vote was defeated by a final tally of 100 votes in favor of the bond and 207 against.

Employee Evaluations

A motion was made by P. Ainsworth and seconded by P. Gates to move into executive session to discuss employee evaluations.

Entered executive session at 9:06 p.m.

Exited executive session at 9:50 p.m. with no action taken.

A motion was made by P. Ainsworth and seconded by J. Goldstein to set the salaries for the following employees as follows: Police Officer John Breault \$1.00 per hour salary increase, Chief of Police Robert Hull \$1.00 per hour salary increase, Road Foreman Roger McCrillis \$.25 per hour salary increase, Administrative Assistant Nathan Cleveland to be paid a salary of \$30,000 per year. The motion passed unanimously.

Additional Business

Board member P. Gates reported that the Royalton Memorial Library is beginning to start to plan for its handicapped access problems. P. Gates also discussed the woodchuck problem at the sewer treatment plant. The board asked that the sewer operators contact the Town Road Foreman to assist with trimming back brush and weeds around the perimeter fence and the lagoons.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Nathan P. Cleveland and Peggy Ainsworth