

# Monkton Select Board Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2012

Approved 10-22-2012

## Monkton Town Hall

1. Call to Order: Chair J. Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM
2. Select Board (SB) Members Present: Anne Layn, John McNerney, Peter Norris, Sr., John Phillips, Stephen Pilcher  
  
Others Present: Bill Joos
3. Announcements: None
4. Regular Business:
  - a. **Approve minutes** of Previous Meeting: The SB reviewed the minutes of September 24, 2012. Two changes were requested: the financial results of the MVFD Grass Drags are incomplete, and a name was misspelled. **S. Pilcher moved to approve the 9/24/12 meeting minutes as amended; motion seconded by A. Layn. Voted and approved.**
  - b. The SB reviewed and approved the following **check warrants**:
    - A/P# 21002, 10/02/12, \$18,057.45
    - P/R# 21009, 10/09/12, \$11,288.07
  - c. There were no **overweight permits** to review.
5. Old Business:
  - a. Vermont Gas Meeting: The SB proposes that Vermont Gas meet with interested citizens on Monday, 11/19 at 7:00 PM at the Monkton Fire Station. Topics anticipated to be discussed include proposed gas line route(s), a project timetable, access to distribution lines, etc... J. Phillips will confirm the availability of the fire station, and communicate with Vermont Gas.
  - b. Road Reclassification: J. Phillips has done some preliminary work, and will attend a related VLCT meeting on 10/10; J. Phillips is seeking a clarification of the process involved. SB action will be postponed, with further discussion to occur at the next SB meeting on 10/22.
  - c. Building Committee Update: J. Phillips confirmed that 3 requests for proposals were sent by the Municipal Building Committee, with all 3 firms replying (Breadloaf Corporation, Naylor & Breen Builders, Inc., Neagley & Chase Construction Company). The next step will involve an interview. The SB reviewed the proposals, including that favored by the committee. J. McNerney asked about energy efficiency considerations. P. Norris mentioned cost considerations, especially as it relates to including the expense of a new library. S. Pilcher commented about pursuing grants.

- d. Solar Meeting – Date Cancellation: J Phillips spoke with a representative of ACORN, which usually pursues larger projects. A new date will be scheduled.
- e. Sign Maintenance Policy: S. Pilcher researched, and found a template to consider. S. Pilcher will prepare a draft policy for SB consideration. In a related development, Road Commissioner Wayne Preston advised the SB of a severe street sign theft problem, from many different locations around town. J. Phillips commented on the increased costs to replace signs, with reflective materials being used, along with breakaway poles.

6. New Business:

- a. Request from Listers: The Listers have requested in writing 2 adjustments to the Grand List due to calculation errors discovered following the List's final publication in August.  
1) VELCO property – a \$19,000 reduction is requested, following a double billing of VELCO. **S. Pilcher moved to reduce parcel no. 14.102.007-000 by \$19,000 in accordance with a request by the Listers to correct a computation error. A. Layn seconded the motion. Voted and approved;** 2) Pelland property - a calculation error involving square footage was discovered. The Listers have requested a reduction of \$32,600. **S. Pilcher made a motion to reduce the valuation of parcel no. 09.230.007-000 from \$277,000 to \$244,400 to correct a calculation error, as requested by the Listers. J. McNerney seconded the motion. Voted and approved;** 3) The Listers are seeking approval to hire attorney Charles Merriman to represent the town in a tax dispute. **S. Pilcher made a motion to accept the Lister's recommendation to hire attorney Charles Merriman to represent the town in a pending tax appeal before the Vermont Superior Court. A. Layn seconded. Voted and approved.**
- b. J. McNerney – ANAC Resignation: J. McNerney announced he has resigned from ANAC, effective immediately.

7. Other Business:

P. Norris commented on the pending legal matter involving the Listers. P. Norris expressed disappointment that the Listers did not attend tonight's meeting. The SB should discuss the merits of the pending case, in P. Norris' view. J. Phillips does not share the view that the Listers should have attended. A. Layn believes that the Listers should appear at a forthcoming SB meeting. J. Phillips will ask the Listers to appear at a forthcoming SB meeting. Also, budget request letters will need to be circulated to all town units/departments, ideally in early November. The SB hopes to have proposed budget information returned prior to December 7, 2012. For further discussion at the next SB meeting.

8. Adjournment:

**Motion made by S. Pilcher to adjourn at 8:10 PM; seconded by J. McNerney. Voted and approved.**

