

**Town of Royalston
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday, September 4, 2007
7:00 p.m.**

Present: Linda Alger, Chairperson; Jon Hardie, Clerk; and Andrew West, Member.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. The minutes of the 8/21/07 meeting were read. Mr. West made a motion to approve the minutes with one amendment. Mr. Hardie seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. Acknowledgements/Announcements/Correspondence:
 - a) Ms. Alger will send a letter on behalf of the Board to Laila Michaud, MRPC Director, expressing their regret and appreciation on the occasion of her retirement.
 - b) Information on Safety Training by the Town's insurance provider was forwarded to Keith Newton and Wayne Newton.
 - c) A list of security measures in terms of loss control for municipal buildings was forwarded to Keith Newton, as well as information relating to disaster and debris management.
 - d) Mr. West moved to sign a bill from Kimball-Cooke for officer bonding for the Tax Collector. Ms. Alger seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor.
 - e) Mr. West moved to approve a bill in the amount of \$311.11 from Kopelman & Paige. Mr. Hardie seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor. Mr. Hardie noted that he is still trying to get the photos of #1 School Street from Sally Zettel.
4. Department Heads Reports:
 - a) DPW –
 - 1) Keith Newton presented the Board with two copies of the project request for the full scale reclaiming of Bliss Hill Road. Mr. West moved to approve the project for funding. Mr. Hardie seconded, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.
 - 2) Mr. Newton met with the project manager from Chappell Engineering on Route 32. They went through stationing of wetlands. He also met with David Blye from Mass. Highway, who had requested percentages of what we plan to do. Everything is in line and it shouldn't be long before a public informational meeting can be held.
 - 3) Mr. Newton is currently working on signage to reduce speed limits along Route 32, as well as the Doanes Falls section of Athol Road. Chevrons and signs for pedestrian traffic will be installed at the Athol Road location.
 - 4) Mr. Newton continues to work on procuring the roadside mower system.
 - 5) Mr. Newton will advertise the vacant position in his department as soon as possible.
 - b) Animal Control Officer – Robin Mowrey reported that the Linus' dog on Tully Road keeps getting loose. The rangers from Tully have been going there and he has also been called there. The Board had sent them a letter explaining the leash law approximately one year ago. Mr. Mowrey will get details to Ms. Alger, who will send the Linus' a letter fining them for two offenses and inviting them to come to a meeting if they choose.

- c) Police Department –
 - 1) Chief Deveneau reported that a 1-foot long crack has been discovered above the passenger side fender on the cruiser. It looks like rust from the inside out and stress. The vehicle must be inspected in October. Chief Deveneau will get an estimate as soon as possible so the STM article for other repairs of the vehicle can be amended.
 - 2) Mr. Hardie spoke about the need for asset lists and labeling. The Town can get a better price if legwork is done first. Chief Deveneau asked if lists submitted a few years ago could be used and updated.
 - 3) Mr. West moved to approve the signing of the Community Policing Grant application as completed by the Chief. Mr. Hardie seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor.

- 5. Old Business:
 - a) Mr. Hardie reported on the Triathlon planning meeting held recently. He feels that we'll be looking at multiple levels of resources from us and other towns. The meeting schedule is as follows: Planning Meetings on 9/6 and 9/17/07 and 24-Hour Dispatch Committee Meeting – 9/26/07. The Triathlon will be held on 10/13 and 10/14/07.
 - b) The letter to Pan Am Railways was sent out on 8/24/07. They are now parking the trains in a different area and also have paid their back taxes. Mr. Hardie sent a follow up letter of thanks.
 - c) The Tax Collector is in need of a fireproof cabinet for town records. There is money leftover from the ATM appropriation for town computers and office equipment. Mr. Hardie stated that the Treasurer and Board of Health need a new computer. Mr. West will get quotes from Dell. Ms. Alger will check costs for the cabinets.
 - d) Fire Chief Wayne Newton has recommended 12 people to be appointed to the Fire Department. Mr. West felt that Chief Newton should come in to a meeting to discuss the qualifications of prospective appointees at the next meeting.

- 6. New Business:
 - a) A discussion was held regarding the appointment of a Building Committee. Mr. Hardie gave names of three recommendations for at-large members. Ms. Alger also had recommendations. Appointments will be deferred until the next meeting.

- 7. At 8:34 p.m., Mr. Hardie made a motion to go into Executive Session to consider the discipline or dismissal of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual as defined in MGL Chapter 39, Section 23B, #2. The regular meeting will reconvene to sign the Treasury Warrant only. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was Ms. Alger, yes; Mr. Hardie, yes; and Mr. West, yes.

- 8. The regular meeting was reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

- 9. The Treasury Warrant was signed.

- 10. At 9:44 p.m., Mr. Hardie moved to adjourn. Mr. West seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Minutes recorded by Diana Newton.

Minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen on September 18, 2007.