

Town of Royalton
Selectboard Meeting Minutes DRAFT
10/10/2023 6:30 PM
Virtual / In-person Meeting

Royalton Selectboard: Stuart Levasseur, Chris Noble, Jerry Barcelow, Tim Murphy, John Dumville

Town Staff & Committee Members: Victoria Paquin (Town Administrator), Rita Hull (Treasurer), Loretta Stalnaker (Police Chief), Walter Hastings (Lister), Karmen Bascom (Clerk), Demi Boles (Foreman), Kristen Cronan (Recreation Committee)

Public: Jo Levasseur, Tim Jones (GMP), Tom Graham, Ian MacKenzie

Approve the Agenda: John moved to approve the agenda. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.

Public Comment: There were no public comments this evening.

Green Mountain Power: Tim Jones was present on behalf of Green Mountain Power to request permission to install new utility poles within the town's right of way on North and South Windsor St. A site visit was conducted with Tim Murphy, VHB and TRORC present. There was some discussion about the potential to underground the lines in South Royalton Village. ***Jerry moved to allow Green Mountain Power to install poles within to town's right of way as described. John seconded and the motion carried.***

Royalton Highway Dept: Demi reports that the grader is currently out of service. Initially it was suspected that it had a bad injector, however it is now evident that there is a further issue with the motor involving a dropped valve. Demi has located a mechanic who specializes in CAT engines that is able to work on the machine, but is also waiting for a quote for repair from CAT. In the interim, a rental grader has been sourced at a cost of \$6,100 per month. Discussion continued regarding the age of the machine & possibilities for repair. The range of possibilities is roughly \$4,000 to replace the valve, or \$40,000 if a rebuilt motor is needed. ***Jerry moved to approve the rental contract while we wait for a second quote to repair the grader. John seconded and the motion carried.***

Progress is being made on repairing roads that were damaged in the July storms. We've discovered additional 12" culverts that were buried by the storm and are now being replaced. Otto Merrill road and Bridge st are fully repaired, Back River Road and Johnson Hill are nearing completion. L&M is moving to begin work on Gee Hill Rd. There has been some discussion on beginning to repair the big washout on Gee Hill. Chris suggested that the road team meet separately to discuss the repair options for the washout on Gee Hill. There was some discussion about the H&H study and whether that was absolutely necessary to conduct at this point. Dubois & King has sent surveyors to Broad Brook Rd. It was requested to learn more about whether FEMA will reimburse the installation of a temporary road.

Chris suggested that the road committee look at the parking on Chelsea St between Windsor St and New St. Victoria offered to request the CAD from VHB for the intersection.

Donation Offer: Jim Goode has reached out to the selectboard to see if the town would be interested in accepting a donation of land that used to be the Eaton Sugarhouse Lot. Stuart will bring the proposal before the planning commission to get their input. The availability of a septic field and a well on the parcel was discussed, as well as a brief discussion of other requirements for the town to accept and then potentially sell the parcel.

Carpenter Field / Crawford Farm Field: There was a brief discussion of a potential long term need to relocate the Carpenter Recreation Fields due to the frequency of them being flooded. Regardless of the long term plans, it was determined that the recreation fields should be repaired as the relocation would be a long term project. It was noted that the farm lease for the agricultural fields at the town office is up and should also be put out for interest. *Jerry moved to put out on RFP to repair the Carpenter Recreation Fields and to advertise for interest to re-let the farm fields. John seconded and the motion carried.*

Minutes: *Jerry moved to approve the minutes of September 19th and September 26th. John seconded and the motion carried.*

Warrants: The warrants were reviewed and approved as submitted.

Other / Old Business:

John reported that the sunshine thrift shop will be closing. He requested that the board send a card to Raelene Lemery, all were in favor.

Tim requested that the road committee meeting might be held on Friday morning.

The constable Job description and employee reviews and wages were not discussed.

Jerry moved to adjourn at 8:29 PM. John seconded and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Victoria Paquin
Royalton Town Administrator