

Royalton Selectboard Meeting
Royalton Town Clerk's Office

October 25, 2011

Public Present: Dubois and King Inc. President Jeffery Tucker, Stuart Levasseur, Road Foreman Roger McCrillis, Mike Bald, Susan Norton, Town Treasurer Theresa Harrington, and Administrative Assistant Nathan Cleveland

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

Chairman Larry Trottier opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Appointment

Dubois and King President Jeffery Tucker – FEMA Project Update

Chairman Larry Trottier expressed his gratitude to Mr. Tucker and his firm for all of the work and support that he personally and his firm have given to the town of Royalton. Mr. Jeffrey Tucker, representing the engineering firm Dubois and King, Inc. that the town of Royalton has contracted with for FEMA related project management, presented an update of progress on FEMA related projects.

Town Treasurer Theresa Harrington – FEMA and Mill Road project funding

Treasurer T. Harrington reported that Mascoma Savings Bank and Randolph National Bank have both submitted a bid of 1% interest for a line of credit up to \$2,000,000

P. Gates/E. Amsden made a motion to open a line of credit up to \$2,000,000 with Randolph National Bank. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer T. Harrington asked to discuss the potential move to the former Crawford Autoland building. She noted that she is meeting with Charter to install the internet service, and needs to get a router, and asked for permission to get bids on a machine that would print, scan and fax. Also discussed was the need to have a locksmith key the doors.

Public Concerns

Susan Norton – Damage to vehicle relating to road work on Royalton Hill Rd.

Ms. Susan Norton was present to request that the town of Royalton pay the book value of the vehicle that she was driving when she hit a pile of crushed stone that was being applied to Royalton Hill Road. She noted that she is looking for the book value of her car as it is an older Honda Civic that only books for \$2,685.00 and was deemed to be a total loss. It is currently at Dean's Auto Service in Bethel, VT. Board member P. Ainsworth expressed a wish to review the accident report and have the town's insurance company review. The Selectboard agreed to submit a claim to the VLCT.

P. Ainsworth made a motion that P. Gates seconded, to submit claim to VLCT concerning Ms. Susan Norton. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike Bald – Thank you to Royalton organizations for service immediately following Tropical Storm Irene

Mr. Bald was present to discuss potential thank you's to the various organizations that assisted with post Tropical Storm Irene work. Discussion ensued on how to capture the numerous groups, organizations and individuals who assisted the town of Royalton.

FEMA Projects

Chelsea Street Bridge Debris Removal –

Discussion ensued on the need to remove additional trees submerged in the river bed. It was noted that the additional trees that are submerged do not pose a threat to the structural integrity of the bridge. The Selectboard decided not to incur additional expenses to remove these trees.

Carpenter Recreation Field

The Selectboard discussed the process to complete the work with the debris and silt sedimentation removal from the Carpenter Recreation Field. Administrative Assistant N. Cleveland recommended bidding the remaining work out to expedite the reconstruction process. **E. Amsden made a motion that P. Ainsworth seconded, to request Dubois and King to add the Carpenter Recreation Field reconstruction project to their project list. Discussion ensued. The motion passed unanimously.**

Perley Farm Road

Discussion on the process to repair or relocate the road was discussed. It was noted that a potential relocation would be the most cost effective way to rebuild this road as the old road was along the bank of the White River and is prone to erosion and washing out. The proposed relocated road would cause the old road to be discontinued at the entrance to the Masonic hall. It was also noted that some riprap would be required to ensure the river does not continue to erode the land owned by Mr. Perley. The Selectboard discussed utilizing a discontinuance hearing to achieve the relocation of the road away from the river bank as a temporary road has been established preventing vehicles from being in danger along the original road.

Gilman Road

Discussion ensued on the statutory process to relocate the section of the Gilman Road due to the safety concern. The most cost effective way of addressing the reconstruction of this road would be to relocate it away from the eroded stream bank and, due to the existing safety concerns the Selectboard anticipates being able to relocate the road away from the hazardous bank to more stable ground.

P. Gates made a motion that P. Ainsworth seconded to send Donna Carpenter a letter of intent for purchase of the land and state the estimated purchase closing would take place in a few months. The motion passed unanimously.

Flood Cleanup – Randolph Technical Career Center (River Cleanup)

Discussion on the removal of garbage cleaned up by students at the Randolph Technical Career Center. The volunteers cleaned up from the Bigelow Farm down to the North Royalton underpass.

E. Amsden made a motion that P. Ainsworth seconded to pay the cost of the disposal of the garbage removed by The White River Partnership and volunteers from along the White River and pay out of the Royalton Betterment Fund. The motion passed unanimously.

Bloss Ballou Road

Discussion ensued on the progress with the mutual agreement for the relocation of the northern portion of the Bloss Ballou Road. The Selectboard is concerned that the delays in the agreement have continued for too long and action must be taken.

P. Gates made a motion that E. Amsden seconded to proceed with rule 70 motion.

Discussion ensued on the motion made by P. Gates. P. Gates made a motion that E. Amsden seconded to amend his original motion so that it would state: “to proceed with rule 70 motion if an agreement is not reached within 10 days of October 25, 2011”. The motion passed unanimously.

Highway Additional Business

Bill Corwin has completed his house and the town will need to plow an additional length of Lovers Lane. To be able to achieve this, a town equipment turnaround will need to be constructed. No further action was taken.

Selectboard Minutes

P. Ainsworth made a motion that P. Gates seconded to approve the Selectboard minutes of 9/27/11, 10/04/11, and 10/11/11. The motion passed unanimously.

Heating Fuel Pricing

Administrative Assistant N. Cleveland reported that only 2 companies responded to his request for fixed pricing on heating fuel. The companies responded as follows: Dead River (#2 oil \$3.499, Propane \$2.299) and Rymes Fuel (#2 oil \$3.499, Propane \$2.79). Discussion ensued. **P. Gates made a motion that P. Ainsworth seconded to contract with Rymes fuel for heating oil and propane. The motion passed unanimously.**

Liquor License –

The Selectboard reviewed an application for a liquor license received from Village Pizza. The restaurant has reorganized and needs a new license.

P. Ainsworth made a motion that E. Amsden seconded to approve the Liquor License application for Village Pizza of Royalton. The motion passed unanimously.

Use of S. Royalton Village Green –

The Selectboard reviewed a request for the annual Royalton Christmas Pageant to be held on the South Royalton Village Green on December 18, 2011.

E. Amsden made a motion that P. Gates seconded to approve the request to use the South Royalton Village Green on December 18, 2011 for the annual Christmas Pageant. The motion passed unanimously.

Sarnoff Property

The Selectboard reviewed a request to allow perc testing on the portion of the Royalton Town Forest that Nava Bio-Energy is hoping to purchase from the town.

E. Amsden made a motion that P. Ainsworth seconded, authorizing Nava Bio-Energy to perform perc tests on the portion of the Royalton Town Forest that has been identified to be sold. The motion passed unanimously.

Hope Property

The Selectboard discussed the proposed use of the Hope property received from the South Royalton School athletic director. The school has requested permission to construct a middle school softball field at the Hope property on South Windsor Street as well as continue to use the land for a soccer field.

P. Gates made a motion that P. Ainsworth seconded to approve the request from the South Royalton School to construct a middle school softball field on the Hope property. The motion passed unanimously.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

N. Cleveland, Administrative Assistant and Royalton Flood Zoning Administrator, gave a report on the State of Vermont and FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). This program allows the town to submit grant applications that will fund the purchase of any property which was damaged by flooding and is within the special flood hazard area. It was reported that there are five (5) properties that expressed an interest in this program. It was also reported that the program is a voluntary program that the property owners may take part in if they choose and if the town chooses to support. If the grants are approved, the property then would have deed restrictions preventing the property(ies) from being developed. The property would become “green” or open space owned by the town

P. Ainsworth made a motion that P. Gates seconded to support property owners interested in participating in the application process for the HMGP. The motion passed unanimously.

Crawford Property

The Selectboard discussed their intent to move out of the Knight’s Opera House no later than the 1st of December (2011). A request to allow Norwich University students to work with the contractor (ECS, Inc.) on the “Brownfields” assessment was approved.

Additional Business

The Selectboard reviewed and approved accounts payable and payroll vouchers as prepared by the Town Treasurer.

Adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Nathan P. Cleveland