

Town of Royalton

Selectboard

December 26, 2007

Minutes

Knights Opera House Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville, and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Bob Hull, Roger McCrillis, and Jackie Higgins.

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Highway

Trucks – 2005 truck at Gateway, \$4000.00 repair bill for bell housing

De'Laire – Amsden rode with Demi Boles in Town Truck while plowing and turning around in D'Laire's driveway is still an issue. Amsden will contact D'Laire and discuss options.

New Business

Minutes – Motion to approve the 12/10/07 & 12/11/07 Selectboard Minutes as written (Ainsworth/Amsden, unanimous for 12/11/07 all present Trombly did not vote on 12/10/07 minutes as did not attend meeting)

Payroll and Orders – approved and signed.

Town Report – Add sidewalk repairs and installation to the Selectboard Report.

Warning – reviewed warning draft, waiting for price from Herbie Crawford for article on warning.

Manning – Send letter to Wayne Manning confirming retirement effective 5/31/08, information mapping, and honoring him at town meeting. Also state that would like to continue to hire him on a part-time basis after his retirement.

Senior Citizens – Ainsworth updated the Selectboard on her meeting with the Senior Citizens Board. Motion to have Ainsworth draft letter on cleaning responsibility for Senior Citizens and Town and have Higgins contact Judy Howe on mopping floors on Fridays at the Academy Building (Trombly/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Revolving Loan Fund – Amsden would like to see the RLF expanded. Amsden drafted a proposal for Selectboard's review (see attached). Higgins will copy guidelines for Selectboard's review.

Meeting adjourned 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard

December 11, 2007

Minutes

Knights Opera House Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville, and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Bill Benoit, Geo Honigford, John Olmstead, David Ainsworth, Daphne Moritz, Tim Murphy, Frank Berk Shawn Pickett, Mr. Bickford, Fred Glanzberg, Jo Levasseur, and Jackie Higgins.

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

School Board – Olmstead stated that the school budget would be finalized in the next week. New Construction should start in the Fall of 2008. Hold a joint meeting 1/19/08 .

Representative David Ainsworth – explained the efficiency fossil project.

Ancient Roads Committee – reviewed survey answers for Vermont State AOT Survey with Selectboard.

Highway

Bridge Weights – Concerns with overloaded trucks using Bridge Street and Fox Stand Bridges . Higgins will contact Trevor Starr at AOT on weight restriction and enforcement issues.

New Business

Minutes – Motion to approve the 11/27/07 Selectboard Minutes as written (Ainsworth/Amsden, unanimous)

Payroll and Orders – approved and signed.

Next Selectboard Meeting – December 26, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard

December 10, 2007

Budget Meeting Minutes

Knights Opera House Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville, and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Mary Demar and Jackie Higgins.

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Mary Demar – Demar introduced herself to Selectboard members and discussed the concerns she has in regards to the Academy Building . Senior Citizens lease states that they are

responsible for housekeeping in the areas they use. Demar also concerned with blocking of emergency exit with portable bookshelf. Motion to send letter to Senior Citizens Board in regards to housekeeping, emergency exit issue, review of lease agreement and responsibilities under new management (Ainsworth/Amsden, unanimous)

Academy Building –

Furnace – Motion to have Irving install fuel saver on furnace (Ainsworth/Amsden, unanimous)

Keys – Motion to contact Peter Deutsch to change locks at Academy Building (Ainsworth/Amsden, unanimous)

Budget –

Highway – Motion to set Highway Budget at \$769,100.00 for fiscal year 2008/2009 (Ainsworth/Dumville, unanimous)

General – Motion to set Administrative Assistant salary at \$32,760.00 (Amsden/Dumville, unanimous)

Motion to set Town Treasurer Salary budget combined with assistant treasurer at \$38,316.00 (Amsden/Dumville, unanimous)

Motion to set Town Clerk Salary budget combined with assistant town clerk at \$31,724.00 (Amsden/Dumville, unanimous)

Motion to set General Budget at \$754,563.00 for fiscal year 2008/2009 (Amsden/Dumville, unanimous)

Meeting adjourned 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard

November 27, 2007

Minutes

Knights Opera House Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville, and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Karen Kerin, Ted Kenyon, Bill Benoit, Jon Ranney, Robert Hull and Jackie Higgins.

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Karen Kerin – Expressed concerns with parking on sides of North Windsor Street . Installing no parking signs would help reduce the problem. Also problems with pedestrian and bicycle traffic, extremely heavy at time and dangerous with the vehicular traffic.

Jon Ranney – Eccfiber Update – Ranney will have a report to Higgins for the Town Report and an article for the warning by December 3 rd .

Theresa Harrington – reviewed Town Clerk and Town Treasurer's budget.

Bob Hull – reviewed police department budget.

Highway

Business Block Plowing – Motion to decline plowing behind the business block (Amsden/Dumville, unanimous).

New Business

Minutes – Motion to approve the 11/13/07 Selectboard Minutes as written (Ainsworth/Amsden, unanimous)

Payroll and Orders – approved and signed.

Christmas Pageant – Motion to approve the use of the green for pageant on December 23 rd . (Trombly/Dumville, unanimous)

Meeting adjourned 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard

November 13, 2007

Minutes

Knights Opera House Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Mark Simon, Roger McCrillis, Robert Hull and Jackie Higgins.

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Mark Simon – Simon Operations – Reviewed inspection data. The new aeration system has made a big difference and the lack of rain has helped greatly with the reduction in numbers.

Lagoon Baffling – baffles would cost \$4000.00 to \$5000.00 materials with floats and supports. Simon stated that should hold off on the baffling project as there may be a new treatment coming forth from the State of Vermont .

Simon to get cost of bringing controls up to the pump station surface. Simon will review direct vent heat propane versus electric. Review Pollution Abatement Budget.

Highway

Putt Road – Higgins to send letter to Phil Paini in regards to change in plowing route. Highway Department will now plow up to Class 4 section of Putt Road and not go on private road.

Dodge Sand – table for more conversation.

Manning Work Schedule – Manning will run loader to clean around green and school on an on call as needed basis.

Plowing Across Road – Higgins to send notice to the Herald and work up a form letter.

New Business

Bloss Ballou Road – Higgins to contact Steve Stitzel and let him know that the Selectboard will not stop Tutthill from working for Hodgdon.

Academy Building – Selectboard to review Academy Board and reconfigure.

Parking Issues – Reviewed letter from Amy Wilcox. Higgins to send letter with copy of Traffic Ordinance to answer questions on overnight parking and creating parking for tenants.

Meeting adjourned 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard

October 23, 2007

Minutes

Town Office Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Ralph Hein, Bob Graham, Eric Nelson, Bruce Jones and Jackie Higgins.

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Ralph Hein – Concerns about narrowness of Johnson Hill Road by David Brandau's residence.

Eric Nelson – Mr. Nelson expressed his concerns with excess speeding on VT Rte. 110. The speed box was effective for a while, but people are use to the speed box being at that location and are ignoring it. Selectboard will ask Chief Hull to do random speed patrol; the presence of a police car will make a difference.

Regular Business

Minutes – Motion to approve 10/9/07 Selectboard minutes as amended (Dumville/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Meeting Schedule – reviewed.

Payroll & Orders – signed and approved.

Highway Business

Gutters – Motion to have Breadloaf reinstall gutters at town garage with guarantee that if the new gutters don't work that they will come up with some other solution. (Amsden/Trombly, unanimous)

Fox Stand Bridge Project – Motion to sign reimbursement papers for Fox Stand Bridge Grant (Dumville/Ainsworth, unanimous)

New Business

Town of Royalton/Crawford Lease Agreement – Motion to sign Lease agreement.

(Dumville/Ainsworth, unanimous) Need to come up with action plan for use of building.

Ongoing Projects – reviewed

Drop Box – discussion of drop box for Town Office Building

Lovejoy Turnaround – Motion to have Higgins contact Larry Swanson on surveying deeded right of way at Lovejoy's property. (Trombly/Amsden, unanimous)

Access Ordinance – reviewed changes Article #5 will be eliminated and Article 3 & 8 eliminating state.

Meeting adjourned 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard

October 9, 2007

Minutes

Town Office Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Ralph Hein, Bruce Jones and Jackie Higgins.

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Ralph Hein – Complaining about narrowness of Johnson Hill Road by David Brandau's residence. Complaining about rocks at Small residence.

Regular Business

Minutes – Motion to approve 9/25/07 Selectboard minutes as amended (Dumville/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Meeting Schedule – reviewed.

Payroll & Orders – signed and approved.

Highway Business

Equipment Rental Account Highway Fund – Motion to approve (Trombly/Ainsworth, unanimous)

New Plow – Motion to purchase plow for \$4900.00 (Ainsworth/Trombly, unanimous).

New Business

Catering Permit – Motion to approve permit for soccer tournament at Corwin Field for Vermont Law School (Dumville/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Transfer Station Loan Papers – Motion to approve and sign renewal loan papers for Royalton/Bethel Transfer Station. (Trombly/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Fox Stand Bridge Grant Paperwork – Motion to approve and sign reimbursement paperwork for \$80,000.00 for Fox Stand Bridge Grant through Vtrans. (Ainsworth/Amsden, unanimous)

Town of Royalton/Crawford Lease Agreement – Selectboard reviewed and amended lease agreement. Motion to authorize Larry Trottier to sign and present lease agreement to Crawford Family and have back in hand for October 23, 2007 Selectboard meeting. (Ainsworth/Trombly, unanimous)

Pollution Abatement Budget – worked on 2008/2009 budget. Will complete budget at next meeting with Mark Simons input.

Personnel Policy – Motion to adopt changes made at 8/14/07 Selectboard meeting. (Trombly/Amsden, unanimous)

Police Manual – Motion to adopt Royalton Police Manual. (Ainsworth/Trombly, **Yes** -Trottier, Ainsworth, Trombly, Amsden, **Abstained** -Dumville)

Ongoing Projects – reviewed list and added – South Royalton Green project, access ordinance, traffic ordinance, and traffic committee study.

Executive Session – Motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel issues 8:31 p.m. (Trombly/Amsden, unanimous)

Motion to exit executive session 8:45 p.m. (Trombly/Amsden, unanimous)

Larry Trottier and Ernie Amsden to meet with Road Crew 6:30 a.m. Friday morning.

Meeting adjourned 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard

September 25, 2007

Minutes

Town Office Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Roger McCrillis, Herbie Crawford, Linda Marx, Tim Marx, G. Lester Corwin, II, Gordon Tutthill, Bruce Jones and Jackie Higgins.

Public Hearing Royalton Flood Hazard Area Regulations

Meeting called to order 7:00 p.m.

Public Attendance: Linda Marx, Tim Marx, G. Lester Corwin, II, and Bruce Jones

Linda and Tim Marx asked to see Flood map that pertained to their property. Maps reviewed.

Grant Lester Corwin, II, attended to represent the private citizens that did not wish to attend the public hearing. Corwin wanted it publicly stated that he rebelled, resisted and revolted against any form of zoning and that the Federal government knows where they can go “not this way but that way”.

Public Hearing on Royalton Flood Hazard Area Regulations closed at 7:38 p.m.

Motion to accept and adopt Royalton Flood Hazard Regulations as written

(Ainsworth/Dumville, unanimous).

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Regular Business

Minutes – Motion to approve 9/11/07 Selectboard minutes (Dumville/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Meeting Schedule – reviewed.

Payroll – signed and approved.

Highway Business

Truck Bids – Bids open Boles \$3012.00 w/o plow, Clark \$2500.00 with plow, Rogers \$3704.13 with plow. Motion to accept \$3704.13 from Terry Rogers for 1997 truck and plow.

Road Foreman Update – 2079 yards of crushed gravel stockpiled from Carpenter's pit.

Sand pile will be completed by end of next week.

Fox Stand Bridge – found two additional spots under roadway that need to be repaired and also an undermining on rte 14 side of bridge needs to be repaired. Terry Rogers will be installing rip rap to repair erosion.

Crosswalks have been repainted.

Roadside mowing completed end of week.

Flags – will be taken down on 10/09/07

Guardrails – will be installed at Small residence 10/10/07

Long Letter – McCrillis will check site for mirror installation and Higgins to get mirror from Sylvia Spain for road crew to install (Ainsworth/Dumville, unanimous).

Lyon Road – Tabled until Judge Survey completed. Letter attached.

New Business

Gravel Letter – The Alexander Place sidewalk put on repair list for 2008.

Benson/Hodgdon letter from Stitzel, Page and Fletcher, P.C. – Tutthill asked who would be paying for his work in assisting with location of a cellar hole. Selectboard will pay Tutthill for his work.

Use of Green – Motion to approve use of green for drumming music Thursdays from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. (Dumville/Trombly, unanimous)

Parking Ticket – Motion to waive parking ticket as unsure of signage for limited parking. Also have Chief Hull review the parking ordinance. (Trombly/Dumville, unanimous)

Garage Loan Papers – Motion to sign renewal loan papers for garage loan (Dumville/Ainsworth, unanimous) One year remaining on loan.

Town Green – Motion to contact Braley and give 10 days notice to complete project or Higgins find another contractor to install fountain and benches (Amsden/Trombly, unanimous)

Broadband Meeting – moving along with 14 town project.

Meeting adjourned 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard

September 11, 2007

Minutes

Town Office Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Roger McCrillis, Bruce Jones and Jackie Higgins

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:55 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Regular Business

Minutes – Motion to approve 8/28/07 Selectboard minutes (Dumville/Trombly, unanimous)

Meeting Schedule – reviewed.

Payroll – signed and approved.

Highway Business

Sewall Brook Road – Higgins to send letter to Todd Bayer to inform him of the Selectboard's decision to put turnaround on Dory Bayer's property.

Rousseau Road (David Small's Rocks) – Amsden will speak with Mr. Small in regards to moving rocks and site for installation of guardrails and signage.

Lyon Road – McCrillis and Amsden to measure Lyon Road per Vermont AOT distance of 581 feet from VT Rte. 14.

Extra Man – After discussion of options for part-time versus full time 5th man. Motion was made to hire Cory Rogers as extra man starting November 1, 2007 through mud season as temporary fulltime at \$12.00 per hour with holiday pay. (Trombly/Amsden, unanimous)

Sherlock Road – McCrillis will do site visit of Sherlock Road for possible installation of guardrails.

Gee Hill – needs to be graded

New Business

Biodiesel Workshop – McCrillis and Higgins to attend Biodiesel Workshop in Burlington October 10th.

Tax Sale & Abatement of Tax – Motion to authorize Mayer to hire assistance for tax sales. (Trombly/Amsden, unanimous)

Gravel Letter – McCrillis to look at sidewalk on Alexander Place for temporary fix.

Benson/Hodgdon letter from Stitzel, Page and Fletcher, P.C. – Stitzel meeting with Gillis today and then will have a conference call with all parties on 9/18/07. Will have update for the 9/25/07 Selectboard meeting.

Flood Plain Regulation addition #12 – Motion to add #12 (septic system requirements to #12 of Flood Plain Regulations (federal requirement) (Ainsworth/Amsden, unanimous)

Meeting adjourned 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard Meeting

August 28, 2007

Minutes

Town Office Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Jon Ranney, Melissa Mooza, David McPike, Demi Boles, Roger McCrillis, Bob Hull, and Jackie Higgins

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Jon Ranney – East Central Broadband is now working with fiber optics. Broadband is obsolete. Ranney requesting the town put up their bond rating for financing along with 14 other towns. Burlington Telecom is the company that East Central Broadband will be using. All homes would have fiber optic. Triple play (telephone, internet and television) would cost roughly \$100.00 per month per household. If voter approved at town meeting it would take approximately 18 months to put into effect. The 15 town bond ratings would be collateral for financing the project. Ranney will keep the Selectboard posted on progress and upcoming meetings.

Melissa Mooza – the VLS Land Use Institute is having a conference for affordable housing and land use know as “Citizen Planner Conference”. Mooza wanted to give the Selectboard a heads up on the conference.

Bob Hull – Working on a counterfeit money case and a gas line was cut at an area business and also currently working a couple of robbery cases. Speed complaint on Rte 110. Speed box is being put out on Rte. 110. Selectboard requesting hours be varied so as not so predictable. Something needs to be done about the dog traffic on the green; the signs are too high and are not visible.

Regular Business

Minutes – Motion to approve 8/14/07 Selectboard minutes with amendments (Trombly/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Meeting Schedule – reviewed.

Payroll – signed and approved.

Highway Business

Sewall Brook Road – Amsden to contact Ms. Bayer before next Selectboard meeting.

Upper Lea Road – McCrillis and Amsden met with Mr. De'Laire, agreement made to allow plow trucks to turn around on lawn, road crew will add some grave and do a little ditching. Also agreed to hold up wing when turning around and coming out of Upper Lea Road .

Lovejoy Road – Mr. Lovejoy agreed to allow a turnaround that is safe and will work for the road crew.

Fox Stand Bridge payment schedule – payment schedule submitted by Daniels for Fox Stand Bridge agreed upon by Selectboard.

Water Rent to David Lyman – Motion to reinstate payment of \$175.00 per year for water rent for Town Garage to David Lyman.

Extra Man – Motion to hire Bob Gray as temporary help to run the roadside mower at \$12.00 per hour. (Dumville/Amsden, unanimous)

Bloss/Ballou Road – Reviewed new information that Dumville found at the historical society.

New Business

Dirt Bike Track – Timian's felt intimidated by the group of people that attended the previous Selectboard Meeting. There has been no change in noise level. Timians have spoken with the Dist. 3 Environmental Office and the Dirt Bike Track may need an Act 250 permit.

Lawn Mowing – Motion to continue hiring Dale Thresher for mowing 2008/2009 fiscal year at \$9450.00. (Ainsworth/Amsden, unanimous)

Personnel Policy – reviewed personnel policy, Higgins will make changes.

Crawford Property – still on hold, Trottier to contact Crawford's for progress report.

Selectboard Meeting – the September 11 th Selectboard meeting will be start at 8:00 p.m. following the counting of the special meeting ballots.

Snow blower – Trottier to get a price on snow blower and contact the rest of the Selectboard.

Meeting adjourned 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard Meeting

August 14, 2007

Minutes

Town Office Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Sue Jones, Bruce Jones, Laura Timian, David Timian, Rob Townsend, Marc Simons, Eric Jacobs, Gidget Lyman, Randy Caron, Laurie Hudson, Pat Reed, Tom Trottier, Bruce Burbine, Melissa Burbine, Bradley Burbine, Dave Shellong, Cody Shellong, Connor Shellong, Brenda Caron, Daniel Caron, Todd Bauder, Stacey Britch, Joshua Britch, Ethan Britch, Tim Parker, Krista Rogers, David Lyman, Steve Teel, Jim Martino, Nelson Lyford, Adam Lyman, Tim Lyman, Todd Bayer, Mike Billdeau, Jo Jo Levasseur, Fred Glanzberg, and Jackie Higgins

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Eric Jacobs – Explained progress on South Windsor Street project at Poultry Plant. Jacobs is ready to have well drilled but needs the earmarked allocation for sewage before he spends necessary funds for well drilling. Motion to earmark 1680 gallons per day for sewer allotment for South Windsor Street project for a six month period. (Trombly/Dumville, unanimous).

Windsor County Feeds building project status is at a standstill as Jacobs cannot get water allocation from Prudential Board. The Prudential Board is in the process of studying the water system. The hydrant across the street from the Windsor County Feeds building has failed. Jacobs has offered to have a new line installed from the reservoir to this hydrant so he, can hook into the water system. At this point the Prudential Board has said no to Jacobs offer and there is currently a self imposed moratorium on water by the Prudential Board. There are currently three hydrants in town that have failed. Jacobs stated that there is a cardinal control of public assets and it is time to move forward. Trombly stated that the Prudential Board has two new members and are moving forward with the Fire District.

Marc Simon – Simon Operations reviewed the average daily flows which have been way down for the past two months. Nat Fredericks the plant operator is working with the Fire District checking meters for accuracy. Simon agreed to report on logistics and expenses to install baffling in lagoons. Simon stated that they will be doing TV inspections of the lines and checking for infiltration of water into the sewer system. Fredericks is crimping the aeration lines in the lagoons. Plant is running fine.

Laura and David Timian – Expressed their concern with the noise and dust at the Lyman Dirt Bike Track. The noise is so loud the Timian family can not be outside on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The Laura and David Timian do not want to shut down the track but would like to see the noise reduced.

Several families use the track and would be willing to help reduce the noise with possible fence or tree plantings and if the riders of the four stroke bikes could change out their mufflers so the noise is reduced that would help.

Fred Glanzberg – Ancient Roads Committee received a \$5000.00 grant from the state. The committee is requesting permission to purchase a GPS for use with the road research. The cost of the GPS is \$364.05. Motion to approve purchase of GPS for \$364.05 (Trombly/Amsden, unanimous)

Nelson Lyford – Concerns with the draft Flood Plain Regulations. If changes aren't made he won't be able to follow through with the plans he has for his property on Moses Lane .

Regular Business

Minutes – Motion to approve 8/7/07 Selectboard minutes with adding of names of people present at the executive session. (Dumville/Ainsworth, Yes-Dumville, Ainsworth, Amsden, Trotter, Abstained-Trombly as not present at meeting)

Meeting Schedule – reviewed

Highway Business

Sewall Brook Road – Todd Bayer can't understand why the Highway Department can't continue to plow and turn around in his driveway. He will do what ever is necessary to make it easier for them to plow up and turn around at his property.

Lyons Road – Howe will continue to back down Lyons Road when plowing as it gives him a safer visibility when crossing the railroad tracks.

Upper Lea Road – Amsden and McCrillis will meet with De'Laire on August 20 th to discuss plowing of the road.

Crushing Gravel – Motion to hire Pickett to crush gravel in the Carpenter Pit at \$4.25 per yard up to three thousand yards. (Dumville/Amsden, unanimous)

New Business

Flood Plain Regulations – Members spent a considerable amount of time reviewing the bylaws as presented by the Planning Commission and agreed to the following changes. Motion to remove cumulatively from “substantial improvements” (page 19), remove 3B from (page 2), remove “but outside the floodway” B (page 3), move B1 to A5 (page 3) change B2 and B3 to B1 and B2, remove C3 section (page 12) and add to watercourse “1 st Branch, 2 nd Branch and Main Branch of the White River and Broad Brook” (page 19) (Amsden/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Tax Rate – Motion to set the Royalton 2007 Tax Rate for Homestead at \$2.6642 and the Royalton 2007 Tax Rate for Non-Residential to \$3.0671 (Ainsworth/Dumville, unanimous).

Personnel Policy Changes – Motion to approve changes to Hospitalization, Medical Insurance and Retirement (Trombly/Dumville, unanimous)

Pay Scale – tabled discussion to a later Selectboard Meeting.

Bloss/Ballou Road – Trottier updated the Selectboard on his day in court.

Meeting adjourned 11:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard Meeting

August 7, 2007

Minutes

Town Office Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Wayne Manning, Terry Manning, Betty Benson, Ronald Benson, Barry Benson, Edith Benson, Carol Hodgdon, Perry Hodgdon, Steve Stitzel, Gordon Tutthill, and Jackie Higgins

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Motion to enter Executive session for personnel issues at the Manning residence 7: 05 p.m. (Dumville/Ainsworth, unanimous). Present: Terry Manning, Wayne Manning, Jackie Higgins, Larry Trottier, Peggy Ainsworth, Ernie Amsden and John Dumville. Motion to exit executive session 7:25 p.m. (Dumville/Ainsworth, unanimous) Motion to have Manning be on call employee with the Town of Royalton paying his two person health insurance until May of 2008. (Dumville/Amsden, unanimous)

Motion to enter Executive session to discuss legal issues with Bloss/Ballou Road , Town Office Building 7:30 p.m. (Amsden/Ainsworth, unanimous). Present: Edith Benson, Barry Benson, Ronald Benson, Betty Benson, Perry Hodgdon, Carol Hodgdon, Gordon Tutthill, Steve Stitzel and Jackie Higgins.

Motion to exit Executive session 10: 05 p.m. (Amsden/Ainsworth, unanimous)

No action taken.

Regular Business

Minutes – Motion to approve 7/24/07 Selectboard minutes (Dumville/Amsden, unanimous) Motion to approve 7/30/07 Selectboard minutes (Amsden/Ainsworth, Yes Amsden, Ainsworth and Trottier (Dumville abstained not in attendance at 7/30/07 meeting)

Meeting Schedule – reviewed.

Payroll – signed and approved.

Highway Business

Churchill Access Update – Motion to approve access permit for Ed and Corrine Churchill (permit under Arthur Churchill name) (Amsden/Ainsworth, unanimous).

Sewall Brook Road – Higgins contacted Dory Bayer on turn around site. No response as of yet.

Lyons Road – McCrillis to meet with Judge on plowing and turn around.

New Business

Sewer Bill Rate – Motion to set sewer bill rate at 801/2 cents per gallon for December 2006 to June 2007 sewer billing (Amsden/Dumville, unanimous)

Motion to adjourn 10:35 p.m. (Dumville/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard Meeting

July 24, 2007

Minutes

Town Office Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Sue Jones, Bruce Jones, Bill Benoit, Roger McCrillis, Nil d'Aulaire, Geo Honigford, Frank Berk, Bob Hull, and Jackie Higgins

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Nils Delaure – Mr. d'Aulaire stated that there hadn't been any problems with the Upper Lea Road being plowed until about 3 to 4 years ago. There was a change to the types of plows used on the town trucks and now the road is plowed like a super highway. The plowing is tearing up his lawn and causing a lot of repair yard work in the spring. Roger McCrillis will meet with Mr. d'Aulaire and work on a solution to the plowing problems.

Geo Honigford and Frank Berk, Royalton School Board Members – reviewed the proposed school gymnasium addition that is scheduled for town vote on September 11, 2007 . Discussed the low enrollment and the need to maintain the 400 students currently enrolled in the school system to keep all programs intact. Honigford explained the change of driveway and bus drop off at the school. Bruce Jones expressed his concerns as a bus driver in the reformatting of driveway and the amount of parents dropping and picking up children as a safety issue.

Regular Business

Minutes – Motion to approve 7/10/07 Selectboard minutes with amendments (Trombly/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Meeting Schedule – reviewed.

Payroll – signed and approved.

Highway Business

Churchill Access Update – Tabled until 8/14/07 Selectboard Meeting. Higgins will speak with Mr. & Mrs. Churchill in regards to erosion control on bank above Ducker Road .

Sewall Brook Road – Todd Bayer is willing to work with the town to build a turn around for the plow trucks. McCrillis will meet with Mr. Bayer to discuss options.

Lyons Road – John Dumville received word from Steven Judge that the plow truck is not plowing beyond his property as it used to. This again is an issue with town trucks not having enough space to turn around trucks when plowing. Roger will work with Mr. Judge and neighbors to remedy the problem.

Mill Road Electric/Telephone Pole – Randy Chapman from Verizon is requesting a change to pole on the corner of Mill Road and Vermont Route 110. The current pole can not withstand the stress of both electric and telephone wires. Motion to allow pole change on corner of Mill Road and Vermont Route 110 (Amsden/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Plowing behind business block – the Traffic Study Committee will review town snow plowing behind the business block along with pedestrian and vehicular traffic issues. Committee will consist of John Dumville, Bob Hull, Wendy Judge, Don Faulkner and Randy Leavitt. Hull to schedule first meeting of the Traffic Study Committee on Monday the 30 th of July at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office Building .

New Business

Planning Commission Vacancy Committee – Interviews were held, unfortunately the Planning Commission's representatives did not make the meeting. Melissa Kalinen and Joan Goldstein were interviewed. Motion to appoint Joan Goldstein as new member to the Planning Commission, to fill Gary Hobart's seat vacancy. (Amsden/Trombly, unanimous) Motion to reappoint Jo Levasseur and Rebecca Beguin to the Planning Commission. (Trombly/Dumville, unanimous) Higgins to send Gary Hobart a letter of thanks for his years of service to the Planning Commission.

Drown Property Issues – Higgins explained to the Selectboard about the site work and building that is going on at the Drown property off North Windsor Street . Mr. Drown does not have a septic permit filed with the town. Several concerned citizens have contacted the Selectboard and Town Clerk's Office in regards to the construction. Higgins contacted the Environmental Office in Springfield , VT several weeks ago and was referred to the Waterbury , VT Environmental Office. Higgins has left several messages with Roger Thompson at the Waterbury Office and has not had any response at this time. Jerry Swasey as the town sewer officer made a site visit to the Drown property on Monday and was told by Mr. Drown that he was not going to apply for a permit. Mr. Drown later in the day had Higgins served with a no trespass order for all town officials to stay off his property. Higgins will continue to contact Roger Thompson in Waterbury .

At this time the Selectboard entered executive session at 10:06 p.m.

Round two minutes submitted by John Dumville.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard Meeting

July 10, 2007

Minutes

Town Office Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Sue Jones, Bruce Jones, Demi Boles, David Lambert, Brad Howe, Jo Levasseur, Mark Thompson and Jackie Higgins

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Jo Levasseur, Planning Commission Chair. – discussed Planning Commission's legal bill for Times and Seasons appeal. Motion to pay bill using the balance remaining of \$1654.69 in Planning Commission budget and remainder of bill coming from General Fund legal budget. (Trombly/Amsden, unanimous).

Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on July 30 to discuss draft of Flood Plain Regulations.

Regular Business

Minutes – Motion to approve 6/26/07 Selectboard minutes with amendments (Trombly/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Meeting Schedule – reviewed.

Payroll – signed and approved.

Highway Business

Churchill Access Update – Tabled until 7/24/07 Selectboard Meeting.

Sewall Brook Road – more information on landowner's needed before a turn around can be installed.

Fox Stand Bridge Bids – Daniels Construction decking bid \$209,292.00 and abutment repairs \$27,704.00.

Vermont Protective – painting bid below decking \$237,500.00 and painting above decking \$130,000.00.

Catamount – painting bid below decking \$180,000.00 and above decking \$167,000.00.

Motion to accept Daniels Construction bid for abutment repairs and decking replacement for a total of \$236,996.00. (Ainsworth/Amsden, unanimous)

Selectboard tabled the painting bids until financial assistance possibilities researched.

Higgins to put a notice of closure in the newspaper for schedule of repairs to Fox Stand Bridge .

Road Crew – Boles stated that the money now called retirement benefit was never a retirement benefit but compensation for the difference when the town switched health insurance plans (from JY plan to HMO plan). Higgins will research Selectboard meeting minutes for information regarding this benefit.

New Business

Planning Commission Vacancy Committee – Steven Judge and Jerry Barcelow will represent the Planning Commission (Jon Ranney will be a substitute) and Ernie Amsden, Peg Trombly and John Dumville will represent the Selectboard on the interview committee. Higgins will

contact Melissa Kalinen, Joan Goldstein, and David Lewis schedule interviews.

Sidewalks - Motion to approve an additional \$2800.00 for sidewalk repairs to Alex Boles to extend project up North Windsor by the old Freck's Building. (Trombly/Amsden, unanimous).

Extra Policing – Motion to hire the Bethel Constable to assist with policing during Saturday of Old Homes Day at \$11.50 per hour. (Trombly/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Meeting adjourned 11:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Town of Royalton

Selectboard Meeting

August 7, 2007

Minutes

Town Office Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Wayne Manning, Terry Manning, Betty Benson, Ronald Benson, Barry Benson, Edith Benson, Carol Hodgdon, Perry Hodgdon, Steve Stitzel, Gordon Tutthill, and Jackie Higgins

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Motion to enter Executive session for personnel issues at the Manning residence 7: 05 p.m. (Dumville/Ainsworth, unanimous). Present: Terry Manning, Wayne Manning, Jackie Higgins, Larry Trottier, Peggy Ainsworth, Ernie Amsden and John Dumville. Motion to exit executive session 7:25 p.m. (Dumville/Ainsworth, unanimous) Motion to have Manning be on call employee with the Town of Royalton paying his two person health insurance until May of 2008. (Dumville/Amsden, unanimous)

Motion to enter Executive session to discuss legal issues with Bloss/Ballou Road , Town Office Building 7:30 p.m. (Amsden/Ainsworth, unanimous). Present: Edith Benson, Barry Benson, Ronald Benson, Betty Benson, Perry Hodgdon, Carol Hodgdon, Gordon Tutthill, Steve Stitzel and Jackie Higgins.

Motion to exit Executive session 10: 05 p.m. (Amsden/Ainsworth, unanimous)

No action taken.

Regular Business

Minutes – Motion to approve 7/24/07 Selectboard minutes (Dumville/Amsden, unanimous)
Motion to approve 7/30/07 Selectboard minutes (Amsden/Ainsworth, Yes Amsden, Ainsworth and Trottier (Dumville abstained not in attendance at 7/30/07 meeting)

Meeting Schedule – reviewed.

Payroll – signed and approved.

Highway Business

Churchill Access Update – Motion to approve access permit for Ed and Corrine Churchill (permit under Arthur Churchill name) (Amsden/Ainsworth, unanimous).

Sewall Brook Road – Higgins contacted Dory Bayer on turn around site. No response as of yet.

Lyons Road – McCrillis to meet with Judge on plowing and turn around.

New Business

Sewer Bill Rate – Motion to set sewer bill rate at 80 1/2 cents per gallon for December 2006 to June 2007 sewer billing (Amsden/Dumville, unanimous)

Motion to adjourn 10:35 p.m. (Dumville/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

Royalton Selectboard Meeting

July 30, 2007

Royalton Academy Building

9:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order

Present: Larry Trottier, Ernie Amsden & Peggy Ainsworth

Motion to restore cash payments of retirement to employees effective immediately

(Amsden/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Meeting adjourned 9:05 p.m.

Royalton Planning Commission

Hearing on Proposed Flood Plain By-laws & Regular Planning Meeting

FINAL – Minutes

Monday, July 30, 2007

I. Hearing on Proposed Flood Plain By-laws

Town Planning Commission Members Attending:

Barcelow, Beguin, Brandau, Hobart, Judge, Leighton, Levasseur, Ranney, Turner

Town Select Board Members Attending:

Peggy Ainsworth, Ernie Amsden, Larry Trottier

Guests Attending:

David Ainsworth, Paul Anderson, Walter English, Kevin Geiger (TRORC), Bruce & Sue Jones, Nelson Lyford, Melissa Mooza (notetaker),

Hearing Convened at 7:05 .

A. Introduction

Levasseur welcomed guests to the hearing and stated its purpose. She offered a brief summary of the changes proposed to Royalton's current Flood Hazard By-law, which dates back to 1991. A document listing and explaining these changes was made available to all individuals attending the hearing. Levasseur explained that the primary reason for the revisions is that the 1991 by-law

references a map that will cease to exist on 9/28/07 . If the by-law is not revised before then, it will become invalid and no one in the town will be able to carry flood insurance.

Levasseur also noted two additional minor modifications to the proposed by-law that were not included in the hearing draft. These changes, both characterized as being editorial in nature, were:

1. On Page 2, Sub-Section B, First Paragraph, Fifth Line: “one channel width” should be stricken to read “one and one half channel widths”. Levasseur noted that the RPC voted to enact this change during its 6/25/07 meeting, as is evidenced in the minutes for that meeting.

2. On Page 8, Section VI, Sub-section C: This sub-section refers to undesignated “A zones”. Without the A zones, it appears that it is intended to apply to all of the rest of the town.

B. Question, Answer, and Comment

During the question, answer, and comment portion of the hearing, the following topics were discussed:

1. Proposed Permit for Minor Improvements and Cumulative Substantial Improvement

Q: Ainsworth questioned how the 50% cumulative substantial improvement would be calculated.

A: Several people commented on how this calculation should be made. The idea that seemed to have the most resonance among hearing participants was that proposed and illustrated by Turner. Turner explained that the calculation should be made not in terms of dollars, but in terms of a percent increasing over time. In this regard, the market value of reference should not be the market value of the structure at the time the ordinance is passed. Rather, it should be the market value (i.e. most recent town assessment thereof) at the time of the start of each successive renovation or construction project. The percent ratio would be tallied over time until the owner breaks the cumulative 50% mark.

Q: Ainsworth asked how this provision would be implemented and enforced. She expressed her opinion that if there is no way to implement it, it should be removed.

A: Brandau conceded that it would be difficult to track over decades' time. Judge, who mentioned that he had many years' experience working to enforce floodplain violations, observed that there is no mechanism in place to enforce the “cumulative” aspect. He remarked that such a provision is designed for a municipality that has building permits, which Royalton currently does not. He said the only way to track this would be if neighbors complain or construction is obvious. Judge recommended removing the “cumulative” language. Beguin also supported this idea. Ranney noted that most enforcement of this by-law will likely be prompted by citizen complaints. Levasseur remarked that the term “cumulative” could hypothetically be removed, leaving the federal regulation, “substantial improvement”, but she noted that variant would also leave the issue of tracking and enforcement unaddressed.

Q: Amsden questioned the purpose of the “cumulative” provision and suggested that it was just an excuse to “levy some bureaucracy.”

A: Levasseur responded that the RPC proposed adding the term “cumulative” in an effort to clarify the current federally required language, which references only “a substantial improvement.”

Geiger illustrated the functional significance of “cumulative” by explaining that as the ordinance is currently written (without “cumulative”) a person could increase the value of his house by 49% every year and still not come under the federal requirement to flood proof or elevate.

Levasseur explained that the overall purpose of the provision is to help keep flood damage to a minimum. Turner articulated an interest in preserving value and not burdening the system. He said that we don't want to see projects go forward where we know that they will be subject to flooding. Hobart expressed two concerns: 1) prohibiting the constructions of mansions that will be flooded and 2) eliminating uses in the flood area that might send debris downstream. Ranney commented that the intent is to minimize the footprint standard.

Q: Amsden asked how “current” (with reference to the start date of renovation/construction) a

structural appraisal must be. He added that leaving the proposed language as it is would be like leaving “a can of worms” in the ordinance. Ainsworth added that the Select Board could not pass the ordinance with a “can of worms.” She suggested keeping only what is federally required and taking everything else out.

A: Geiger noted that the current ordinance does not clarify this point; it, too, says only “before.” The only change to the proposed ordinance is the addition of “cumulative”. Turner suggested clarifying by requiring the most recent town appraisal.

2. Procedure for Making Changes to the Proposed By-law

Comment: Geiger offered a brief overview of the mechanisms by which the RPC can, based on points raised at today's hearing, make changes to the current draft of the proposed by-law. The RPC can try to vote changes in tonight, the evening of the hearing. It can send the ordinance over to the Select Board as is and let them deal with it. It can also send it over as is and they can make the desired changes before the Select Board hearing gets warned.

3. Proposed Addition of Lateral Erosion Hazards

(Page 2, Sub-Section B, First Paragraph)

Comment: Amsden remarked that the lateral erosion hazard (1.5 channel widths on either side from the centerline of the channel) is “unnecessary, ridiculous, and should be removed.” He expressed concern that it would bring a lot of properties into the flood hazard zone that are not currently there. He also expressed his opinion that many of the houses that are in that zone are not actually at risk of either flooding or erosion. He also requested that a statement be added to the effect that currently existing structures won't be affected by the addition of this provision. Finally, he suggested taking the lateral erosion hazard provision out altogether.

Response: Geiger explained that although this not a federal requirement, there is good reason for it. He cited two publicly available documents, which he could provide to people, that support the inclusion of this provision. He said that science says that in a floodplain environment, a river needs 4 channel widths to meander, while it would need 6 channel widths in an unstable environment. He also remarked that a town would be one hundred times more likely to be sued for permitting construction in the wrong place (even if that site is acceptable by federal standards) than it would by prohibiting construction somewhere. He also commented that waivers can be granted to lessen the required lateral distance under certain conditions, such as if there is a ledge or armored channel.

Turner admitted that the 1.5 channel width provision is arbitrary, but noted that the RPC could have, consistent with the science, chosen a larger distance of 4 channel widths (i.e., two channel widths on each side of the center).

Comment: Lyford expressed his concern that the 1.5 channel width requirement seems extreme. He questioned the necessity of “putting a blanket on the entire river” without first studying the river piece by piece. When Geiger mentioned the waiver process, Lyford remarked that it would be very involved. After some discussion, he suggested that “this late in the game, maybe we should just do what's needed to get the insurance in place and then do a little more later on to get all the details in place.”

Response : Geiger again said that there is a waiver process. He also explained that the 1.5 channel width is being used as a default because there is no fluvial erosion hazard map. Geiger said that as soon as a new map is created, the 1.5 channel width will no longer be in place. He also emphasized that the map on the table, which people were consulting, is not a new flood map, but rather old data that's been digitized.

Q: Lyford asked what will happen to existing developments that are located within 1.5 widths of the center of a channel.

A: Geiger replied that they would be grandfathered in.

Q: Lyford asked if developments within 1.5 channel widths that are currently permitted but not constructed would also be grandfathered in.

A: Hobart said that if a person has a permit but hasn't spent a significant amount of money or otherwise demonstrated reliance, then s/he will probably not be grandfathered in. Hobart said that there is not a lot of case law in Vermont on vesting.

Q: Lyford wanted to clarify that the proposed 1.5 channel requirement is above and beyond what is required for flood insurance (i.e., the 100-year-flood line).

A: Geiger confirmed that, yes, which is correct. He said that “this language takes a cautious approach in the absence of good information.” Geiger added that there is a big difference between preventing harm and allowing development. He said that the RPC fiddled with this, and that's why they incorporated the waiver.

Q: Lyford asked how often the flood maps can be changed.

A: Geiger said every ten years. He said that it is quite a process to change them. You can get topographical data from FEMA and they make a note.

4. Extent to Which the Proposed By-law Exceeds Minimum Requirements for Federal Flood Insurance, Generally

Q: Amsden asked how much further beyond what is necessary for federal flood insurance the proposed by-law goes.

A: Geiger explained that the proposed by-law goes beyond the minimum federal requirements in 4 ways, by: 1) adding lateral erosion hazards; 2) adding sediment transport; 3) permitting small structures as long as they meet certain conditions; and 4) regulating “substantial improvements” cumulatively.

5. Proposed Addition of Sediment Transport as a Concern

(Page 12, Point 10)

Q: Ainsworth suggested that the term “watercourse” be defined. She also requested an explanation for how a watercourse might “be maintained.”

A: Geiger explained that the term “watercourse” refers to whatever watercourse is in the area subject to the regulation. i.e. the White River, First Branch, Second Branch, and Broad Brook (not the tributaries). He added that you would probably see someone triggering this regulation on Broad Brook. Turner proposed omitting the term “watercourse” and simply naming the specific bodies of water affected.

Concerning the maintenance process, Geiger explained that this would entail building a large enough pipe or bridge to ensure that the water and the sediment will be able to pass through.

6. Waivers Granted to Lessen the Area to Which the Regulations Apply

Q: Lyford asked what the waiver process entails.

A: Geiger explained that it's up to the select board to determine. Every permit that goes through needs to go to the state for comment, and they can theoretically go to FEMA. Levasseur added that the waiver process is definitely subjective.

Comment: Turner remarked that the text of the proposed by-law concerning the waiver process is “too strict and doesn't give enough latitude for consideration of individual sites. He suggested that the Select Board change the text to “unlikely to move” and that is add “due to ledge, preexisting structures, soil, topography.” Levasseur said that the RPC will discuss Turner's suggestion after the hearing.

7. Reference to Recreational Vehicles

(Page 3, Sub-section A, Point 3; Page 3, Sub-section B, Point 3; & Page 11, Point 6)

Q: Ainsworth asked whether the RVs located at the Henderson 's Hideaway campground would be grandfathered in.

A: Levasseur explained that the mobile homes would be exempt from regulation if they are mobile (i.e. licensed and highway ready). Turner noted that mobile RVs may be placed on sites within the special flood hazard area for up to 180 consecutive days. Geiger added that if the vehicles are not mobile and are on slab, then they would be subject to the regulations as structures in the flood plain. In that case, he said, they probably would be grandfathered in.

Hearing adjourned : 8:57 .

II. Regular Planning Meeting

Town Planning Commission Members Attending:

Barcelow, Beguin, Brandau, Hobart, Judge, Leighton, Levasseur, Ranney, Turner

Guests Attending:

David Ainsworth, Paul Anderson, Kevin Geiger (TRORC), Bruce & Sue Jones, Nelson Lyford, Melissa Mooza (notetaker),

Meeting came to order at 8:58 .

A. Discussion of Possible Motions Related to the Hearing

RPC members discussed moving on the following four issues:

1. Omit the term “cumulative” from the definition of “substantial improvement”:

Motions: Judge moved to omit the term “cumulative” from the definition of “substantial improvement”. Beguin seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Judge said that, in general, enforcement should work because there are trigger mechanisms in place. In this case, however, he noted that there is no process to alert people to problems. Potential violations would be discovered only by the floodplain administrator just driving around. Judge also remarked that it is bad PR to have an unenforceable regulation. Turner, who is for keeping the term in but wanted to play devil's advocate, said that “cumulative” shouldn't be put in until enforcement mechanisms are in place. Beguin expressed her opinion that enforcement of the “cumulative” component is “not realistic.”

Both Turner and Levasseur retorted that enforcement is realistic. Hobart said that once people start seeing substantial changes, they will start complaining to the administrative officer. Brandau remarked that even if you were to take out “cumulative”, you'd still be left with an unenforceable provision (i.e. “substantial” => 50%)

Vote:

Three (Judge, Beguin, Ranney) in favor of omitting the term “cumulative”. Five opposed to removing the term “cumulative.” Motion did not carry. The term “cumulative” remains in.

2. Add a definition for the term “watercourse.”

Motion: Hobart moved to add the definition and authorize Kevin to prepare and submit it to the Select Board. Judge seconded the motion.

Vote: All in favor. Motion carries.

3. Modify the definition of “substantial improvement” to add “as determined by the most recent town assessment.”

Motion 1: Brandau moved to change the definition of “substantial improvement” such as to read: “...exceeds 50 percent of the most recent town-assessed market value of the structure.” Hobart seconded.

Discussion 2: Geiger said that “you can't move ‘market value' around.”

Motion 2: Brandau moved to amend his motion to reflect Geiger's comment. All but Leighton in favor of amending Motion 2. Motion carries.

Vote: All in favor of passing Motion 2. Motion 2 carries.

4. Modify the language about waivers at the bottom of page 2

Motion: Turner moved to modify the language about waivers at the bottom of page 2 to read: “...site conditions are such that the channel is unlikely to move into this area due to ledge, preexisting structures, distance, soils, or topography. Hobart seconded.

Vote: All in favor. Motion carries.

Following discussion of these issues, Hobart moved to accept the changes made tonight and submit the by-law to the Select Board. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

*Prior to the vote, Judge again expressed his concerns about the 1.5 channel width lateral erosion hazard zone along the White River . He wanted to go on record with his opinion that this particular provision “is Draconian, particularly where the channel is 600 feet wide.”

B. Minutes:

July 9, 2007 :

?Barcelow moved to accept minutes as written. Beguin seconded. All in favor, with Ranney and Turner abstaining. Motion to accept minutes as written carries.

C. Appointments and Scheduling for RPC Re-organizational Meeting

Levasseur reported that the Select Board made its selection to fill Hobart 's slot. The new RPC member will be: Joan Goldstein. The re-organizational meeting will be held on August 13. The RPC will discuss possible changes to the Commission's by-laws, including decreasing the number of planning committee members.

D. Next Meeting

The next RPC meeting will be held August 13, 2007 .

MOTION: Barcelow moved to adjourn. Judge seconded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned: 9:27 .

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa R. Mooza

mmooza@hotmail.com

Town of Royalton

Selectboard Meeting

July 24, 2007

Minutes

Town Office Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, John Dumville and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Sue Jones, Bruce Jones, Bill Benoit, Roger McCrillis, Nil d'Aulaire, Geo Honigford, Frank Berk, Bob Hull, and Jackie Higgins

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Nils Delaure – Mr. d'Aulaire stated that there hadn't been any problems with the Upper Lea Road being plowed until about 3 to 4 years ago. There was a change to the types of plows used on the town trucks and now the road is plowed like a super highway. The plowing is tearing up his lawn and causing a lot of repair yard work in the spring. Roger McCrillis will meet with Mr. d'Aulaire and work on a solution to the plowing problems.

Geo Honigford and Frank Berk, Royalton School Board Members – reviewed the proposed school gymnasium addition that is scheduled for town vote on September 11, 2007 . Discussed the low enrollment and the need to maintain the 400 students currently enrolled in the school system to keep all programs intact. Honigford explained the change of driveway and bus drop off at the school. Bruce Jones expressed his concerns as a bus driver in the reformatting of driveway and the amount of parents dropping and picking up children as a safety issue.

Regular Business

Minutes – Motion to approve 7/10/07 Selectboard minutes with amendments (Trombly/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Meeting Schedule – reviewed.

Payroll – signed and approved.

Highway Business

Churchill Access Update – Tabled until 8/14/07 Selectboard Meeting. Higgins will speak with Mr. & Mrs. Churchill in regards to erosion control on bank above Ducker Road .

Sewall Brook Road – Todd Bayer is willing to work with the town to build a turn around for the plow trucks. McCrillis will meet with Mr. Bayer to discuss options.

Lyons Road – John Dumville received word from Steven Judge that the plow truck is not plowing beyond his property as it used to. This again is an issue with town trucks not having enough space to turn around trucks when plowing. Roger will work with Mr. Judge and neighbors to remedy the problem.

Mill Road Electric/Telephone Pole – Randy Chapman from Verizon is requesting a change to pole on the corner of Mill Road and Vermont Route 110. The current pole can not withstand the stress of both electric and telephone wires. Motion to allow pole change on corner of Mill Road and Vermont Route 110 (Amsden/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Plowing behind business block – the Traffic Study Committee will review town snow plowing behind the business block along with pedestrian and vehicular traffic issues. Committee will consist of John Dumville, Bob Hull, Wendy Judge, Don Faulkner and Randy Leavitt. Hull to schedule first meeting of the Traffic Study Committee on Monday the 30 th of July at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office Building .

New Business

Planning Commission Vacancy Committee – Interviews were held, unfortunately the Planning Commission's representatives did not make the meeting. Melissa Kalinen and Joan Goldstein were interviewed. Motion to appoint Joan Goldstein as new member to the Planning Commission, to fill Gary Hobart's seat vacancy. (Amsden/Trombly, unanimous) Motion to reappoint Jo Levasseur and Rebecca Beguin to the Planning Commission. (Trombly/Dumville, unanimous) Higgins to send Gary Hobart a letter of thanks for his years of service to the Planning Commission.

Drown Property Issues – Higgins explained to the Selectboard about the site work and building that is going on at the Drown property off North Windsor Street . Mr. Drown does not have a septic permit filed with the town. Several concerned citizens have contacted the Selectboard and Town

Clerk's Office in regards to the construction. Higgins contacted the Environmental Office in Springfield , VT several weeks ago and was referred to the Waterbury , VT Environmental Office. Higgins has left several messages with Roger Thompson at the Waterbury Office and has not had any response at this time. Jerry Swasey as the town sewer officer made a site visit to the Drown property on Monday and was told by Mr. Drown that he was not going to apply for a permit. Mr. Drown later in the day had Higgins served with a no trespass order for all town officials to stay off his property. Higgins will continue to contact Roger Thompson in Waterbury .

At this time the Selectboard entered executive session at 10:06 p.m.

Round two minutes submitted by John Dumville.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins

**Royalton Selectboard Meeting
July 24, 2007**

Motion made at 10:06 PM by Peg Trombly and seconded by Peggy Ainsworth to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. All members of Selectboard present. Motion made at 11:01 PM by Trombly and seconded by Ainsworth to come out of Executive Session.

Upon coming out of executive session, Ainsworth offered a motion to ask Administrative Assistant Jackie Higgins for input/assistance in helping the Selectboard to increase the efficiency and proficiency of town operations. Trombly seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Trombly offered a motion to appoint member Ernie Amsden as their liaison to the highway department and to report monthly to the Selectboard, sharing information and concerns. Ainsworth seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Just before the close of the meeting Larry Trottier mentioned he had brought a copy of his deposition on the Bloss-Ballou road and would be reviewing it before signing it. In his testimony he relied on deeds where the road was mentioned. Trottier also noted that he'd recently attended the Sharon Historical Society meeting Monday evening where Gordon Tuthill discussed the road and how surveys were important in determining the exact location of an "ancient" road.

The meeting adjourned at 11:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

John P. Dumville, Clerk

Town of Royalton

Selectboard Meeting

July 10, 2007

Minutes

Town Office Building

Member Attendance: Larry Trottier, Peg Trombly, Peggy Ainsworth, and Ernie Amsden

Public Attendance: Sue Jones, Bruce, Jones, Demi Boles, David Lambert, Brad Howe, Jo Levasseur, Mark Thompson and Jackie Higgins

Chairman Larry Trottier called the public meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and conducted the following business.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/APPOINTMENTS

Jo Levasseur, Planning Commission Chair. – discussed Planning Commission's legal bill for Times and Seasons appeal. Motion to pay bill using the balance remaining of \$1654.69 in Planning Commission budget and remainder of bill coming from General Fund legal budget. (Trombly/Amsden, unanimous).

Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on July 30 to discuss draft of Flood Plain Regulations.

Regular Business

Minutes – Motion to approve 6/26/07 Selectboard minutes with amendments (Trombly/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Meeting Schedule – reviewed.

Payroll – signed and approved.

Highway Business

Churchill Access Update – Tabled until 7/24/07 Selectboard Meeting.

Sewall Brook Road – more information on landowner's needed before a turn around can be installed.

Fox Stand Bridge Bids – Daniels Construction decking bid \$209,292.00 and abutment repairs \$27,704.00.

Vermont Protective – painting bid below decking \$237,500.00 and painting above decking \$130,000.00.

Catamount – painting bid below decking \$180,000.00 and above decking \$167,000.00.

Motion to accept Daniels Construction bid for abutment repairs and decking replacement for a total of \$236,996.00. (Ainsworth/Amsden, unanimous)

Selectboard tabled the painting bids until financial assistance possibilities researched.

Higgins to put a notice of closure in the newspaper for schedule of repairs to Fox Stand Bridge .

Road Crew – Boles stated that the money now called retirement benefit was never a retirement benefit but compensation for the difference when the town switched health insurance plans (from JY plan to HMO plan). Higgins will research Selectboard meeting minutes for information regarding this benefit.

New Business

Planning Commission Vacancy Committee – Steven Judge and Jerry Barcelow will represent the Planning Commission (Jon Ranney will be a substitute) and Ernie Amsden, Peg Trombly and John Dumville will represent the Selectboard on the interview committee. Higgins will contact Melissa Kalinen, Joan Goldstein, and David Lewis schedule interviews.

Sidewalks - Motion to approve an additional \$2800.00 for sidewalk repairs to Alex Boles to extend project up North Windsor by the old Freck's Building. (Trombly/Amsden, unanimous).

Extra Policing – Motion to hire the Bethel Constable to assist with policing during Saturday of Old Homes Day at \$11.50 per hour. (Trombly/Ainsworth, unanimous)

Meeting adjourned 11:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jackie Higgins