

Town of Royalton
Selectboard Meeting Minutes DRAFT
9/26/2023 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),

Public: Bea Cole, Pete Cole, Linc Farrington, Jo Levasseur

Approve the Agenda: Jerry moved to approve the agenda. Tim notes that he has completed evaluations for the highway department. Requested additional items to review Park St., Line Striping, Parking on Chelsea St. The agenda with additions was approved by consensus.

Public Comment: Linc Farrington asks whose responsibility it is to maintain sidewalk that is also driveway access. Linc noted that there is an area on S. Windsor St that is severely degraded leaving a significant hole in the sidewalk / driveway. The board will take a look at the area and see what can be accomplished.

Bea Cole asked about progress on Broad Brook Rd. Pete notes that he has land available near project sites on Broad Brook Rd to accept materials for disposal.

Traffic Issue – Rainbow St: Residents have reported that traffic exiting parking lots for Crossroads and Worthy Burger tends not to stop. Discussion was had on possible solutions. Loretta will look into whether stop signs can be added.

Royalton Police Department:

The town of Tunbridge has requested that Loretta consider providing policing services to Tunbridge on a contract basis. It would be for three hours a week and Tunbridge would pay \$10,000 per year for the service. John asked if the contract would reduce policing in Royalton – no. Additional hours would be scheduled to meet the contract. ***Jerry moved to allow Loretta to develop a contract. Stuart seconded and the motion carried with Tim opposed.***

Loretta requested to make an agreement with a towing company to have them automatically enforce Royalton's traffic ordinance and tow vehicles during inclement weather. There was discussion regarding enforcement of the ordinance on a more consistent basis. Todd noted that he is available to enforce the ordinance. The board asked Loretta to work with Todd to enforce the ordinance more consistently and gave permission to proceed with making arrangements with a tow company.

Loretta noted that an in-car camera system needs to be replaced. The cost is within the budget, but exceeds \$2,000. ***Tim moved to approve the replacement of the in-car camera system. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.***

Jerry asked how the Tunbridge Fair went. Loretta reports that the event went well. They had only a few noteworthy incidents and the event organizers were pleased with the service provided.

Buildings & Grounds: Victoria notes that the farm field lease is up and that there should be another lottery or other solicitation of interest to find a lessee. It was also noted that it would be a good time to discuss whether we would like to plan to relocate the athletic fields. The board briefly discussed and requested a special meeting be scheduled for the issue.

Bid Review & Award: The road work team met and reviewed bids in advance of the selectboard meeting. Tim reports that all bidders are competent and capable of performing the work. It was recommended that road work groups D, E, and F be awarded to Northwoods Excavation inc and that groups H and I be awarded to North Road Excavating. The two contractors were the low bidders for those respective groups. *Jerry moved to award the contracts for road work as recommended. John seconded and the motion carried.*

Minutes: *John moved to approve the minutes of the September 12th meeting as submitted. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.*

Warrants: *Tim moved to approve the warrant as submitted. John seconded and the motion carried.*

Community Betterment Agreement: *Jerry moved to authorize John and Walter to work on a revision of the Community Betterment Agreement with Vermont Law & Graduate School. Tim seconded and the motion carried.*

Other / Old Business:

The selectboard would like to schedule a special selectboard meeting in October to discuss the possibility of a town manager form of government and then schedule a public discussion meeting in November. Tentatively, the selectboard meeting will be October 17th.

Tim has completed reviews for the highway department. Chris has not yet done town office staff. Requested executive session for employee reviews on the next agenda.

Chris noted that he is unsure how the selectboard can define the role of an elected official. Requested Todd to send along what he felt his job duties are. Tim suggested taking the list and placing priorities for the town that Todd feels he is able to accomplish.

The board noted that they are happy to accept the draft audit as presented.

Tim requests that Park Street not be closed for events. There were eight closures for events this summer. It was noted that the road was not closed last weekend, but there were still individuals roller skating. Continued discussion regarding scheduling of events and the potential to close off different street segments that did not have residences.

Stuart moved to adjourn at 8:00 PM. John seconded and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Victoria Paquin
Royalton Town Administrator

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