

Town of Royalton
Selectboard Meeting Minutes DRAFT
1/11/2022 6:30 pm
Virtual/In-person Meeting

Royalton Selectboard: David Barker, Chris Noble, John Dumville, Jerry Barcelow, Tim Murphy

Town Staff & Committee Members: Rita Hull (Treasurer), Karmen Bascom (Town Clerk), Brad Salzmann (EMD), Walter Hastings (B&G Manager), Jim Hewitt (Rec Director)

Public: Jo Levasseur,

Meeting called to order @ 6:30 PM

Approve the Agenda: Agenda is approved by consensus with the addition of a liquor license from 802 pizza and discussion of a speed study under old business.

Liquor License: John moved to approve the liquor licenses for South Royalton Food Coop, McCullough's Quik Stop and 802 Pizza. David seconded and the motion carried.

Recreation Committee: John moved to appoint Jess Jones to the committee. David seconded and the motion carried.

An invoice for construction of the volleyball court on Carpenter Field was reviewed and discussed. It was noted that the expectation was that this work would take place over two fiscal years, but that the pandemic altered the timeline and the cost. The board noted the importance of communicating large expenses before they are incurred. David moved to approved \$3,000 from the community betterment fund to be applied to the cost of the volleyball court. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.

Jim noted that the ice rink is the best it has been in many years due to the levelling work that was done on the green. Many thanks for the improvements.

Highway Department: Victoria shared with the board that a hire had been found to fill the vacant full time position. Jerry moved to complete the hire at the requested wage and to approve a \$1.00 per hour pay increase for Adam Smith. David seconded and the motion carried.

Demi would like to send the grader to CAT for maintenance. This will include the annual maintenance as well as pulling to engine to replace leaking lines. The cost estimate is \$25,000 - \$30,000. Approximately half of the cost is in the Highway department's budget. Jerry moved to pay any additional repair costs for the grader from the equipment reserve. John seconded and the motion carried.

Town Meeting: Victoria asked for any changes or questions on the budget. Discussion regarding appropriation amounts for fire and rescue. Victoria will verify and resend.

David moved to vote by Australian Ballot for town meeting 2022 on March 1st as scheduled. Jerry seconded and the motion carried. This change was made as authorized by Vermont Legislature for one year only.

The Selectboard portion of Town Report was discussed. Board members will send bullet points to Chris for drafting this portion of the report.

BRTS: David presented a restructuring proposal that would create a director of public works. The plan was briefly discussed.

The board discussed what the future of the transfer station will be since Bethel has sent notice to terminate the interlocal agreement. The general consensus of the board was that they would like to see Royalton operate the station. Victoria will reach out to Therese.

Buildings & Grounds: Walter reports that only one bid was received for mowing town properties. The board determined that Walter should meet with the bidder and the contract award will be considered again at the next meeting.

Warrants were reviewed and approved as presented by the treasurer.

Tim moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.

Other Business: Vtrans has reached out to inquire as to whether the board would like them to proceed with the speed limit study on Route 14. Victoria will notify Vtrans to proceed.

Brad notes that a practice set up of the emergency shelter will take place on Saturday at 2:00 PM and invites all to attend.

David moves to enter executive session at 8:17 PM to hear a grievance that could place to town at a disadvantage. Jerry seconds and the motion carried. Victoria is invited to stay.

Executive session concluded at 9:12 PM

No action taken.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:13 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Victoria Paquin