

**TOWN OF ROYALSTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2005
7:00 P.M.**

Present: Thomas Kellner, Chairman; Gary Winitzer, Clerk; and Werner Bundschuh, Member.

1. Chairman Kellner called the meeting to order.
2. The minutes of the 12/21/04 meeting were read. Mr. Bundschuh made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. Acknowledgements/Announcements/Correspondence:
 - a) Mr. Kellner announced that he wrote the letter to Paul Anderson at D.E.P. requesting the waiver for the Village School.
 - b) Mr. Winitzer stated that the Board has received a request from Verizon to place two new poles on Winchendon Road. Keith Newton voiced concerns over Verizon's delay in installing a pole on School Street that is holding up the construction there. The Board decided to take no action on the request for the two new poles until the School Street situation is resolved.
 - c) Mr. Bundschuh reported that the Board received a letter from the Department of Revenue stating that the town's certified free cash amount is \$295,623.
 - d) Mr. Winitzer made a motion to apply for a Mass. Forest Stewardship Program grant, which would pay for the cost of a management plan for the town-owned land on Town Dump Road. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
4. Department Head Reports:
 - a) DPW –
 - 1) Keith Newton provided information on the bridge on Turnpike Road. The town of Fitzwilliam, NH has replaced the bridge on their side, but the bridge on the Royalston side over Scott Brook still has a three-ton limit and is unsafe. He has been notified that Mass. Highway will repair this bridge, possibly within ten months.
 - 2) Mr. Newton reported that the 1985 Mac 10 wheeler is currently out of commission.
 - 3) A meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 1/5/05 at 5:30 p.m. regarding the possibility of the DPW taking over the operation of the Transfer Station.
 - b) Treasurer, Tax Collector, Accountant: Discussion was held regarding a recent memo from the Accountant to the Treasurer regarding procedures for turnovers, and also the tax collector's account that was closed in the past. Lori Blanchard, Accountant, provided the Board with a memo stating that the current system is working fine, and she feels that there is no need for an additional account for the tax collector. Brenda Putney, Treasurer, discussed her concerns.
 - c) Fire Department:
 - a) Wayne Newton reported that the new truck will be delivered on 1/19/05.
 - b) He presented the Board with three proposed articles for the Annual Town Meeting warrant.

5. 8:00 p.m. – Scott Sawyer, Auditor’s Exit Report: Mr. Sawyer began by leading a discussion of the auditing process. He then reviewed the Town’s audit for the year ending fiscal 2004 and the Management Letter. After a question and answer period, Mr. Kellner made a motion to pay Mr. Sawyer for the progress billing of \$6,500.00. Mr. Bundschuh seconded the motion, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.
6. New Business:
 - a) Agenda – Discussion was held on how the agenda is set. Mr. Kellner stated that he would like to discuss items for the agenda at least one day before the meeting or would like to have them put in writing.
7. The Treasury Warrant was signed.
8. At 9:03 p.m., Mr. Kellner made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bundschuh seconded the motion. The vote was Mr. Kellner and Mr. Bundschuh, yes.

Minutes recorded by Diana Newton.