

Town of Royalton
Selectboard Meeting Minutes DRAFT
8/9/2022 6:30 PM
Virtual / In-person Meeting

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

Town Staff & Committee Members: Victoria Paquin (Town Administrator), Rita Hull (Treasurer), Geo Honigford (Planning Commission Chair), Stuart Levasseur (Planning Commission Clerk)

Public: Jo Levasseur, Mike Hogan, Ron Cavanaugh, Pamela Vesilind, Rodney Smolla (President, Vermont Law & Graduate School), Shirley Jefferson (Vice President of Community Engagement & Government Relations, Vermont Law & Graduate School)

Meeting called to order @ 6:30 PM

Public Comments: Pamela thanked the board for the public meeting last week regarding the ATV ordinance and requested that the board consider utilizing Australian Ballot in the event that an adopted ordinance is petitioned. Victoria clarified that the voters would need to approve voting public questions by ballot in order for that change to be made.

Ron Cavanaugh spoke to the board regarding his belief that the police department is not fulfilling their responsibilities. Tim Murphy offered that he and Loretta would schedule an appointment to come and meet with him.

Vermont Law School: Shirley Jefferson introduced new President Rodney Smolla. Introductions were made and President Smolla shared that on September 1st he will be giving a talk on the Constitution that all are invited to attend. The goal is to increase the relationship with the community and create a strong future for the school and the town.

Royalton Planning Commission: Geo reports that the planning commission is looking at the Town's Class IV rds to develop recommendations for future maintenance and use. They are also looking at the town's flood plain regulations and the possibility of a subdivision ordinance. Victoria inquired as to whether it would be worthwhile to consider some zoning instead of a subdivision ordinance as zoning could be facilitative when it comes to individuals who might like to establish businesses or construct housing in town. There was some discussion regarding whether the town would be receptive to a zoning ordinance.

Transfer Station: Tabled for future meeting

Town Administrator: Victoria shared with the board the FY 23 tax rate as prepared by the listers. David moved to set the tax rate as presented. John seconded and the motion carried.

Victoria presented a request from Vtrans that the town sign a quitclaim deed for the lower portion of Vesper rd. This is needed for the reconstruction of Rt. 14 and the underpass in that location. David moved to sign. John seconded and the motion carried.

John moved to readopt the Selectboard Meeting policy as presented. David seconded and the motion carried.

Victoria reports that a road crew member is now eligible for their annual wage increase. David moved to authorize the annual increase as previously indicated during staff annual reviews. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.

Victoria reports that one of the road crew members has given two weeks notice. Victoria suggested that the board consider developing an assistant foreman position and seeking someone with equipment operation skills. David moved to create the position of Assistant Road Foreman. Jerry seconded and the motion carried. David and Tim will develop the job description for this role.

Victoria presented the operating statement for the transfer station for the month of July.

ATV Special Meeting Follow Up: Tim noted that additional research is needed in order to solidify an ordinance that would allow ATV's to utilize town roads. Discussion continued on whether a few selectboard members should conduct this research or whether the topic should be discussed again by the full board. It was determined that the ATV club would be asked for a list of specific road segments that would be needed to connect private trails. The board will address again at their next meeting.

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

Approve Minutes July 26 & August 2: John moved to approve the minutes of July 26th as presented. Jerry seconded and the motion carried with Tim abstained. John moved to approve the minutes of August 2nd. Jerry seconded and the motion carried.

Other Business:

A contract is needed for LEWCO regarding the transfer station building repair. Victoria will work on drafting a contract.

The board would like to revisit the strategic planning that was started with TRORC. Requested Victoria contact Kevin Geiger.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:15PM

Respectfully Submitted
Victoria Paquin
Royalton Town Administrator