

Minutes

The Royalton Borough Council met on the above date; meeting being called to order by Council Vice President Chris Long at 7 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance and Silent Prayer were observed.

Roll call followed: Council Members recorded present for this session were Randy Cain, Kenneth DesJardins, Chris Long, Cindy Marsh, and Michael Richards. Also present was Mayor James Fry. Absent members were Chris Flynn, Jody Flynn and Justin Gilday.

Also present were Solicitor Steve Miner and Borough Manager Amy Burrell.

Visitors and residents present were Robert Givler.

Minutes of the July 8, 2025, meeting were presented and approved through motion by Richards. Seconded by Marsh and carried. Minutes from the joint special meeting with the Royalton Borough Authority held on July 22, 2025, were approved through motion by Cain. Seconded by Richards and carried with Marsh abstaining.

Residents and Visitors heard: None Heard

Communications:

From- AMP- Royalton electric usage for the month of July. July 2025 saw a continued string of above normal temperatures combined with high humidity. Royalton customers consumed a large amount of electricity during the month in the attempt to stay cool. July power demand was 30% higher than June and 90% higher than May.

The Financial Reports were presented and approved as submitted through motion by Richards. Seconded by DesJardins and carried.

Schedules of Bills payable from the General and the State Appropriations Funds were presented and approved through motion by Cain. Seconded by Richards and carried.

Engineer Report- No Report

Mayor and Police- Mayor Fry presented the police report for July and the August schedule. A resignation letter from Officer Cory Allwein was presented and approved through motion by Richards. Seconded by Cain and carried. Mayor Fry recommended the hiring of Kyle Hoffman at the starting police rates. Richards made a motion to hire Hoffman as a part-time police officer. Seconded by Marsh and carried. Manager Burrell presented information the Local Share Account (LSA) Statewide Gaming program and the option to submit for a new police vehicle. After discussion Marsh made a motion for Manager Burrell to proceed with submission to the LSA Statewide Gaming program for a new police vehicle. Seconded by Cain and carried.

Highway- Manager Burrell presented a quote from Best Line Equipment to rent a brush cutter. Public Works Foreman A. Menear requested permission to rent the equipment so they can cut brush back at the Grubb Street hill, Cameron Woods hill, Borough Hall fence line, Kiwanis Park fence line and at the pole

yard. Estimated that rental would be needed for two days. Marsh made a motion to rent the equipment for two days at the cost discussed. Seconded by Cain and carried.

Electric- The PJM auction for 26/27 has concluded and the Borough should anticipate a 5% rate increase starting in 2026.

Ordinance and Sanitation- The Code Enforcement report for July was submitted and approved through motion by DesJardins. Seconded by Cain and carried. Council Vice President Long stated he was pleased to see the A. Menear has been putting time into code enforcement efforts.

Budget and Finance- No Report

Park and Building- DesJardins reported that a new bench has been achieved.

Fire- No Report

Planning Commission/Zoning Hearing Board- No Report

Authority Matters- No Report

REMA- Manager Burrell thanked all the volunteers that made the Royalton Community Block Party successful.

Old business- Council Vice President Long reported that he had no update for MARA. Council Vice President Long then led a discussion in campaign for the open upper ward seat will not be continuing their campaign in the general election. This will leave an open seat. Solicitor Miner reviewed that the Council would have 30-days to appoint an individual to fill the seat. The Council had discussions of lowering the member number to seven and eliminating the wards. Solicitor Miner reviewed this would have to be done via an ordinance or a ballot item. Long expressed that he felt opening the wards will help fill seats in the future. Cain asked if the wards could be kept but redistribute the numbers of seats; example 5 seats upper and 3 seats lower. Solicitor Miner stated yes that is an option, but it would again need to be a ballot item. Long inquired what happens if no person is appointed within the 30-day timeframe. Solicitor Miner stated the court would get involved. No action taken as the Council wished for the full Council to be present to discuss further as we move forward into the new year.

New business- WREP distributed their annual fees for 2025, 2026 and 2027. Royalton's fee for 2025 is \$2,500 which is less than previous years. DesJardins made a motion to opt in to WREP again at the 2025 rate presented. Seconded by Richards and carried. DesJardins made a motion to set Trick or Treat for Thursday, October 30th from 6-8 pm. Seconded by Cain and carried. Manager Burrell reviewed the details regarding the celebration of life for former Mayor Judith Oxenford. The Borough office will close that day at 3 pm for staff to attend.

No further business.

Richards made a motion to adjourn at 7:52 pm. Seconded by Cain and carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Amy Burrell
Sec. Treas.