

**TOWN OF ROYALSTON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2005  
7:00 P.M.**

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

1. Chairman Bundschuh called the meeting to order.
2. The minutes of the 6/21/05 meeting were read. One correction was made and noted. Mr. West made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. Acknowledgements/Announcements/Correspondence:
  - a) Mr. Kellner reported that he has been unable to obtain a phone number or address for Lori LaRoche, current owner of King Street property. He will attempt to get the address from the Town of Winchendon Street List.
  - b) The Board has received a request from the First Congregational Church to use the common for their Fair on 7/9/05, the Town Hall for restrooms, and to put up signs advertising the Fair. The Second Congregational Church also requests use of the Town Hall kitchen for their annual Pancake Breakfast on the same day. Mr. Kellner made a motion to approve the requests and to waive the fee as long as clean-up is guaranteed. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. After some discussion regarding the septic system at the Town Hall and the cost of pumping the septic tanks, Mr. Kellner reconsidered his motion, and made a second motion to charge the church a \$25 fee. Mr. West seconded the motion, with the Board voting unanimously in favor. Also, Mr. Bundschuh will check into the property situation relating to the proposed leach field.
  - c) Helen Divoll reported that she received a complaint regarding the condition of Riverside Cemetery. She referred the person to John McClure. Mr. West will speak with Mr. McClure about meeting with the Cemetery Commission.
  - d) Senator Brewer's office notified the Board that the Town has received the housing rehabilitation grant from CDBG, which is combined with Athol and Phillipston. Royalston did not receive the grant for approximately \$720,000 for infrastructure projects and ADA improvements.
  - e) Mr. West reported that Chief Deveneau spoke with the Operations Office at Guilford Railroad regarding the trains idling at the railroad crossing in South Royalston and was told that it should not be happening.
  - f) Mr. West received correspondence from National Grid stating that they target hardwood species for spraying, not blueberries. He made a motion to request that the Board of Health notify the public about the spraying, which is done in mid-July and mid-August. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Mr. West will contact the Board of Health.
4. Department Head Reports:
  - a) DPW –
    - 1) Keith Newton turned over the personnel review forms for his department and his self-evaluation to the Board. He noted that there is no new agreement in place with the union yet.

- 2) Mr. Newton reported that the grader is still down. There is hydraulic relief system damage. He will get an update regarding repair tomorrow.
  - 3) Mr. Newton and Mr. Kellner are working with Mr. Salidino on the water issue at his property in South Royalston.
- b) MRPC –Vyto Andreliunas suggested that the Town appoint a representative to the Montachusett Joint Transportation Committee, who formulates some of the transportation policies and works with communities to develop the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). Suggestion was made to advertise in the newsletter.
  - c) Kim MacPhee Re Commonwealth Capital Application and Smart Growth Technical Assistance Grant – Ms. MacPhee spoke about the Commonwealth Capital Application, which needs to be done by communities and in place in order to receive grants. The state has released funds for assistance with completion of this application. She suggested that the Board ask MRPC if they will be assisting with this. The Smart Growth Grant is a 15% matching grant. The grant application is due in mid-August. Funds could be used for working on zoning changes or on recommendations in the Community Development Plan. Mr. West made a motion to ask the Zoning Bylaw Project Taskforce to apply for the grant, to propose funding of appropriate amounts of money necessary for matching funds, and to look into what opportunities this grant allows us to pursue. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.
  - d) Tree Warden – Larry Siegel said that the four trees on the Common were removed as a matter of public safety. Discussion was held regarding replacing the trees and what type of trees would be the most hardy. Keith Newton suggested that MASS Releaf, an organization that sponsored grants for tree planting a few years ago, be contacted. Helen Divoll will look up the contact person and phone number.
  - e) Fireman’s Association – Gary Winitzer spoke on behalf of the Association. They met to discuss the specs for the new Rescue Vehicle. If the specs and bid packet are approved tonight, he would get the advertisements out tomorrow. The bid opening would be held on 7/25/05. He presented the packet to the Board. Mr. West made a motion that Mr. Bundschuh, as Chief Procurement Officer, sign the invitation to bid. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion, with the Board voting all in favor.

## 5. Old Business:

- a) Town Clerk Interview – Melanie Mangum: The Board asked about Ms. Mangum’s experience. She voiced concern about coverage at elections since she is currently a constable and also asked about fees collected by the Town Clerk.
- b) Appointment of Town Clerk – Mr. West made a motion to appoint Melanie Mangum as temporary town clerk until the next election in April. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
- c) Helen Divoll asked about the appointments to the Fire Department. She will check with Wayne Newton to see if there are any changes from last year. She

also asked about the appointment of a Pound Keeper. She stated that this position is for taking care of large animals that get loose or need temporary boarding. Mr. West made a motion to appoint John Divoll as Pound Keeper until 6/30/06. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

- d) Signing of FY2006 Contracts – After some discussion regarding the contracts, Mr. West suggested that the Board postpone signing them until they get more information. When the Board met with Keith Newton, they had agreed to sign the bid documents as presented. All bid documents were signed. Mr. Bundschuh will contact Willard Newton regarding the Grounds Maintenance contract.
- e) Review of Applications for Custodian – There were two applications for the position. Mr. Kellner made a motion to appoint Diana Newton as Town Custodian. Mr. West seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.
- f) Mr. Bundschuh said that he spoke with Donna Caisse regarding serving as the School Committee Representative on the Finance Board. Ms. Caisse stated that she doesn't want to be involved in that capacity. Mr. Kellner said that Roberta Newman is still interested. After some discussion, Mr. Kellner made a motion to appoint Robert Newman as School Committee Representative on the Finance Board. Mr. West seconded the motion and would like to revisit the issue next year. The vote was Mr. West and Mr. Kellner, yes; and Mr. Bundschuh, no.
- g) Mr. Kellner reported that the Personnel Committee met with Keith Newton, Curtis Deveneau and Wayne Newton regarding implementation of goal setting and performance reviews. Jon Hardie will present the Committee's recommendations on how they wish to go forward at a future meeting.
- h) Mr. Kellner announced that a hearing on the Smyly lawsuit will be held on Monday, 7/11/05 at 2:00 p.m. at the Boston Housing Court.

6. New Business:

- a) The Royalston Fire and EMS Association has requested a Beer and Wine permit for the Music Festival to be held on Sunday, 7/17/05. Mr. Kellner made a motion to grant the permit. Mr. West seconded the motion, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.
- b) Mr. Kellner made a motion to reimburse \$5.40 to a person who was inadvertently overcharged for copies of public records. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
- c) The Board endorsed Helen Divoll's attendance at a workshop in Boston sponsored by the Baystate Roads Program.

7. The Treasury Warrant was signed.

8. At 10:07 p.m., Mr. Kellner made a motion to adjourn. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Minutes recorded by Diana Newton.