

Town of Royalton
Selectboard Meeting Minutes DRAFT
5/9/2023 6:30 PM
Virtual / In-person Meeting

Royalton Selectboard: Stuart Levasseur, Jerry Barcelow, Chris Noble,

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

Public: Jo Levasseur, Nando Jaramillo, Sam Bruce,

Meeting called to order @ 6:30 PM

Approve the Agenda: Jerry moved to approve the agenda with the addition of a legal issue for executive session. Stuart seconded and the motion carried.

Public Comment: Jo Levasseur noted that she was glad to see the road crew working on Johnson Hill Rd. She felt that the piles of material that had been moved to the edge of the road during mud season were left for too long, and noted that there was washing of the road material due to the rains. She hopes that we can evaluate whether the practice should be changed.

Moon & Stars VT: Nando Jaramillo from Moon and Stars VT presented a plan to have some programming at the Black Lives Matter house on several Fridays during the summer. The plan includes film screenings, music entertainment, and ice cream for kids. Nando has applied for a better places grant and is requesting a letter of support from the selectboard. Jerry moved to write a letter of support for the program with the understanding that specific details related to parking and safety need to be worked out ahead of the events. Stuart seconded and the motion carried.

Old Home Days: Sam Bruce requested that the board authorize the closure of Park St. during the old home day celebrations. Jerry moved to allow the Old Home Day Committee to close Park St. as needed. Stuart seconded and the motion carried.

Jerry moved to allow a catering permit for alcohol on the green. Stuart seconded and the motion carried. It was noted that the ordinance is not being lifted this year and that BYOB is not permitted. All alcohol will be served by a vendor in a beer garden.

Sam requested that the board contribute \$10,000 from the community betterment fund to the event. There will not be fireworks this year, but the event is costly to put on. Some sponsors have been secured and the hope is that in the future the event will be self-supporting. A 501c has been established for the event. Jerry requested that the board be given a budget as well as a financial report from last year's event. We will revisit the funding request after the requested financials have been received.

Bridge St Project: The Bridge St. bridge project is coming along. ECI identified additional deficiencies underneath the structure that should be remedied. VTrans bridge inspection was onsite

on Monday and confirmed the deficiencies. Jerry moved to approve the change order for \$40,750 to make the additional repairs. Stuart seconded and the motion carried.

Town Administrator: Jerry moved to approve the audit as received. Stuart seconded and the motion carried.

Royalton Academy Bldg: The academy building qualifies as a transient non public water system and requires quarterly water testing to be performed. The board reviewed the requirements and a contract proposal from SOS. Jerry moved to accept the contract proposal from SOS at a cost of \$810 per year. Stuart seconded and the motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Jerry moved to approve the minutes of April 25th. Stuart seconded and the motion carried.

Approval of Warrants: The warrants were reviewed and approved as presented.

Other Business: Jerry raised that we should either enforce the prohibition of dogs on the green or get rid of the rule. Various options were discussed including the potential of providing an area where dogs are welcome to reduce the use of the green. It was noted that whatever the solution is, it will require investment. The item will be placed on a future agenda.

An inquiry was made regarding the crosswalks at the intersection of route 14 and route 110 and whether a sidewalk might be placed on the opposite side. Victoria thinks that the Vtrans rules require a landing area in order for a crosswalk to be placed, but will look into it.

Executive session: Jerry moved to enter executive session at 7:32 PM to discuss a legal issue and a personnel matter. Stuart seconded. Victoria was invited to stay.

The session regarding the legal matter concluded at 7:45 PM with no action taken.

The executive session regarding a personnel matter concluded at 7:55 pm.

Stuart moved to set the pay of the Chief of Police at \$87,000 annually, retroactive to March 3, 2023, which brings the salary of the police chief in line with the market rate. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.

Adjourned 7:56 PM
Respectfully Submitted,
Victoria Paquin
Royalton Town Administrator