

MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING

MONKTON TOWN HALL

January 9, 2012- Minutes

Approved: 1/23/12

Members Present: John Phillips, Stephen Pilcher, Peter Norris, Terry Cunningham, Anne Layn

Others Present: Charles Roumas, Wayne Preston, John Howard, Joe Boisse, Bernie Wisinooski, Peter Close, Wendy Sue Harper, Charles Huizenga

Call to Order: John Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Announcements

None at this time

Regular Business

Warrants

A/P	1/3/12	#20103	\$35,435.31
A/P	12/27/11	#11227	\$24,835.92
P/R	1/3/12	#20103	\$8,648.79
A/P	1/9/12	#20109	\$5,104.45

Old Business

Highway Department Budget

Wayne Preston was present to discuss the highway department budget. It was discussed among those present. Mr. Preston noted that the heating expenses for the town garage were higher than expected and it was suggested that the heating go out to bid to see if there is a more economical supplier. Mr. Preston noted that all of the highway department's radios have to be low-band by January 2013; seven of the eleven radios will have to be replaced to meet the requirements. It was also reported that the town garage is in need of some maintenance and safety updates in 2012; some of which may be covered under a grant that Mr. Preston has applied for. The group discussed the equipment replacement plan. An article was drafted for town meeting day: Shall the voters approve the sum not to exceed \$190,000 for the purchase of a truck and plow set-up. There was discussion regarding the need, price, term of loan, and value of resale.

Listers Budget

John Howard, Bernie Wisinooski, and Joe Boisse were present to discuss the proposed budget for 2012. The Listers requested an increase in pay. This was discussed among those present. A decision will be made at a future meeting.

DRB Budget

Peter Close was present to discuss the proposed 2012 DRB budget. The proposed budget was discussed among those present.

Review Audit Report

Mr. Roumas presented the Select Board with the final draft of the Town Audit for 2010. A management letter with suggestions was also presented to the Select Board. These suggestions will be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting.

Astle Property Update

John Phillips updated the other Select Board members on the Astle property case. Mr. Astle has filed with environmental court for a dismissal; however this was thrown out by the court.

Health Plan Update

The town has changed the health plan for town employees. This change has saved the Town of Monkton a significant amount of money. Wayne Preston noted that road crew is happy with the new health plan and its coverage. Mr. Roumas presented the Select Board with a record of action from Choice Strategies. Stephen Pilcher made a motion to approve and sign the record of action from Choice Strategies regarding the amended 2012 health plan. Anne Layn seconded and it passed 5-0.

New Business

Road Sign on Mountain Road

There is a blind hill on Mountain Road near the Jones' property. The Select Board and Wayne Preston discussed the hill and ways to improve that area. The Select Board has asked Mr. Preston to place a sign on each side of the hill to caution drivers to slow down and keep to the right. This area will be discussed further at a future meeting.

Waitsfield Telecom

Waitsfield Telecom sent the Select Board a revised action plan to work in the right of way in order to place lines underground through Meader Swamp. Stephen Pilcher made a motion to approve the revised right of way around the Meader Property. Terry Cunningham seconded the motion and it was passed 5-0.

Dog Kennel

John Phillips reported that the Town of Bristol is willing to board stray dogs at their town kennel for \$500 per year and \$8 per day for boarding. Anne Layn made a motion to contract with Bristol for the use of their dog kennel. Terry Cunningham seconded the motion and it was passed 5-0.

Social Agencies

Charles Roumas presented the Select Board with the list of social agencies that are requesting funding in 2012. The town report will include a description of each agency. This was discussed among those present. The Select Board will review the letters from the agencies and discuss it at the next meeting.

Energy Committee

Charles Huizenga and Wendy Sue Harper were present to discuss the PACE program. The PACE program is designed to assist homeowners to fund energy efficiency projects through low

interest loans. The energy committee would like to put an article on town meeting day. The article should read: Shall Monkton establish a town wide PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) District and authorize the Select Board to enter into an agreement with Efficiency Vermont to operate the PACE home energy improvements program for interested homeowners as provided by 24 VSA Chapter 87 (Section 3261 et seq.)? The energy committee will hold an informational meeting before Town Meeting Day.

Next Meeting

The next regular Select Board meeting will be held on Monday, January 23rd, 2012 at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Anne Layn, seconded by Stephen Pilcher. The motion was approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:14 pm.

Respectively Submitted,
Bailee Layn-Gordon

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