

**Town of Royalton**  
**Selectboard Meeting Minutes DRAFT**  
**11/28/2023 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), Brad Salzmann (EMD)

**Public:** Jo Levasseur, Beth Willhite, Carlton Bottenbley

**Approve the Agenda:** The agenda was approved with the addition of a request for betterment funds  
**Public Comment:** Brad Salzmann noted that he was disappointed that the board decided not to hold meetings regarding a town manager. We have been talking about having these meetings for quite some time and we should have the discussion.

**Budget FY 25:** The board reviewed draft budgets for the general fund and the highway fund. Discussion was had on various budget items and needs, including the possibility of increasing policing hours, funding the health officer position, and buying in road materials. Tim noted that there is some material available locally which he would like to purchase in. It is bank run material at \$12.00 per yard, but is only available until December 15<sup>th</sup>. Tim moved for the board to authorize himself and Chris to determine a course of action on the most efficient and best use of the highway budget for FY 24 to purchase material. Jerry seconded. The motion was amended to indicate the cost should not exceed \$50,000. The motion carried.

**Highway Dept:** Demi received two quotes to replace the one ton truck that was totaled during the July floods. A quote from Ted Green Ford was cheaper by \$1,000. John moved to purchase the vehicle from Ted Green Ford. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.

**Crawford Land Lease:** The opportunity to lease the agricultural land at the town office was advertised and two interested parties submitted letters. There was discussion regarding the parameters of the agreement. Carlton picked a name out of a hat. The lease will be awarded to Moon & Stars. Chris will sign the lease agreement & meet with the lessee to ensure that all parties understand the lease agreement.

**Interim Borrowing Authority:** John moved to approve the borrowing of funds to cover damage repair costs while awaiting reimbursement from FEMA. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.

**Carpenter Field Repair Bids:** A sole bid was received for the repair of Carpenter Field. Two other bids were late and not considered. Jerry moved to award the contract to Markowski at their bid price of \$78,031.02. Stuart seconded and the motion carried.

**Warrants:** Warrants were reviewed and approved as submitted.

**Minutes:** John moved to approve the minutes of October 24<sup>th</sup> and November 14<sup>th</sup>. Stuart seconded and the motion carried.

**Other / Old Business:** Elizabeth Willhite has been speaking with the state's attorney, state legislators, and local law enforcement officials regarding public safety concerns. She suggested that we proceed with a town hall style meeting with specific goals in mind – for example, how to start a neighborhood watch. Additional considerations such as working with the legislature to create new laws and enforcement of existing ordinance were discussed. The board thanked Beth for her

knowledge and willingness to work on these issues. They requested that Beth develop a stakeholder group and organize information to present at town meeting. Chris moved that a committee be formed with Beth at the helm to develop a community watch and a list of legislative requests. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.

John Leighton requested \$500 from the community betterment fund to purchase additional lights for decorating the green. John D. moved to approve \$500 from the community betterment fund to purchase the lights. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.

Jerry moved to adjourn at 8:11 PM. John seconded and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Paquin  
Royalton Town Administrator

DRAFT