

**Town of Royalston
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday, September 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 7:05 p.m.
2. The minutes of the 9/5/06 meeting were read. Two changes were made and noted. Mr. Kellner made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Ms. Alger seconded the motion, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.
3. Acknowledgements/Announcements/Correspondence:
 - a) Mr. Kellner made a motion to pay a bill from Commonwealth Water for the purification system at the Village School in the amount of \$5750. Keith Newton explained that the amount of the bill was more than expected due to problems with the discharge line. Ms. Alger seconded the motion. The vote was Mr. Kellner yes; and Ms. Alger; yes. Mr. West abstained.
 - b) Discussion was held regarding new telephone poles on Toney Road. The Board had authorized placement of the poles subject to the review of the site and subsequent approval of the Tree Warden and also a Tree Hearing must be held. Also, a public relations representative will attend the first meeting in November to discuss on-going issues with phone service in town.
 - c) Mr. West met with a representative from National Grid regarding streetlights. They have recalculated the purchase price to the town at \$2300.00. Mr. West will speak to George Woodbury about the next step. There are many streetlights out in town. Templeton may be interested in a maintenance agreement. National Grid may be able to provide maintenance on a per diem basis in the interim.
 - d) The Village School has requested use of the Town Hall on 11/3/06 from 4-9 p.m. for their annual Potluck and Contra dance. Mr. Kellner noted that Open Mic is already scheduled for that evening. Ms. Alger made a motion to approve the use of the hall on the following Friday, 11/10/06, if they wish to change the night of their event. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The vote was Ms. Alger, yes; Mr. Kellner, yes; Mr. West, abstain. A discussion followed regarding the fee for use of the Town Hall. Due to the current status of the septic system (tight tank), Mr. Kellner would like to raise the fee for large groups. Mr. West noted that the system is part of the infrastructure. The issue will be discussed further at a future meeting.
4. Dog Hearing – 7:45 p.m. Mr. West announced that this dog hearing is being reopened from 4/18/06. Mary Coflesky and Robin Mowrey were sworn in as witnesses. Mrs. Coflesky gave her account of what occurred in August with a German shepherd owned by the Deegans and Mrs. Poor's dog. Mr. Deegan was not present at this hearing, but sent correspondence stating that the dog that was the subject of the original complaint is now gone. Mr. Mowrey said that the offending dog was from that household regardless of which one it was. The Board agreed that the fine previously imposed should still stand and authorized Mr. Mowrey to check the premises to determine which dogs are currently there. The Board will send a letter to the Deegans advising them that they must pay the fine and requesting that all dogs on their premises be licensed. The letter will also state that the dog is considered a nuisance due to its vicious disposition. There have been two instances of unlicensed dogs and three instances of unrestrained dogs. Mr. West closed the hearing at 8:03 p.m.

5. Department Head Reports:

- a) Fire Department – Chief Wayne Newton gave his report, which is attached as part of these minutes. He also stated that the remaining portion of the original purchase of radios would be delivered tomorrow from Comtronics. These have repeaters in them.
- b) Police Department – Chief Deveneau reported on arrests that occurred while he was on vacation.
- c) DPW –
 - 1) Keith Newton stated that three dead trees were removed from the South Royalston park.
 - 2) Mr. Newton said that he is currently awaiting word from the state engineering office regarding the Route 32 project.
 - 3) The Board signed paperwork for the Chapter 90 Supplemental Appropriation Contract.

6. Old Business:

- a) Mr. West is currently researching the purchase of computers for the Town Accountant and Town Clerk. He will also work on providing a better computer for the Building Inspector.
7. At 8:33 p.m., Mr. Kellner made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss potential disciplinary action against a town employee and a subsequent Executive Session to address pending legal action. The regular meeting will reconvene for the signing of the Treasury Warrant only.
8. The regular meeting reconvened at 10:45 p.m.
9. The Treasury Warrant was signed.
10. At 10:47 p.m., Mr. Kellner moved to adjourn. Ms. Alger seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Minutes recorded by Diana Newton.

