

Royalton Selectboard
Knight's Opera House

December 14, 2010

Public Present: Rescue Squad Captain Corinne Ingraham, Volunteer Fire Chief David Whitney, Royalton Memorial Library Trustee Chairwoman Cindy Gates, Planning Commission Chairwoman Jo Levasseur, Stuart Levasseur, and Administrative Assistant Nathan Cleveland

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

Chairman Trottier opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Capital Budgeting

Administrative Assistant Cleveland opened discussion on the Selectboard's goal of developing a capital budget program. He noted that the first step in developing a capital budget program is for department heads to develop a project list that is then prioritized in order of necessity, and viability. These project prioritization lists are then analyzed to find which projects directly relate to others.

Department needs were discussed.

Fire and Rescue noted that upcoming capital purchases would include a new tanker truck for the fire department, a new ambulance for the rescue squad.

Chief Hull noted that the Police Department may need to hire a certified full-time police officer in the next 3-5 years, as the State Police are continuing to shift responsibility to local Police Departments.

C. Gates noted that the Royalton Memorial Library Trustees are in the process of developing renovation plans for the Royalton Memorial Library. She noted that potential plans would be developed within the next year.

Road Foreman R. McCrillis noted that a shift to undertaking major projects rather than band aids such as shim coats for paving would require capital budgeting. Projects that he identified included stabilizing the Back River Road, replacement of culverts and repaving N. Windsor St. and repaving and replacement of culverts on Pleasant Street among the top for the next 3-5 years.

The Sewer Department is currently being reviewed by Forcier, Aldrich and Associates an engineering firm hired to identify capital improvements that are required in the next few years.

Additional project information will be gathered by departments, and presented to the Selectboard after Town Meeting in March, 2011.

Highway Department

Oversized Modular Home –

P. Gates made a motion that was seconded by J. Goldstein to allow an oversized delivery of a modular home to Dairy Hill Rd, with the stipulation that the police

department provide traffic control at the intersection of Dairy Hill Rd. and VT Route 14. The motion passed unanimously.

Selectboard Office

Selectboard Minutes of December 7, 2010

J. Goldstein made a motion that was seconded by P. Gates to approve the minutes of December 7, 2010. The motion carried with E. Amsden abstaining.

Prouty Benefit Ride

Discussion ensued on the request to use the South Royalton Village green on July 9, 2011 as a rest stop for the Norris Cotton Cancer Center's annual Prouty Benefit Bike ride.

J. Goldstein made a motion that was seconded by P. Gates to approve the proposed use of green by the Prouty benefit bike ride on July 9, 2011 with a stipulation that the spaces to be reserved not be blocked until after 10:00 p.m. on July 8, 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

North Rd pole replacement – Fair Point Communications

P. Ainsworth made a motion that was seconded by J. Goldstein approving Fair Point Communication's application to replace utility poles along the North Road. The motion passed unanimously.

Additional Business

Health Insurance Provider

Discussion ensued on contracting for health insurance benefits. Currently the town contracts with Cigna, through the Vermont League of Cities and Towns. The town has received price quotes from the Rathbone Agency, a subsidiary of Kinney Pike Insurance. The Selectboard reviewed the rates presented by Administrative Assistant Cleveland.

J. Goldstein made a motion that was seconded by P. Ainsworth to contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield brokered through Kinney Pike Insurance. The motion passed unanimously.

Sign Replacement

Some complaints were received concerning the placement of the signs in a manner that makes them illegible when approaching from one direction. Administrative Assistant Cleveland reported that he has discussed the issue with the Town's Road Foreman and he is changing the installation methods to allow the signs to be read from both directions of travel.

Police Department

Administrative Assistant Cleveland reported that he received a citizen complaint concerning the Royalton Police Department on December 9, 2010. The Selectboard reviewed the complaint and found that there was no evidence of wrongdoing by the Royalton Police Department. Administrative Assistant Cleveland was asked to contact the complainant and explain the Selectboard's findings.

Bloss Ballou Rd.

E. Amsden made a motion that was seconded by P. Gates to enter executive session to discuss ongoing litigation concerning the Bloss Ballou Road. The motion passed unanimously.

Entered executive session at 8:44 p.m.

Exited executive session at 9:13 with no action taken

A motion was made by J. Goldstein and seconded by P. Ainsworth, to authorize the town's attorney to respond to the Hodgdon's letter proposing a relocation of the current Bloss Ballou Rd. with amendments (changing Road Commissioner to Road Foreman, and changing deadlines for a response to the letter). The motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Nathan P. Cleveland