

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES
TOWN OF RYEGATE
PO BOX 332
RYEGATE, VERMONT 05042**

**SELECT BOARD AGENDA
FEBRUARY 12, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Andrew Smith. Other members present: Claudette Sortino and Paul Keenan. Also present: Richard Fraser, William Hetu, Carl Bayer, Darryl Perkins, Gene Perkins, Makayla Perkins, Robert Davis, Vermont State Police Lieutenant =====, Elizabeth Page, Cheryl Slayton, Nelson Elder, Kristin Morrison, Kevin Fontaine, Tyler Pokines, Penny LeSeur, Chuck Fisher, Tom Cole, Christopher and Beverly Chartier, Marsha Nelson.

Minutes of the January 22nd meeting were read and approved on a motion from Paul seconded by Claudette that carried. The Clerk asked to add items to the agenda: Darryl Perkins from the Fire Department, Vermont State Police Lieutenant, Ryegate's Summer Festival and a Webinar on Paper Preservation.

Darryl Perkins was invited to speak and spent several minutes outlining a concern he has with the Fire Department. Gene Perkins was then invited to speak. After discussion and comments from some of those present, the Select Board praised the Fire Department for their services to the Town which can never be spoken of highly enough. Between the two men, 85 years of service have been received, and the Town will be forever grateful for the selfless time and commitment of the Department. It was then stated that the Select Board has no authority over the Fire Department in their internal affairs, but would be willing to pay for a mediator to help with the situation. This was not met with unanimous approval. Paul Keenan suggested the Department try to work out the differences among themselves in the next 30 to 45 days and then report back to the Select Board. It was decided to move forward with that in mind.

Lieutenant ===== of the Vermont State Police mentioned the contract between the Town and the State Police. It is in the Town's ballpark. The St Johnsbury Barracks has been down a number of staff, but is coming back. Of the \$18,000 voted on at the 2017 Town Meeting for the contract, only \$3,600 has been spent. Andy said the Town has been pleased with the performance in the past. He suggested an amendment at Town Meeting could combine both the State Police Budget and the Caledonia County Sheriff's Budget so the combined money could be used for both Law Enforcement Agencies.

Carl Bayer was present to talk about Energy Efficiency. He has attended meetings in Marshfield and St. Johnsbury, where Energy Commissions are trying to improve efficiency. He would like to see Ryegate have such a Committee to further the study of energy. The Board encouraged

his thoughts and suggested he might enjoy being the Energy Officer for the Town for the ensuing year and hoped to talk with him after Town Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: The Board viewed bills and signed orders. Cheryl mentioned Gene Perkins' wages fell below minimum wage and the Board authorized increasing them to \$10.50. The Treasurer passed out Balance Sheets through December 31, 2017.

Road Report: The Select Board reinforced the policy of allowing people to take sand from the Town Garage, but they may take only what can be shoveled by hand. People should not be blowing or plowing snow across or onto Class 1, 2, or 3 roads.

The 2016 International tension pulley is not under the extended warranty. The auger has been changed in the 2011 and should run out the length. There is a new time clock at the town garage. A report was made on how FEMA is coming along with the reimbursement for road damage.

The Select Board will hold their Organizational Meeting on Monday, March 12th at 7:00 PM and follow with their regular meeting. A Board of Civil Authority Meeting will be held on Monday, February 26th to authorize the Voter Checklist for Town Meeting.

Andy mentioned the generosity of John Weesner's widow in sending a memorial gift to the Town. He wonders if the Town should look for a project wider in scope for the money than what the money has been used for to this point. Various ideas were mentioned with focus on hungry kids taking the forefront.

The Select board authorized a webinar on vault health for the Clerk's Office.

Paul moved adjournment at 8:50 PM. Andy seconded the motion and it carried.

-----Marsha Nelson, Clerk