

**Town of Royalston  
Board of Selectmen's Meeting  
Tuesday, November 21, 2006  
7:00 p.m.**

Present: Andrew West, Chairman; Thomas Kellner, Clerk; and Linda Alger, Member.

1. Chairman West called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
2. The minutes of the 11/7/06 meeting were read. Mr. Kellner made a motion to accept the minutes with one amendment. Ms. Alger seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. Acknowledgements/Announcements/Correspondence:
  - a) Mr. Kellner made a motion to approve a request from the Newton family for the use of the downstairs of the Town Hall for a holiday dinner on 12/17/06 from 9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Ms. Alger seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.
  - b) The Board received a letter from Jim Kelley about different types of signs being displayed in the area. Mr. West will respond to the letter and will state that the Board has not approved requests for posting of the signs that were mentioned. A discussion was held about the possibility of erecting a posting board in front of the Town Hall. Mr. West will put information regarding the proper procedure for posting of signs in the next newsletter.
  - c) Mr. West reported that a contract for purchase of streetlights has been written and will be sent to the Board and George Woodbury for review. A copy will also be forwarded to Kopelman & Paige.
  - d) The Board will be working on going out to bid for a new gate at Riverside Cemetery.
  - e) The Stowell hearing was postponed, as notification was not received properly.
  - f) Mr. West will notify Millie and John Poor that the town will be dropping the dog case involving the Deegans since they (the Deegans) have moved out of town.
4. Department Head Reports:
  - a) DPW –
    - 1) Keith Newton reported that the trench at the transfer station has been completed.
    - 2) Due to a problem with the backhoe, Mr. Newton had to rent a machine with an operator. The backhoe was repaired at a cost of \$700.
    - 3) Painting of the Town Hall has been completed.
    - 4) Discussion was held regarding a broken window in the tower section of Whitney Hall. Plywood has been put up as a temporary fix. Mr. Kellner volunteered to re-glaze the windows.
    - 5) Mr. West asked if Bliss Hill Road was in line for the next round of paving. Mr. Newton replied that he has other areas with more traffic volume. He has cold patched around the basins. Mr. Newton brought up the possibility of applying for another STRAP grant to get funding to catch up on paving projects. The Board expressed their support. Mr. Newton will research the matter and report back to the Board.
  - b) Police Department –
    - 1) Chief Deveneau reported that there was a breaking & entering in town last weekend. He also reported on the recent lost person incident. A debriefing on the missing person incident will be held tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Fire Station.

- 2) A community-policing grant in the amount of \$11,299 has been secured. Chief Deveneau hopes to place any leftover funds from this grant into a vehicle account to use toward the future lease or purchase of a new Explorer.
- 3) Mr. West will write a letter on behalf of the Board to Christopher Deveneau for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.
- 4) The Click-it-Ticket grant is due on 11/28.
- 5) Chief Deveneau introduced five candidates for officer positions. He currently has four shift positions and one reserve position vacant. He is in need of weekend coverage. After a brief interviewing session, and based on recommendations by Chief Deveneau and Sergeant Hamel, Mr. Kellner made a motion to appoint Tom Sampson, Darren Senecal, Steven Wolski, Matt Praplaski and Tim Fleck as officers. Ms. Alger seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

5. New Business:

- a) Based on a recommendation by Aaron Ellison, Ms. Alger made a motion to appoint Jack Morse to the Open Space Committee.
  - b) Sunday Entertainment Licenses: Helen Divoll reported that the state no longer requires licenses for coin operated games and asked if the town will still require them. The Board agreed that the town would not require these licenses.
6. A lengthy discussion was held regarding the town finances. Mr. West spoke with the Assessors recently, and they project that tax bills will go out in January. As there would be no revenue coming into the town until January or February, the amount of available funds is limited. There are several large bills that are due now. Discussion was held regarding hiring a consultant to get the process for generating tax bills back on track. Mr. West will talk to the Assessors again tomorrow to stress the importance of getting tax bills out and will also speak with Keith Newton regarding Chapter 90 invoices that are currently due to vendors.
7. The Treasury Warrant was signed.
8. At 9:56 p.m., Mr. Kellner made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Alger seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Minutes recorded by Diana Newton.