

Royalton Selectboard Meeting
Royalton Town Clerk's Office

November 22, 2011

Public Present: Royalton Civics Club President Sandra Conrad, Road Foreman Roger McCrillis, and Administrative Assistant Nathan Cleveland

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

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

Appointment

Sandra Conrad – Royalton Civics Club – Royalton Academy Building, Emergency Shelter Improvement

Ms. Sandra Conrad, President of the Royalton Civics Club presented a request to pursue improvements to the Royalton Academy aimed at improving the amenities needed for an emergency shelter. Proposed improvements include a generator, cots, blankets and potentially installing a shower. The Selectboard did not take action but supported Ms. Conrad and the Royalton Civics Club efforts to pursue the proposed improvements.

Public Concerns

Administrative Assistant N. Cleveland presented proposed thank you letters prepared by Mr. Mike Bald to service organizations in the community that assisted with post Tropical Storm Irene recovery efforts. Mr. Bald was seeking permission to have the letters printed on large paper to have community members sign prior to presenting the letters to the service agencies.

P. Gates made a motion that E. Amsden seconded to approve the use of community betterment fund money to print thank you letters for organizations that provided support to the greater Royalton Community. The motion passed unanimously.

Highway

The Selectboard reviewed applications for excess weight permits received from Terry Rogers and GW Tatro, Inc.

P. Ainsworth made a motion that P. Gates seconded approving the excess weight permit applications received from Terry Rogers and GW Tatro, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

FEMA – Project Updates

Administrative Assistant N. Cleveland reported that FEMA has given verbal approval of eligible projects that included the current rip rap projects on Broad Brook Rd, Royalton Hill Rd., Back River Rd., and at the municipal sewer outfall. He reported that the town's engineer is working on clarifying the project on Gilman Rd. and Perley Farm Rd. He also updated the Selectboard on FEMA project worksheets that must be completed for all repairs that have occurred as a result of Tropical Storm Irene.

Selectboard

The Selectboard reviewed the draft Selectboard minutes of October 25, 2011, October 28, 2011, November 8, 2011 and November 15, 2011. Selectboard Clerk P. Ainsworth proposed minor edits.

P. Ainsworth made a motion that P. Gates seconded to approve the minutes of October 25, 2011. The motion passed with J. Goldstein abstaining.

P. Ainsworth made a motion that P. Gates seconded to approve the minutes of October 28, 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

P. Ainsworth made a motion that P. Gates seconded to approve the minutes of November 8, 2011. The motion passed with J. Goldstein abstaining.

P. Ainsworth made a motion that P. Gates seconded to approve the minutes of November 15, 2011. The motion passed with J. Goldstein abstaining.

Contested Parking Ticket #5833

The Selectboard considered a request to dismiss a parking ticket issued for overnight parking.

J. Goldstein made a motion that P. Ainsworth seconded to accept community service in lieu of paying \$50 in cash for parking ticket #5833. The motion passed unanimously with E. Amsden abstaining.

Discussion ensued on the towing policy concerning traffic ordinance violations. The Selectboard noted that no tow company should be given authority to tow a vehicle without being contacted by the town road foreman or the police department.

Planning Commission Appointment

Chairman L. Trottier noted that he and P. Gates are representing the Selectboard for the interview of Mr. Timothy Dreisbach to fill a vacancy on the Royalton Planning Commission.

Royalton Lister Office

Mr. J. Barcelow and Mr. W. Hastings reported that a decision was issued concerning the Nils D'Aulaire property assessment appeal. If the Selectboard wishes to appeal the original decision on Mr. D'Aulaire's appeal. A legal opinion received by the Town Lister's indicates that there are multiple points that an appeal could be based on, specifically end of road assessments. The legal opinion recommends filing a motion for reconsideration with the State of Vermont. Discussion ensued, and it was noted that 4-6 hrs (at a rate of \$140.00 per hour) would be required to file a motion to reconsider the state appraiser's finding.

P. Gates made a motion that E. Amsden seconded to authorize the Royalton Listers to proceed with letter requesting a reconsideration to the State of Vermont from attorney Charles Merriman. The motion passed with J. Goldstein opposed.

Flood Hazard Development Review Board

Flood Zoning Administrator opened discussion on the Flood Hazard Development Review Board (FHDRB). He noted that currently as no appointees have been made, the Selectboard serves as the (FHDRB). He presented the Selectboard with individuals interested in serving on the FHDRB, including Josephine Levasseur, Rebecca Beguin, David Brandau, Geo Honigford, and Ronald Cavanaugh.

J. Goldstein made a motion that P. Gates seconded to appoint the following individuals to the Royalton Flood Hazard Development Review Board: J. Levasseur, Rebecca Beguin, Geo Honigford to a three, two and one year term to be determined by the appointees, and appoint David Brandau and Ronald Cavanaugh as alternates, serving one year terms each. The motion passed unanimously.

Crawford Autoland

Administrative Assistant N. Cleveland distributed an email concerning asbestos being present in building materials in the former Crawford Autoland Building. It was noted that these materials will have to be disposed of by a licensed asbestos contractor and a separate contractor will be required to manage and monitor the remediation project. Discussion ensued but no action was taken.

Meeting Schedule

PC appointment interview 11/28

Budget meeting 11/29

Accounts Payable/Payroll

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

Additional Business

P. Gates opened discussion on the funding of individual assistance the town has provided residents who had damage to their property.

J. Goldstein made a motion that E. Amsden seconded to discontinue the FEMA debris account at the Royalton/Bethel Transfer Station that has been covered by the Town of Royalton. The motion passed unanimously. Discussion ensued on the management practices of the facility. The Selectboard discussed requesting a meeting of the Bethel Selectboard and the Royalton Selectboard concerning the management practices of the Royalton/Bethel Transfer Station.

Adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Nathan P. Cleveland