

**Town of Royalston
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday, December 19, 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 7:07 p.m.
2. The minutes of the 12/5/06 meeting were read. Mr. Kellner made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Ms. Alger seconded the motion, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.
3. Acknowledgements/Announcements/Correspondence:
 - a) Mr. West reported that he has researched the FEMA grant as discussed with Fire Chief Wayne Newton at the last meeting. The town does not need to have the 5% matching funds in place in order to get the funding, however, a Special Town Meeting may need to be held in the near future.
 - b) Regarding defibrillators, Mr. West said that the Fire Department needs updates in order to continue with their training. He feels that there is no action required at this time.
 - c) As requested by Phil Delorey, Mr. Kellner made a motion to schedule a public hearing to discuss the Community Development Strategy on 1/16/07 at 7:15 p.m. Ms. Alger seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
 - d) Mr. Kellner made a motion to appoint David Runyon to the Fire Department. Ms. Alger seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
4. Department Head Reports:
 - a) Tree Warden – Larry Siegel reported that a tree hearing was conducted with regard to trees on Brown Road. The utilities received approval to take down trees as marked. Scott Burns from Verizon will involve Keith Newton and Mr. Siegel earlier on in the process in the future. A discussion was held regarding how to maintain trees in town. Mr. West suggested that a maintenance program be initiated.
 - b) DPW –
 - 1) Keith Newton reported that the new grader is in. He is currently going through the approval and acceptance process. Once the grader is accepted, the first installment of \$41,150 is due.
 - 2) Mr. Newton has two Chapter 90 projects ready for the reimbursement process. There is a large amount of money coming due.
 - 3) Mr. Newton has done research on STRAP grants and presented information to the Board. He will start to fill in the application. He would like to obtain funding to do roadwork that cannot be completed with Chapter 90 funds. Thirty percent of any funds received must be paid back over a 15-year period.
 - 4) A meeting to discuss the Route 32 project is scheduled for January 5 at 10 a.m.
 - c) Police Department:
 - 1) Officers Praplaski and Wolski are currently undergoing field training.
 - 2) Chief Deveneau reported that the police radio system is still not up and running. Tom Smith, who works on the radios, is thinking about the possibility of putting antennas at the Town Hall. He feels that the antennas on the roof of the Fire & Police Building are not far enough apart. Chief Deveneau stated that he is not satisfied with the way the radios are working. He also said that

Fire Chief Newton is not communicating with him and that the 24-hour Dispatch Committee has not met in some time.

3) The hearing on the Stowell case is scheduled for tomorrow.

5. Old Business:

- a) Mr. Kellner has been in communication with the Verizon wireless representative who sites cell towers and was told that Royalston is not in their plan. He suggested that the Board write to Senator Brewer to request his assistance and support in getting better wireless service for the town. Mr. West will write the letter and send a copy to the Department of Telecommunications & Energy.

6. New Business:

- a) Class II Dealers License Renewals – Chief Deveneau gave information on Motors Unlimited and Royalston Auto Sales. Sergeant Hamel conducted the inspections, accompanied by Building Inspector Geoffrey Newton. Mr. Kellner made a motion to renew the licenses. Ms. Alger seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor. The Police Department will continue to monitor these locations. Sergeant Hamel noted that he feels these businesses fall under Class III regulations rather than Class II.
- b) Ms. Alger spoke about a letter from Bobbi Newman regarding the formation of a new subcommittee to the School Committee called the Regional Agreement Re-evaluation Subcommittee. The idea is to get one community representative and one member of the Board of Selectmen from each town to serve. Discussion was held on possible changes to the regional agreement and their impact on Royalston. Ms. Alger volunteered to serve on the subcommittee. Mr. West made a motion to appoint Ms. Alger to the Regional Agreement Re-evaluation Subcommittee. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

7. The Treasury Warrant was signed.

8. Mr. Kellner made a motion to adjourn at 9:06 p.m. Ms. Alger seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Minutes recorded by Diana Newton.