

**Town of Royalston  
Board of Selectmen's Meeting  
Tuesday, June 27, 2006  
7:00 p.m.**

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

Chairman West called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

A discussion was held regarding the grader. Mr. Kellner made a motion to accept the bid from Wood Machinery Company. Ms. Alger seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

A discussion was held with Wayne Newton regarding the Fire Chief's position. He reviewed the new plan with 24 firefighters at the Center Station last night. Mr. Kellner voiced concerns of the additional position of Chief's Aide going to his wife, Kelly. Chief Newton responded that a waiver would be filed with the Board. The Board reviewed job descriptions presented by Chief Newton. Mr. West read the Fire Chief's list of duties: command and control, equipment repairs, reporting to Board of Selectmen, conducting training, overseeing grant applications, participating in NIMS training, developing a 5-year plan for fire department resources.

Discussion was held with the Chief about his performance and goals for the year as follows: to institute a training program, 36 meetings each year with 12 of those being rescue training. He also plans to introduce a training attendance requirement with a penalty system to give back money if nights are missed and a more stringent training on each truck.

Questions were raised as to application requirements, required training, and the lack of physical fitness requirements. There is a no smoking requirement. Chief Newton reviewed the list of firemen as to whether they are capable of entering a burning building. Mr. Kellner brought up the fact that some of the seasoned firefighters still smoke. Mr. West offered that the town could come up with money for a smoking cessation class if called for.

Chief Newton discussed training practices that have been successful such as the pumper shuttle. He also noted that we need more equipment for the men.

We have municipal aid agreements with mid-state, Franklin-Regional in Greenfield, and Southern, NH.

Chief Newton stated that his budget needs to be increased, noting that the \$13,000 reduction several years ago hurts his department.

Discussion was held regarding the switchover to Shelburne Falls dispatch. Also, the Chief's Aide position was discussed further.

Mr. Kellner made a motion to allow a request for use of the Town Hall on 7/8/06 for the First Congregational Church for a pancake breakfast and also for a sign on the common. The usual fee of \$50.00 will be charged.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Thomas Kellner, Clerk, Board of Selectmen.

