

Royalton Selectboard Meeting
October 21, 2008
Knight's Opera House

Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville, Ernie Amsden

Public – Jon Ranney, Randy Leavitt, Roger McCrillis, Nathan Cleveland

Chairman Larry Trottier called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

EC Fiber Network

Jon Ranney was here to answer any more questions concerning the signing of the authorization agreement. **J. Dumville made a motion to approve the EC Fiber Network resolution. P. Ainsworth seconded the motion.** L. Trottier noted that his only concern was the competition that Charter Communication (Phone Company) would represent. He noted that Charter Communication currently offers a competitive price for high speed internet, phone and cable TV. J. Raney noted that the EC Fiber Network would be available to all rural homes, and not just the downtown centers that existing telecommunication companies are targeting. **L. Trottier asked for further discussion and hearing none called the motion to a vote. The motion carried unanimously.**

Rapid Response Plan

N. Cleveland noted that the plan was being updated by Bob Hull and himself. The updated plan will be ready to be adopted by the Selectboard at the next meeting October 28, 2008.

Knight's Opera House – Repairs

N. Cleveland presented repair estimates for the damaged windows at the Knight's Opera House. He was asked to speak with the Crawford's about the work that is needed to be done on the building.

Fountain on the Green

N. Cleveland noted that the fountain on the green had been placed at the carpenter barn for the winter and thanks to the Road Crew a new cover was made and installed.

Highway Department

The Selectboard was presented with preliminary budget numbers that the Road Foreman and the Town Treasurer had worked on. Discussion continued on the budget line items that the Road Foreman was looking for input on. (Capital reserve and equipment rental rates)

N. Cleveland presented a resolution prepared by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns that opposes State budget cuts of nearly \$3 million in funding for local highway aid. He noted that currently the Town of Royalton receives \$143,319.31 and the proposed cuts would result in a decrease of \$10,605.63 or 7.4% in State aid.

R. McCrillis noted that the Backhoe was in good shape and that it was scheduled to be replaced a year ago. He noted that the roadside mower was the most crucial to be replaced, as our current machine is not in operating condition.

Discussion continued on clarification of the line items on the budget. R. McCrillis noted that the Royalton Village Bridge decking needs to be replaced and that paving would be our best option as the entire paved section needs to be re-paved. Back River rd. was also noted as a high priority project as the riverbank is currently deteriorating. This project will require a lot of planning as the Agency of Natural Resources would need to be involved.

R. McCrillis noted that the cost of renting the gravel crusher is reflected in line item 1071 (Rental of Equipment). He noted that line item 1124 represents the cost of closing the Carpenter gravel pit. This is a cost of \$.50 a yard, and it is applied to cover the costs of closing the pit in the future.

The Selectboard discussed the replacement schedule of the Town Trucks. R. McCrillis noted that the 06 and 05 trucks have needed more repairs than the older vehicles. He noted that the four Trucks are used equally in the winter season. The Selectboard discussed replacing one of the trucks with a ten-wheeler.

Larry asked for more discussion. The Selectboard discussed the agenda for October 28, 2008.

Motion to adjourn was made by John Dumville, and seconded by E. Amsden. L. Trottier asked for further discussion and hearing none, called the motion to a vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Nathan P. Cleveland