

Town of Royalton
Selectboard Meeting Minutes DRAFT
3/8/2022 6:30 pm
Virtual/In-person Meeting

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

Town Staff & Committee Members: Victoria Paquin (Town Administrator), Stuart Levasseur (Planning Commission), Peter Anderson (Planning Commission), Rosella Gwin (Underpass Arts Project), Rita Hull (Treasurer), Loretta Stalnaker (Police Chief)

Public: Jo Levasseur

Meeting called to order @ 6:30 PM

Approve the Agenda: Jerry requests the addition of voting the Bethel-Royalton Transfer Station Joint Board Members. Agenda is approved by consensus.

Public Comment: David Anderson asks when the process of drafting an ATV ordinance will begin. Chris notes that this process will be undertaken slowly and that we will process when the associated parties are ready. Stuart Levasseur indicated that the planning commission would be prepared after their first meeting in April.

Stuart notes that he has been contacted by residents regarding what is happening at the transfer station and suggests that we should put out more comprehensive information. Jo notes that she has written an article that has these details and will be in the paper this week.

Selectboard Organization:

Vote the Chair: David Barker thanked Chris for his last two years of work as the chair, noting that Chris has done an excellent job. David suggests that the board consider a term limit type structure where the chair is rotated at least every two years. Discussion was had regarding this suggestion. David motioned to appoint Tim Murphy as chair. John seconded and the motion carried with Chris abstained.

Vote the Vice Chair: John asked Jerry if he would be interested in the vice chair position. Jerry declined, noting that his plate is full. Tim motioned David Barker as vice chair. John seconded and the motion carried.

Vote the Clerk: Tim moved John Dumville as Clerk. David seconded and the motion carried.

Animating Art Grant: The Vermont Arts Council has provided a \$10,000 grant for the installation of the Safford St. Underpass art. Nell was present to request permission to sign the grant agreement. Nell also noted that the Better Places grant requires a community match and asked about the availability of funds within the Community Betterment Fund. Nell and Victoria will talk further about the grant and the fund. David moved to approve the signing of the contract. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.

Overweight Permits: Jerry moved to authorize Tim to review and approve all overweight permits. John seconded and the motion carried.

Liquor Licenses: Jerry moved to approve the liquor licenses for Worthy Burger and Pizza Lupo. David seconded and the motion carried.

Town Administrator: Victoria presented monthly financials to the board. There are no major concerns at this time, with all departments spending as expected.

Victoria notes that our personnel policy allows employees to carry over 15 days of vacation from one year to the next. This policy resulted in two staff members losing accrued time. One staff member approached Victoria and indicated that in the past, the Selectboard had made an agreement with them that their time would be able to carry over in full. Discussion was had regarding the town's policies and how to best resolve the situation. Tim moved to allow town employees to carry over their accrued vacation time from 2021 into 2022 with the understanding that at the end of this calendar year, the written personnel policy will be followed. Chris seconded and the motion carried.

Transfer Station: Jerry reports that the BRTS board feels that the tipping building needs to be repaired as soon as possible. They are awaiting a report from the engineer and then will put out an RFP for the work to be completed. They are hopeful that the building will be repaired by the end of June. John Leighton is talking with the state to determine what can be done to return to normal operation (acceptance of construction type debris) before the building is complete.

John moved to continue the current appointments of Jerry, David and Tim to the BRTS advisory board. Tim seconded and the motion carried.

Approve Warrants: The warrants were reviewed and approved as presented by the treasurer.

Approve Minutes: John moved to approve the minutes of the February 22nd meeting. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.

Other Business: The board received a request from a resident requesting that Pepperell Rd be posted for mud season. Discussion continued regarding the state of the Class IV rds. Stuart offered to walk the road with board members.

Tim notes that the board usually has liaisons to specific departments and asks if they would like to continue in this fashion. There was some discussion regarding which board members would oversee what departments. It was decided that for now, they will continue as they have previously.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:46 PM

Respectfully Submitted by Victoria Paquin