

Town of Royalton
Selectboard Meeting Minutes DRAFT
5/28/2024 5:00 PM
Virtual / In-person Meeting

Royalton Selectboard: Stuart Levasseur, Tim Murphy, John Dumville, Patrick Dakin, Nell Gwin

Town Staff & Committee Members: Victoria Paquin (Town Administrator), Rita Hull (Treasurer), Loretta Stalnaker (Police Chief)

Public: David Kimball (SRRS Advisory Board), Corinne Ingraham (SRRS Advisory Board), Jo Levasseur, Barbara Homeier, Lauren Adamoli, Nando Jaramillo (Moon & Stars VT), Kenya Lazuli, Seth Lazuli,

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

Public Comment: There were no public comments this evening.

Royalton Fire District #1: David Kimball and Corinne Ingraham were present from the South Royalton Rescue Squad Advisory Board (A committee of the Royalton Fire District #1) to discuss the land lease for the rescue squad building. The selectboard had signed a land lease previously, however, the Prudential Committee subsequently requested a few changes. The changes included a clarification that the town would be willing to assist the fire district by taking on debt (if necessary) to finish financing the building and that the land lease would accompany the building if it ever needed to be sold. Discussion continued surrounding various provisions of the lease. The board determined that they would like to send the lease for review by the town's lawyer and then would revisit approval.

Police Department: Chief Stalnaker presented a Fair and Impartial Policing and a domestic violence involving Law Enforcement policy to the board. Both policies are required by the state. Tim moves to adopt the policies as presented. John seconded and the motion carried.

Loretta noted that the no parking signs in South Royalton Village need to be corrected. Several are posted on telephone poles and some are too high up to be noticed when parking. The incorrect signage makes it difficult to enforce the parking regulations. Tim said he and Demi would meet with Loretta to look at them.

Moon & Stars: Patrick reports that he has spoken with Chief Stalnaker about the suggestion to close a portion of Railroad Street to accommodate skating events on the green. The closure of Railroad street presents several logistical and safety issues. There was discussion regarding the closure of Park St. for the events, including acknowledging that such a closure inconveniences the residents of the street. Discussion included how well received the events are, not only by the immediate Royalton community, but also by others who travel to attend the event. It was determined that Moon & Stars would need to have a specific person responsible for traffic control during the event to clear the street and allow access for the residents as needed. Moon & Stars is amenable to this requirement. The request was for the First Saturday of each month, from 4:00 PM until 8:00 PM. There was some discussion of adjusting the times of the events, as well as allowing just one event and seeing how it goes. It was noted that Tim would report back if there were any

issues. Tim recused himself from the discussion & any vote. Nell moved to allow the closure of Park Street for roller skating events. Patrick seconded. John moved to amend the motion to include that people be assigned to either end of the closure for traffic control. Patrick seconded the amendment. The amendment carried. The amended motion then carried with Tim abstained.

Town Administrator: Victoria reports that the village center designations for Royalton and South Royalton Villages need to be renewed. TRORC is working on the application for us. Having the designation provides the benefit of greater access to grant opportunities and tax credits for parcels within the designated area. John moved to renew the village center designations for Royalton and South Royalton Village. Patrick seconded and the motion carried.

Victoria reports that she and Stuart signed an agreement with Daniels construction to stabilize the bridge on Broad Brook road for a cost of \$105,000. They mobilized and were onsite starting work today. A proposal is being drafted for the permanent repair of the structure. A rough cost estimate for permanent repair is between \$300,000 and \$500,000. The temporary shoring will not allow the road to be reopened to traffic, it is just to prevent loss of the bridge.

Victoria reports that VTrans has worked with FHWA and come to the conclusion that a temporary bridge may be installed at the Royalton Hill (Foxstand) bridge location. The bridge will be rented to the town at a cost of roughly \$300 per month. The town will be responsible for between 0 and 5% of the installation costs. Tim moved to proceed with the installation of the temporary bridge. John seconded and the motion carried.

John moved to approve the printer lease agreement. Patrick seconded and the motion carried.

The board reviewed the application for highway access. The applicant requested to relocate their driveway on Waterman Road. There was discussion regarding sight distances and VTrans residential driveway requirements. The requested driveway location does not meet the stopping distance requirements for an intersection. It was noted that the existing driveway location also does not meet the requirement but is better than what is being requested. There was continued discussion on sight lines and the impact to the intersection if the driveway was moved. Tim moved to deny the highway access permit. John seconded and the motion carried.

Personnel Policy: The personnel policy was tabled for the next meeting.

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

Approval of minutes: John moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Patrick seconded and the motion carried.

Other / Ongoing Business:

Patrick noted that he is having difficulty getting in touch with the engineer who completed the last Act 250 permit for gravel extraction. Victoria suggested publishing a request for qualification for an engineer to complete the work. The board agreed that this was an appropriate course of action.

The ongoing health order issue was discussed including additional discussion of replacing a culvert on Pleasant St. Victoria noted that her understanding is that the property owner is attempting to comply with the health order.

Tim reminded the board that employee reviews should be completed by July 1. There was discussion regarding the process and getting started so that it does not run as late as last year.

Nell asked when roadside mowing will start – the Chervil is getting tall.

Tim moved to adjourn at 8:25 PM and the motion carried by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Paquin
Royalton Town Administrator

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