

Town of Royalton
Selectboard Meeting Minutes DRAFT
12/12/2023 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), Karmen Bascom (Town Clerk), Demi Boles (Road Foreman), Loretta Stalnaker (Police Chief), Kristen Cronan (Rec Committee),

Public: Jo Levasseur, Linc Farrington

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

Public Comment: Jo noted that the plow truck travelled past a number of times during yesterday's snow, but was not plowing the road. Demi reported that the crews were out sanding, but had to carry the plows due to the risk of damaging the roads since they were not frozen.

Budget Discussions:

Police Dept: Loretta reports that Sean has resigned his position. Discussion on how many additional hours would be necessary to help alleviate some of the issues we are experiencing. Chris will bring back a suggestion for the number of policing hours to add to the budget for next meeting.

Highway: Demi requests that his part time position be moved up to a full time position. Discussion around what impact this would have to the budget. The board agreed to add 20 hours and associated benefit costs to the budget.

Demi noted that additional funding was needed in the budget to purchase gravel and hardpack for the roads. He requested \$150,000 in total. The board agreed to add these funds to the budget.

Recreation Fund: The recreation department has requested the creation of a reserve fund, which will allow them to save for larger purchases such as soccer goals, field revisions etc. The board agreed to allow a line item in the budget and add an article to the meeting warning.

Betterment Fund Request: John moved to approve a \$1,000 donation to be given from the community betterment fund to the Royalton Historical Society. Chris seconded and the motion carried.

Royalton Police Department: Loretta reports that the equipment necessary to change dispatching services is installed. She anticipates that dispatch will change over from the State to the Town of Hartford in January.

Highway Department: The Act 250 Permit for gravel extraction on the Crawford property will expire in 2024. Tim will work on determining what the process is to renew.

Appointment: John moved to appoint Linc Farrington as second constable. Chris seconded and the motion carried.

Liquor License: John moved to approve the liquor license for Royalton Village Pizza. Tim seconded and the motion carried.

Community Betterment Agreement: John & Walter have worked on renewing the community betterment agreement with VLGS. They have made minor changes to the amount the VLGS will contribute and to the language surrounding the scholarship. John moved to approve the updated community betterment agreement as presented. Stuart seconded and the motion carried with two opposed.

Approval of Warrants: Warrants were reviewed and approved as submitted.

Approval of Minutes: John moved to approve the minutes of November 28th and December 5th as presented. Tim seconded and the motion carried.

Other Business: Jerry asked about the status of the farm land lease. We have not yet signed an updated lease, but all parties are aware of the outcome.

There was brief discussion about the public safety committee and the health officer position.

John moved to adjourn at 7:50 PM Chris seconded and the motion carried.

Victoria Paquin
Royalton Town Administrator