

TOWN OF ROYALSTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2005
7:00 P.M.

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

1. The meeting was called to order by Werner Bundschuh, Chairman.
2. The minutes of the 4/19/05 meeting were read. Mr. West made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion, with the Board voting unanimously in favor. The minutes of the special meeting held on 4/27/05 were read, with one correction made and noted. Mr. Kellner made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. West seconded the motion. The Board voted in favor. Mr. Winitzer questioned when the vote was taken to include on the annual town meeting warrant, the article regarding accepting the annual town election warrant. After some discussion, Mr. Bundschuh asked that the tape of the 4/27/05 meeting be reviewed to see if a vote was taken on the above article, numbered Article 39. Mr. West stated that he recalled that a vote was taken. Mr. Kellner then made a motion to correct the minutes to reflect that a vote was taken at the 4/27/05 meeting on Article 39. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. Acknowledgements/Announcements/Correspondence:
 - a) Mr. Kellner has been notified that a meeting with MRPC will be held on 5/17/05 at noon to discuss the present CDBG grant and also the application for next year.
4. Department Head Reports:
 - a) DPW –
 - 1) Keith Newton reported that he has contacted the Mass. Electric arborist, who stated that he could do the tree trimming as discussed at the last meeting. The arborist will meet with Mr. Newton and the tree warden before he goes forward.
 - 2) Mr. Newton attended a meeting with Mass. Electric in Auburn today regarding emergency responses for storm activity during the winter months.
 - 3) The street sweeper has developed a brake problem and should be repaired soon.
 - 4) Spring grading is going fairly well. Several roads are still wet.
 - 5) He will be out of town from 5/21 – 5/28 and will arrange for supervisory coverage.
 - b) Open Space Committee: Aaron Ellison, representative from this committee, was unable to attend tonight's meeting and was rescheduled to attend the 5/17/05 meeting.
 - c) Historic District Commission: The Board has received notification of an application from the Stowell's, who want to build a porch on the back of their home. The town was notified as an abutter. Mr. West stated that the HDC has already approved the application. Also, correspondence was received from the HCD regarding the change of lights in front of the Town Hall. Mr. Bundschuh explained that he had initiated the changing of the light because the fixture was broken. Mass. Electric no longer replaces mercury vapor fixtures, so they replaced it with a sodium vapor light. Mr. West stated that the change in light requires an application to the HDC. Mr. West made a motion to submit an application to the HDC for the current fixture. Mr. Kellner said that he thinks the light should be replaced with a white light. Mr. Bundschuh seconded the motion.

The vote was Mr. West and Mr. Bundschuh, yes; and Mr. Kellner, no. Mr. Bundschuh will ask Helen Divoll to complete the application.

5. Old Business:

- a) Veteran's Service District: Mr. Bundschuh spoke with Toni Phillips recently regarding this issue. Ms. Phillips said that the state is going to back off on requiring that the town form a district due to budget constraints. She would like to continue on as the temporary veteran's agent.
 - b) Zoning Reform Support: Mr. Kellner stated that he would like to read through the articles on the warrant relating to changes in Zoning Bylaws and have the Board either endorse or not endorse them. Mr. Winitzer said that the Planning Board did not hold the required hearings. He has researched information from the Attorney General's Office and explained the procedure for approval of public hearings and submittal to the AG's office for proposed changes in Zoning Bylaws. Discussion was held regarding problems with the Planning Board not holding meetings. Mr. West and Mr. Bundschuh said that they did not want to take a position. Mr. Bundschuh stated that more than public hearings are required, abutting towns must also be notified.
6. Personnel Policies: After some discussion, Mr. Kellner made a motion to adopt the policies as presented by Jon Hardie on behalf of the Personnel Committee, and to amend the policies later when the union negotiations are completed. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was Mr. Kellner and Mr. West, yes; and Mr. Bundschuh, no.

Department Head Reports (continued):

b) Police Department:

- 1) Chief Deveneau discussed a Law Enforcement Agreement between the Town and the Corps of Engineers for patrols of the Tully Lake Recreation Area. Mr. Bundschuh recommended that the Chief discuss how to handle the money paid by the Corps to the Town with the Finance Committee. Mr. Kellner made a motion to support this agreement. Mr. West seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.
 - 2) Chief Deveneau reported that the insurance company requires that the Selectmen review policies of the Police Department annually. He will put together a list of the policies so the Board may compile a binder of all those currently in place.
7. The Treasury Warrant was signed.
8. At 8:55 p.m., Mr. Kellner made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and announced that the regular meeting would not reconvene. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was in favor.
9. At 9:51 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.

