

March 24, 2009

Royalton Selectboard  
Knight's Opera House

Public present: Tori Lloyd, George Gruner, and Sharon Manning from Magic Mountain Children's Center, Nathan Cleveland, Chief of Police Robert Hull, and Randy Leavitt

Selectboard Members present: Peg Trombly, Larry Trottier, Peggy Ainsworth, Ernie Amsden, and Joan Goldstein

Chairwoman, Peg Trombly called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. She welcomed the representatives from Magic Mountain Children's Center to the meeting.

### **Public Concerns**

Tori Lloyd introduced the representatives from Magic Mountain Children's Center to discuss a proposed natural playscape playground at the children's center. Currently Magic Mountain Children's Center is in the planning stages of a new playground at their location on N. Windsor St. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of incorporating elements in Carpenter Recreation Park and /or the village green as well as assistance with the expenses of this possible project.

George Gruner, director of the Center noted that Magic Mountain is also looking to increase space for the infant room to meet demand for infant day care. There is a large waiting list and by enlarging the space Magic Mountain hopes to meet that need. They are also working on coordinating the curriculum with the Royalton kindergarten class.

### **Green Committee**

Randy Leavitt noted that membership of the Royalton Green Committee consists of himself, the Tree Warden, a Planning Commission member, a Conservation Committee member, and a Selectboard member. Randy would like to have another meeting and reorganize the group. A member was needed from the Planning Commission and the Selectboard to enable meetings to be held and develop ideas and address needs for the village green. **(Action needed to appoint representatives from the Planning Commission.)**

### **Selectboard Reorganization**

- 1) Regular meeting times and locations – P. Trombly noted that traditionally the meetings were held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. **E. Amsden made a motion to hold the regular Selectboard meetings at the Knight's Opera House at 7pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. J. Goldstein seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- 2) Designate a newspaper to publish public notices. **P. Ainsworth made a motion to designate the Randolph Herald as the official newspaper to publish public notices. E. Amsden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

- 3) **E. Amsden made a motion to post public notices in 5 places throughout Town (the locations are the bulletin board at the Royalton Academy Building, the bulletin board outside the Town Clerk's office, the bulletin board on Chelsea St. by the Laundromat, the bulletin board at the South Royalton Post office, and the bulletin board in the meeting room of the Knight's Opera house.) The motion was seconded by P. Ainsworth.** Ron Cavanaugh noted that he would like to see the voter check list posted outside the polling location to better inform the people running for town office's who has voted. P. Trombly advised that he address this request with the Town Clerk. **P. Trombly asked for further discussion. Hearing none she called the motion to a vote. The motion carried unanimously.**
- 4) Regional Transportation Representative. **L. Trottier made a motion to appoint N. Cleveland to represent the Town of Royalton on the Regional Transportation Committee. J. Goldstein seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**
- 5) Regional Planning Commission Representative – Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission (TRORC). **P. Ainsworth made a motion to appoint David Brandau to represent the Town of Royalton on the TRORC. E. Amsden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (Action needed to appoint an alternative – Walter Hastings currently serves.)**
- 6) **Selectboard appointees, L. Trottier made a motion to accept the slate of appointees as presented by N. Cleveland, including: Robert Hull as emergency management chairperson, Peter Chapman, David Lyman, and George Spaulding as Fence Viewers, Donald Lovejoy as Fire Warden, Robert Hull as Health Officer, David Lyman as Inspector of Lumber, The Country Animal Hospital as the Town's Pound Keeper, Sandra Conrad as the Town's Service Officer, Frank Lamson as Tree Warden, Paul Brock as Deputy Tree Warden, Phil Gates as representative to the White River Solid Waste Alliance, Walter Hastings as Flood Plain Zoning Administrator, James Proctor as advisor to the Selectboard for the Lovejoy Trust, and Sue Cain as Weigher of Coal. P. Ainsworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**
- 7) Planning commission post notice of vacancy in Herald and at posting locations.
- 8) Library Trustees – hold off on appointments until Cyndy Gates can recommend individuals.
- 9) **Stagecoach Transportation- town representative for the Board of Directors.** E. Amsden noted that due to the ability to have a Town representative and not just an appointed Selectboard member he felt that posting the position in the paper should be made. R. Cavanaugh noted that he would like to see all of the

vacancies posted in the paper. He would like to see new people become involved in the various committee's and commissions. P. Trombly noted that the commissions are based on terms, and that it has been difficult to fill some vacant positions.

**10) Selectboard representative to the Green Committee. J. Goldstein made a motion to appoint P. Ainsworth as the Selectboard representative to the Green Committee member. E. Amsden seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously**

**11) P. Trombly noted that she had served as the Selectboard's representative to the Recreation Commission for the past several years and inquired if another Selectboard member would be interested in serving. She also noted that Mary Benoit would be resigning as chair of the commission. Nicole Anderson has been hired as a part time recreation director to enhance the work and programs offered by the Recreation Commission. E. Amsden noted that he would be willing to try to attend the monthly meetings. P. Ainsworth made a motion to appoint E. Amsden as the Selectboard's representative to the Recreation Committee. L. Trottier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Chair P. Trombly noted the need to review current policies and asked members to review those relating to the Pollution Abatement Facility for discussion at the next meeting. She also asked that members prepare a priority list of three topics they're particularly interested in to bring to the next meeting.

#### **Vermont Law School – Town of Royalton Community Betterment Fund Agreement**

Chair Trombly shared draft copies of an agreement for the Town of Royalton and the Vermont Law School which mirrors the current agreement. This draft agreement has been reviewed by the Town's agent, Frank Berk. She noted that the agreement needs to be signed by the School Board, the Selectboard, and the Vermont Law School. Selectboard members reviewed the document agreement.

The Selectboard also reviewed the Community Betterment Fund income and expense report that was prepared by Treasurer Harrington.

R. Cavanaugh commented that he felt the Law School was not providing enough benefits for the Town.

#### **Police Department**

Chief Hull noted that there are grants available to help fund new enforcement hiring for certified full time officers. He noted that at the this time he was concerned that sending a new officer to the Police Academy would not be completed on time to provide coverage for the Town of Sharon. He also noted that a part time certified officer can work as many hours as they wish for 25 weeks a year or 32 hours a week year round. Chief Hull is currently a certified part time police officer. The possible grant would pay for the full time officer for the first three years and requires the Town to budget funds for salary and

benefits in the fourth year. Discussion continued on the possibility of hiring an additional officer and entering into an agreement to provide police coverage for the Town of Sharon. B. Hull also noted that there was some proposed legislation concerning the eligibility requirements for certified police officers.

### **Highway Department**

**E. Amsden made a motion to authorize N. Cleveland to send a survey requesting a list of equipment and the rates associated with the equipment as well as labor rates to any interested equipment contractors. P. Ainsworth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

R. Cavanaugh suggested that a formula be used and that the Town should set the rate for the equipment to be rented. He noted that the list should be set up to rotate so that all contractors have an equal chance of being hired. Discussion continued on contacting equipment contractors and setting prices paid for equipment rental on emergency situations.

### **Highway Financial Plan FY 2010**

Chair Trombly noted that the plan is worked out with the State Agency of Transportation. The breakout of funds includes roughly 60% for winter highway maintenance and the remaining 40% of the funds is for summer maintenance and equipment purchases and upkeep. **L. Trottier made a motion to sign the Annual Financial Plan for FY 2010. The motion was seconded by E. Amsden. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Road and Bridge Standards**

**L. Trottier made a motion to apply for grants to be applied towards paving and the planned abutment project on the Foxstand Bridge (bridge #30). E. Amsden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.** Assistant Cleveland agreed to prepare the documents for approval at the next meeting.

### **Driveway Access Application**

Permit application #09-02 was presented to the Selectboard by N. Cleveland. The proposed driveway would access Dairy Hill Rd. N. Cleveland noted that Road Foreman R. McCrillis and the Planning Commission have approved the application. **E. Amsden made a motion to approve the application #09-02 with the Road Foreman's requirements. P. Ainsworth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Overweight permits**

N. Cleveland updated the Selectboard on completed overweight permits issued since the March 10, 2009 meeting. The following companies have been issued overweight permits: Arthur Whitcomb, CSE, Inc., Donald Giroux's Trucking, Flynn Trucking, Gillespie Fuels, Hartigan Company, Harvey's Plumbing and Heating, Justin Companies/Kenny Keith, Koch Trucking, L.E. Weed and Sons, Limlaw Chipping and Land Clearing, New England Quality Service Inc., Newport Sand & Gravel/Carroll Concrete, Pike Industries, Pouliot & Corriveau, Rock of Ages, Barrett Trucking, Eastman

Excavation, Lewellyn Enterprises, United Natural Foods, Camp Precast Concrete, Hutch Crane, Romano Trucking, Blacktop Paving.

### **Citizen Request**

Mackenzie Robins submitted an invoice for towing services, requesting payment from the Town for towing her vehicle out of a muddy section of Royalton Hill Rd. The Selectboard discussed the request and noted that the Town does not reimburse people who need a tow in the winter and noted that driver's need to be aware of hazardous road conditions that are uncontrollable. It was also noted that the crew was working overtime to alleviate the deteriorating conditions on Royalton Hill Rd.

**P. Ainsworth made a motion to deny the request by M. Robins. The motion was seconded by J. Goldstein. The motion passed unanimously.**

R. Leavitt noted that it would be helpful for both citizen's and the Selectboard's Administrator if complaints were registered with the Selectboard's Administrative Assistant using a form to briefly describes the issue. This form could then be presented to the Selectboard at their next meeting. N. Cleveland noted that it was important to take the time to discuss the any concerns with the citizens and fully understand their concerns so he could clearly explain them to the Selectboard. He also noted that this can be a time consuming task as some citizens will spend upwards of a full hour to explain their concerns. He noted that in cases such as these a form would allow him to address citizen concerns in a timely manner, as well as continuing to meet deadlines.

### **Pollution Abatement Facility**

J. Goldstein updated the Board on USDA funding for Sewer work. Jim Plouffe who works for the USDA has explained that the Town of Royalton is a 75% grant eligible town, noting that the town would have to cover 25% of costs on any projects receiving funding through USDA grants. (This possible funding would be up to 75% of the cost of the project.) N. Cleveland was asked to review the Simon operating Services contract and research the payment provisions concerning the recent bill received for the work that SOS did to complete the Operation, Management and Emergency Response Plan. This plan is a new requirement by the State of Vermont.

### **Royalton Green**

N. Cleveland reported that the Fountain base was to be constructed to secure the fountain and would be installed towards the end of April.

### **Royalton Academy Building**

A fundraiser will be held on May 30, 2009 from 7:30 to 1:00 p.m. with music by the Pea Pickers. Cost of admission is \$5 at the door. (Children under 12 years old - free.) All proceeds will go towards the Royalton Academy Capital Improvement Fund. The project that Mary Demar and N. Cleveland were hoping to raise funds for is removal of lead paint on the exterior of the building. N. Cleveland noted that this project is not a concern for this year but proper planning and fundraising will alleviate the high cost of the project when the work is required.

### **White River Partnership – Lease agreement**

**L. Trottier made a motion to sign the lease agreement with the White River Partnership for their office space in the Royalton Academy Building for fiscal year 2010. E. Amsden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Liquor Licenses**

**N. Cleveland submitted Liquor and Tobacco renewal applications for Black Grape Inc., and MN mini mart, A motion was made by P. Ainsworth and seconded by E. Amsden to approve and sign the Liquor and Tobacco renewal applications. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Transfer Station**

N. Cleveland noted that Dell Cloud, the Town of Bethel's Town manager and the Royalton/Bethel Transfer Station manager would like to sell the used hay wagons that were used for recycling. They are no longer used and are taking up space. These wagons were purchased in 1989 and are United Farm Tool Wagons with a 6 ton capacity. D. Cloud is seeking authorization from the Royalton Selectboard to seek bids on this equipment.

**J. Goldstein made a motion and P. Ainsworth seconded the motion to authorize D. Cloud to solicit bids for used hay wagons at transfer station. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Recreation Commission**

P. Trombly on behalf of the Recreation Commission requested permission to use the Town owned property on S. Windsor St. (Hope Property) as a site for a community garden. The Selectboard discussed the process of creating a garden and the potential location. **P. Ainsworth made a motion that was seconded by E. Amsden to support the Recreation Commission and the proposed Community Garden. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Past Meeting Minutes**

**March 10, 2009**

**L. Trottier made a motion that was seconded by J. Goldstein, to approve the draft minutes of March 10, 2009. The motion passed unanimously.**

**February 24, 2009**

**L. Trottier made a motion that was seconded by P. Ainsworth, to approve the minutes of February 24, 2009. The motion passed with J. Goldstein abstaining.**

**L. Trottier made a motion that was seconded by P. Ainsworth to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Meeting adjourned 10:53 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted by:**

**Nathan Cleveland**