

Royalton Selectboard
Royalton Town Clerk's Office

August 23, 2011

Public Present: Donna Carpenter, Hank Clark, Town Treasurer Theresa Harrington, Pam Levasseur, Road Foreman Roger McCrillis, Chief of Police Robert Hull, and Administrative Assistant Nathan Cleveland

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

Chairman Larry Trottier opened the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Appointments – Donna Carpenter, Town Treasurer Theresa Harrington

Donna Carpenter – Gilman Road

Ms. Carpenter presented the Selectboard with an appraisal of the property that the Selectboard has identified as a potential site to relocate a section of Gilman Road that has been prone to landslides. Discussion ensued on the potential purchase of the property. It was noted that town wide voter approval would be required to purchase the property.

Town Treasurer – 2011 Town Property Tax Rate, Homestead Declaration, and Financial Director

2011 Town Property Tax Rate

Town Treasurer presented the Selectboard with the proposed 2011 tax rate as prepared by the town Listers. Discussion ensued on the increase rate.

P. Gates made a motion that was seconded by P. Ainsworth to set the residential property tax rate at \$1.9123 and the non-residential property tax rate at \$1.9780. The motion passed unanimously.

Homestead Declaration

Treasurer T. Harrington explained legislation passed by the State that allows town's to grant a waiver of the penalty for late filing of a Homestead declaration.

E. Amsden made a motion that was seconded by P. Gates to allow the town Listers and Treasurer to waive the penalty on late filings of the homestead declaration. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Director

Discussion ensued on the proposed financial director position. The discussion focused on the possibility of shifting the town's accounting responsibility to the Selectboard's office through the creation of a Financial Director. The town Treasurer would then only be required to perform statutory obligations. No action was taken.

Public Concerns

Administrative Assistant N. Cleveland reported that he was contacted by a resident who was concerned with the junk located on the property of their neighbor. The junk is associated with the business owned by Gerry White on Arctic Cat Road. The town's Health officer has been notified and feels there is no imminent risk to the public health. The State of Vermont has been requested to inspect the property for potential hazards or violations.

Health Officer Robert Hull reported that he and Selectboard Chairman L. Trottier were requested to inspect a shed in Eaton's Trailer park that has a large amount of household garbage and debris stored

inside. The park's owner has been notified of the issue, and the process of mandating the removal of the garbage has begun. The Selectboard, as the town's Health Board will be required to issue an order to mandate the removal of the garbage and debris.

Administrative Assistant N. Cleveland reported a complaint concerning the signage of the detour for the Mill Road closing. The Selectboard acknowledged the concern. No action was taken due to the project being close to completion.

Selectboard Minutes of August 9, 2011

P. Ainsworth made a motion that was seconded by E. Amsden to approve the Selectboard minutes of August 9, 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

Traffic Ordinance

Administrative Assistant N. Cleveland passed out copies of the proposed amendments to the Town of Royalton Traffic Ordinance. Discussion ensued on the proposed changes. It was noted that the Vermont Law School had offered to contribute \$200 to the expense of painting a cross walk at the location of the construction site on Chelsea Street.

E. Amsden made a motion that was seconded by P. Gates to adopt the amendments to the Town of Royalton Traffic Ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.

Capital Improvement Plan

Discussion ensued on the proposed project prioritization list for capital projects. No action was taken.

Heating Fuel Pricing

Administrative Assistant N. Cleveland presented pricing for heating fuel for the upcoming 2011/2012 heating season. No action was taken.

Request to use the South Royalton Village Green

The Selectboard discussed the request from the Royalton area Cub Scouts to use the S. Royalton Village Green on September 10, 2011. **P. Gates made a motion that was seconded by E. Amsden to approve the request to use the South Royalton Village Green on September 10th by the Royalton Cub Scouts. The motion passed unanimously.**

Royalton Town Forrest

The Selectboard reviewed an estimate provided by Sunwise Surveying, to survey a 10 acre portion of the Royalton Town Forest that the Selectboard is in negotiations to sell. The Selectboard asked to request an additional survey proposal from Larry Swanson .

P. Ainsworth made a motion that was seconded by P. Gates to enter into executive session, inviting Administrative Assistant N. Cleveland, to discuss the negotiation of real estate purchase options. The motion passed unanimously.

Entered executive session at 10:43 p.m.

Exited executive session at 10:55 p.m. with no action taken.

Meeting adjourned at 10:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Nathan P. Cleveland