

**TOWN OF ROYALSTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2005
7:00 P.M.**

Present: Werner Bundschuh, Chairman; Thomas Kellner, Clerk; and Andrew West, Member.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chairman Bundschuh.
2. The minutes of the 10/4/05 meeting were read. Mr. West made a motion to approve the minutes with one amendment. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.
3. Announcements/Acknowledgements/Correspondence:
 - a) Mr. Kellner has spoken with Jeff Mangum from the Corps of Engineers regarding a swimming area at Tully Lake. Mr. Mangum felt that this would be appropriate and would like to discuss the matter with the entire Board. Mr. Kellner will invite him to attend the next meeting at 8:00 p.m.
 - b) The Royalston Fire & EMS Association is requesting a Beer & Wine Permit for their annual Turkey Raffle to be held on 11/11/05. Mr. Kellner made a motion to approve the permit and to waive the fee. Mr. West seconded the motion, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.
 - c) Mr. West recently observed Mass. Electric workers replacing lights on the common with modern lights. They had planned to replace a total of five of the lights. He spoke with Sean McGloin from Mass. Electric, who put a moratorium on replacing the lights even if they don't work. Mr. West explained that the Town has three options: 1) Mass. Electric could repair the old lights, if possible; 2) the lights could be replaced with modern fixtures; or 3) we could purchase the lights. Mr. West told Mr. McGloin that we are currently working on purchasing the lights. Diana Newton will check the minutes from previous meetings when the streetlights were discussed with Mass. Electric employees to see what was discussed. Mr. Winitzer suggested that the Board write a letter to the president of Mass. Electric with a copy to the Department of Telecommunications & Energy. Mr. West will write this letter, which will be signed by the entire Board.
 - d) Mr. West stated that last Wednesday, he, Keith Newton and Larry Siegel met with Paul Jahnge, the western Massachusetts regional arborist, who had several recommendations about types of trees that would do well on the common. Also discussed was a rotational replacement of trees. Mr. Jahnge will get us information on available grants. He also stated that the large trees in the cemeteries should be removed. He will get back to Mr. West with more information.
 - e) Mr. Bundschuh asked about the hearing for a tree on Bliss Hill Road. Larry Siegel stated that a hearing was held, but people hadn't looked at the tree. The meeting will be reconvened at a later date. Mr. Siegel's recommendation is that the tree remains standing.
4. Department Head Reports:
 - a) DPW –
 - 1) Keith Newton reported that the situation with the grader is not any better. The parts have not been made yet. He has been looking for used parts, but cannot find any. The Town of Phillipston has been helping out with Turnpike Road. Speeders continue to tear up the road. Curtis Deveneau stated that Stone Road is the dirt road in town that gets the most travel. Mr. Newton disagreed with this. Mr. Deveneau would like some attention paid to Stone Road. Mr. Newton said that he would do the best he can.

- 2) There was a lot of water damage to roads from all the rain over the last two weeks. There was also tree damage.
- 3) There were three responses to the Request for Qualifications for the Engineering portion of the Route 32 project. Mr. Newton has notified the applicants that interviews will be rescheduled. Public hearings are also involved in the process.

b) Police Department –

- 1) Chief Deveneau requested the use of the Town Hall for the Children's Halloween Party on 10/29/05 from 5-7 p.m. Mr. Kellner made a motion to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. West seconded the motion, with the Board voting unanimously in favor. Trick or Treating will be held on 10/31/05 from 5-8 p.m.
 - 2) He presented three new policies to the Board, numbers 17, 18 and 19. He recommends that they accept those turned in previously (numbers 1-16) and review the new ones.
 - 3) Two grants have been awarded to the Department – the Click It Ticket and Community Policing Grant.
5. 8:00 P.M. – MRPC – Laila Michaud – Discussion was held on the CDBG Grant, and why it was not awarded to Royalston. Issues discussed were the possibility that the Town had not requested a project that was appropriate for use of the grant funds. Also discussed was how buildings can be brought to compliance according to ADA Regulations. Shelley Hatch of MRPC suggested that all services could be combined into one building in order to obtain grant money, as indicated by the results of the previous round of grants. Mr. Bundschuh said that neither building is large enough for all services. Laila Michaud said that the grants are very competitive. Questions were asked about the possibility of using CDBG grant funds for parks. Ms. Hatch said that there may be a change in formatting for the new applications and priorities for funding will be housing, construction, planning and social services. Mr. Kellner asked about a tentative schedule for the next round of grant applications. Ms. Hatch said it is due in March, with an action plan due in November. By December, we'd want to know what the town wants to do. She said that if the town commits to matching funds, grant money might be awarded easier. The Board will meet with MRPC again on 11/15/05 at 8:00 p.m. Ms. Michaud asked about a support letter for a Homeland Security Grant. Helen Divoll will be asked about the status of this letter.
6. Commonwealth Capital Application – Kim MacPhee reported that the state is requesting additional information for this application. The state would like the Town to commit to the implementation of some items noted in the Community Development Plan. Mr. Bundschuh made a motion to send an e-mail to the state in response as follows: “The Royalston Board of Selectmen, at their October 18, 2005 meeting, voted to bring to town meeting, a commitment to implement at least three of the recommendations contained within the Royalston Community Development Plan (CDP) by December 31, 2006. These recommendations are: 1) Adopting an Accessory Dwelling Unit bylaw; 2) Improving the Home Occupation section of the existing bylaw; and 3) Addressing other zoning “housekeeping” issues highlighted in the CDP.” Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
7. Old Business:
- a) Village School Water System – Mr. Kellner reported that he is trying to find the Town's DUNS number, which is needed in order to complete the grant application for funds for the water system. He met with the representatives from USDA regarding the grant process. He stated that the Board also needs to respond to the roof situation, which was leaking while he was there. This issue will be put on the next agenda for discussion.

- b) The Veteran's Agent position was discussed. The Board decided to ask for letters of interest for this position in the next edition of the Royalston newsletter. The matter of the Town joining the Veteran's District will be put on the next agenda for discussion.
 - c) Mr. West requested that NIMS Training and the need for a Disaster Plan for the Town be put on the next agenda.
8. New Business:
- a) Dana Reynolds – Brownie Troop/Town Hall Use – Ms. Reynolds will be invited to come to the next meeting to discuss this matter.
9. The Treasury Warrant was signed.
10. Mr. Kellner made a motion to adjourn at 9:22 p.m. Mr. West seconded the motion, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

Minutes recorded by Diana Newton.