

TOWN OF ROYALSTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2005
7:00 P.M.

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

1. Chairman Kellner called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.
2. The minutes of the 1/18/05 meeting were read. Two corrections were made and noted. Mr. Kellner made a motion to accept the minutes with corrections. Mr. Bundschuh seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. Acknowledgements/Announcements/Correspondence:
 - a) A public hearing regarding the membership for the CDBG Housing Rehab. Grant and Application for 2005 will be held on 2/8/05 at 7:15 p.m. at the Athol Town Hall.
 - b) Correspondence has been received from Al Stegemann, Mass Highway Director, reporting that work on the Scott Brook/Turnpike Road Bridge will begin on 2/2/05. The bridge will be closed until work is completed.
 - c) The Board is in receipt of a letter from a person interested in purchasing the Lightning Rods home on the common and making it a Bed & Breakfast. The person asked questions regarding zoning and whether a Bed & Breakfast would be allowed. Mr. Bundschuh made a motion to send a reply stating that the Board cannot prejudge anything. Mr. Winitzer seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.
 - d) Mr. Bundschuh made a motion to sign paperwork from MRPC relating to turning back money from the CDBG grant. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.
 - e) The SRIC will hold another meeting on 2/7/05 at 7:00 p.m. at Whitney Hall.
 - f) Mr. Bundschuh made a motion to approve two requests from the Friends of the Library for use of the Town Hall; one on 4/1/05 from 7 – 9 p.m. for a Contra dance; and one on 4/22/05 for an afternoon comedy workshop for kids and an evening comedy performance. Mr. Winitzer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
4. Department Head Reports:
 - a) DPW –
 - 1) Keith Newton reported that he and Mr. Kellner attended a meeting yesterday with Shelley Hatch and Glenn Eaton from MRPC regarding the upcoming rounds of community development block grants. The Town will be applying for funds to complete the paving schedule in South Royalston, and to bring the public buildings into compliance with ADA regulations. Mr. Kellner made a motion to approve a Notice of Intent in order to strengthen the grant application. Mr. Winitzer seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.
 - 2) Mr. Newton stated that he has approximately 25% left for Snow & Ice for the remainder of this fiscal year.
 - 3) He will meet with a Verizon representative tomorrow regarding removal of two poles and placement of one pole on School Street.
 - b) Treasurer – Brenda Putney requested the approval of the Board to do work online with the state Division of Employment. Mr. Kellner signed the necessary form.
 - c) Police Department –
 - 1) Chief Deveneau reported that he has been notified by the Superior Court about changes regarding taping, videotaping, etc. As a result of these changes, he has set up a booking area with video and audiotape.

- 2) The thermal imager that was purchased with the Homeland Security Grant has been received and training was done. He is checking into a security system for the public safety complex, which would mean a great reduction in insurance rates.
 - 3) Bylaw Enforcement – Chief Deveneau presented an updated list of unregistered vehicles. He has sent out letters to seven property owners. He still needs to identify some property owners.
 - 4) In-service training for officers has been moved to West Boylston at a cost of \$80 per officer.
- d) Animal Control Officer - The dog hearing scheduled for this meeting was tabled as the complainant was not present.
5. Miscellaneous:
 - a) Mr. Bundschuh stated that he has spoken with Becky Krause-Hardie about the LaRoche property and that the Treasurer can proceed with the taking. Money is available from the tax collector. Discussion was held on how to get the debris removed. Mr. Kellner made a motion to determine the property a nuisance. There was no second to the motion. Mr. Winitzer stated that if this were done, the town would have to find a way to pay for the cleanup of the property.
 - b) Melanie Mangum expressed her interest in the constable position that is currently vacant. Mr. Winitzer made a motion to appoint Ms. Mangum to the position. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion, with the Board voting unanimously in favor. A letter of thanks will be sent to John Chencharik, who also expressed interest in the position.
6. 8:00 p.m. – Glen Freden – Forestry Plan: A walk-through was held recently on the parcel of land that has been written up on the management plan. The management plan has been finalized. Mr. Winitzer made a motion to hold a public hearing on the Forestry Plan on 3/1/05 at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Bundschuh seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
7. Old Business:
 - a) SRIC – Water System: Mr. Winitzer reported on conflicting conversations he had with Clayton Holmes and Attorney Stephen Sterbinsky regarding the bylaws for the SRIC and list of members of the Board of Directors. He checked with the Secretary of State’s Office to see if the SRIC is registered as a corporation and was told that they are not. Discussion was held regarding the SRIC’s designation as a non-profit organization and their tax identification number.
 - b) Bylaw Project: Vyto Andreliunas reported that the group met and has started to put together documents. Mr. Winitzer asked if the documents include the work of the Zoning Bylaw Review Committee and if the additions/changes to the Zoning Bylaws will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Andreliunas replied that he has a copy of the document prepared by the previous Review Committee and will utilize it. He stated that the group wants to take on the whole bylaw and do it right and will not intelligently be able to get it all together by the town meeting. It should be done by next year if people show up and get involved. Mr. Kellner stated that the group was not charged with a deadline.
8. New Business:
 - a) Collective Bargaining Agreement: Mr. Winitzer said that negotiations need to begin because the current agreement expires in June. Mr. Bundschuh made a motion to request a schedule from the union, to appoint one member to negotiate for the Board, and to put the item on the next agenda. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. There was no vote.
9. The Treasury Warrant was signed.

Mr. Bundschuh made a motion to adjourn at 9:48 p.m. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Minutes recorded by Diana Newton.

