

Minutes

The Royalton Borough Council met on the above date; meeting being called to order by Council President 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, Justin Gilday, Chris Long and Cindy Marsh. Also present was Mayor James Fry. Absent members were, Chris Flynn, Jody Flynn and Brandon Phillippy

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

Visitors and residents present were: Will and Nicole Bentancourt

Minutes of the June 15, 2026, meeting were presented and approved through motion by Cain. Seconded by Marsh and carried.

Residents and Visitors heard: Will and Nicole Bentancourt of 231 R Water Street addressed the Council with an update on their fire loss property. They explained that they had issues with their previous contactors and delays with their insurance carrier. They have secured a new contractor who has submitted their demo permit application and is currently coordinating with UGI regarding vacating the gas service. Manager Burrell acknowledged that a street cut permit application has been received by UGI. The Bentancourt's indicated they do plan to rebuild in the future. Solicitor Miner reviewed that once the property is demolished and any outstanding fees, if any are satisfied, the fire escrow funds will be placed on the agenda for Council's approval to be released.

Communications:

From- Crane Clean Energy Center- Main Power Transformer Delivery information. Manager Burrell reviewed the site visit tour that was attended by herself, Council Vice President Desjardins, Marsh and Public Works Foreman A. Menear.

From- Council President Long- Staff recognition. Borough staff was thanked for their service during the recent July 4th storms.

From- REMA- Royalton Community Block Party- Saturday, July 25, 2026, 3-7 pm.

The Financial Reports were presented and approved as submitted through motion by Council Vice President DesJardins. Seconded by Cain and carried.

Schedules of Bills payable from the General and the State Appropriations Funds were presented. Council Vice President DesJardins asked what the payment was to Blue Line Settlement. Manager Burrell reviewed that during a recent home sale both the homeowner and the settlement company paid the final utility bill. A refund was issued to the settlement company. Schedules of Bills payable from the General and the State Appropriations Funds were approved through motion by Cain. Seconded by Gilday and carried.

Engineer Report- No Report

Mayor and Police- Mayor Fry presented the police report for June, as well as the July schedule. Mayor Fry noted that several applications have been received for the part-time position. The police committee will schedule a time to interview. Council President Long discussed the current committee list and asked if a change should be made to the police committee at this time due to limited availability of some Council members. From the discussion Gilday will join the Police Committee.

Highway- No Report

Electric- Manager Burrell noted that after the July 4th storms two additional third-party electric linemen contractors have been added to our resources list.

Ordinance and Sanitation- The Code Enforcement report was submitted and approved through motion by Cain. Seconded by Council Vice President DesJardins and carried.

Budget and Finance- No Report

Park and Building- No Report

Fire- No Report

Planning Commission/Zoning Hearing Board- No Report

Authority Matters- No Report

REMA- No Report

Old business- A draft of Ordinance No. 276 Elimination of the Voting Wards and Reduction of Council Members was presented and approved via motion by Council Vice President DesJardins and carried with roll call vote and all voting in the affirmative. Solicitor Miner reviewed his opinion letter regarding golf carts on public roads; no action taken.

New business- Manager Burrell presented the opinion letter from HRG regarding the Cameron Woods Edgewater Drive retaining wall. Gilday made a motion for notice to be given to the Cameron Woods HOA that an engineer's review of the wall, and report need to be submitted to the Borough Council by October 1, 2026, due to the public safety concern of the wall. Seconded by Council Vice President DesJardins and carried. Council President Long discussed the current stray cat situation in the Borough. He feels the problem is getting worse and provided a sample ordinance to try and address the situation as it is a public health issue. The draft ordinance notes that feeding should be time limited and that caretakers should be registered with a TNR program. Marsh questioned if Codes Enforcement or the Police would enforce with Solicitor Miner stating that both could. Solicitor Miner also noted that public education will be key to enforcement. Marsh suggested that a conversation be had for District Justice Judy to evaluate the ability to enforce stray cat regulations. Council agreed and directed Manager Burrell to set-up a meeting. The August meeting date was reviewed, and it was determined a quorum would be met and can proceed as scheduled. Council President Long provided an update on MARA and indicated that the childcare director has resigned. Marsh questioned why it seems so many tractor trailers are traversing upper Royalton. Manager Burrell indicated she also noticed this and questioned if there is a detour in a neighboring municipality that is causing this.

No further business.

Cain made a motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Seconded by Gilday and carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Burrell
Sec./Treas.