

# Monkton Selectboard Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2012 (Approved 5/21/12)

## Monkton Town Hall

1. Call to Order: Chair J. Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:59 PM.
2. Select Board (SB) Members Present: Anne Layn, John McNerney, Peter Norris, Sr., John Phillips, Stephen Pilcher

Others Present: Wendy Sue Harper, Charlie Huizenga, Bill Joos

3. Announcements: The SB discussed rescheduling its 5/28/12 regular meeting to the preceding Monday, 5/21/12, in light of the 5/28 Memorial Day holiday. A brief conversation followed. **J. McNerney made a motion to reschedule the 5/28 regular meeting to Monday, 5/21/12. P. Norris seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**

4. Regular Business:

- a. **Approve Minutes** of Previous Meeting: The Board reviewed the minutes of April 23, 2012. There were no requests for edits or additions. **J. McNerney moved to approve the 4/23/12 meeting minutes as written; motion seconded by A. Layn. Voted and approved.**

- b. There are no **check warrants** pending for review.

- c. The SB discussed briefly proper language to appear on permit forms. The SB then reviewed and approved the following **Overweight Permits**:

- Ross Orvis
- Driscoll Brothers Excavating, LLC
- Thomas R. Chamberlain
- Claire Lathrop Band Mill, Inc. DBA Lathrop Forest Products
- David M. Newton, Inc.
- Darryl L. Hayden
- John Cheeseman, Jr.
- Francis Waterman
- T. Palmer, LLC DBA T. Palmer Excavating
- Brown's Certified Welding, Inc.
- Clement Cox DBA Cox Trucking, Inc.

5. Old Business:

- a. **Astle Property Update**: J. Phillips spoke again with attorney Roger Kohn, who agreed that a property lien would be workable, subject to final negotiations, with a comprehensive cost to include 1% interest and lawyers fees. An estimate is needed for the cost to clean-up the property (which will be the basis for the lien amount). The SB discussed different approaches to resolve

- the problem, including a workable time frame. The SB considered various vendors from whom to request quotes for the clean-up, and wondered if an excavator will be required. A. Layn and S. Pilcher agreed to pursue quotes.
- b. Appointment of Deputy Health Officer: J. Phillips received a letter from the Vermont Department of Health, which was discussed briefly. J. Phillips mentioned that a resident had expressed interest in supporting the Health Officer. **S. Pilcher moved to appoint Steve Dean as deputy Health Officer for a three year term; seconded by P. Norris. Voted and approved.**
  - c. Act 250 Notice re: Guillmette Subdivision: The SB received a formal Act 250 notice regarding a repair shop on property the Guillmette's own on Silver Street. Mark Guillmette is seeking approval to recognize the garage as a registered work shop. No action was taken by the SB.
  - d. Propane Bids: J. Phillips advised that no bids had been received by today's 5/14 deadline, perhaps due to the fuel companies' need to secure pricing for next year from their suppliers. J. Phillips agreed to follow-up with the presumptive bidders.
  - e. Energy Committee Report: W. Harper appeared, and provided an update on recent business, including VELCO's intent to upgrade its power line running through Monkton. W. Harper suggested that taller towers may result. C. Huizenga mentioned the Vermont Gas line improvements as well, including the gas line being routed through North Street in New Haven. The right-of-way for individual land owners will need to be negotiated / widened. W. Harper circulated an information sheet entitled Solar Array Options for Monkton, and reviewed two options and vendor details [1) array leasing for group net metering, and 2) purchase and ownership by town.] AllEarth Renewables, ACORN Energy Co-op and Addison Biomass Energy, LLC are potential vendors. J. Phillips mentioned the challenge of determining a suitable location to place the panels. J. McNerney commented on panel placement, including the use of a roof, which offers certain benefits. J. McNerney reiterated his need to recuse himself from any specific discussion, given his previously stated conflict of interest. J. McNerney asked about Middlebury's experience with ACORN Energy Co-op, for which W. Harper provided feedback. J. McNerney mentioned tax incentives, and possible deadlines to consider. J. Phillips encouraged W. Harper and the Energy Committee to continue to provide the SB with timely information, and continue its work. A follow-up visit is scheduled for the 6/11 SB meeting. Potential site visits are contemplated in the near future. The Energy Committee will solicit bids from vendors. P. Norris asked about the energy audit for the town garage. C. Huizenga mentioned his contact with Road Commissioner Wayne Preston. The audit is pending, but is expected to be completed soon. PACE update – Efficiency Vermont has mandated a single 6/12/12 sign-up deadline for all municipalities to sign up for 2012. Middlebury has a model program, and Monkton is interested in learning from Middlebury's experience. VT Gas is scheduled to attend the SB's June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Energy Committee is investigating the creation of a fire wood bank in Monkton, as has been successfully used in Lincoln. Bill Martin and Caitlin Cusack are heading up

that review. S. Pilcher encouraged the Energy Committee to post information on the town's website.

6. New Business: None

7. Other Business:

- a. J. Phillips confirmed that Zoning Administrator Ken Wheeling will attend forthcoming SB meetings.
- b. Town Clerk Sharon Gomez has requested that John Phillips be appointed as Assistant Town Clerk, which does not present any conflict(s) with SB activities. J. Phillips is scheduled to begin on Monday, 5/21.
- c. J. Phillips advised of a dog bite at a Pond Road residence. A dog belonging to a tenant bit the landlord during a visit to the property. J. Phillips asked the SB to review the dog ordinance, to determine what, if any, enforcement actions apply to this incident.
- d. Terry McNight – Vaughn Trailer Park: S. Pilcher reported that the trailer park has been cleaned up satisfactorily. S. Pilcher will draft a letter of appreciation to Terry McNight, who manages the Addison County Community Land Trust.
- e. Website: S. Pilcher advised that town website a little bit out of date, with very few recent submissions by residents. The SB discussed ways to get more information online. J. Phillips asked J. McNerney to post agendas online, including the SB revised meeting date of Monday, 5/21 (from 5/28).
- f. Building Committee: S. Pilcher reported that marker flags have been placed to identify Breadloaf's proposed parking lot location. J. Phillips advised of a quote request to renovate town hall. P. Norris asked if the current plan includes moving the library (yes).

8. Adjournment:

**Motion made by J. Phillips to adjourn at 9:03 PM; seconded by S. Pilcher.  
Voted and approved.**