

Monkton Select Board Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2013

Approved 4/8/2013

Monkton Town Hall

1. Call to Order: Chair J. Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.
2. Select Board (SB) Members Present: Ann Layn, John McNerney, John Phillips, Roger Parker, Jr., Stephen Pilcher

Others Present: Jennifer Baker, Peter Close, Thea Gaudette, Ivor Hughes, Stephanie Murray, Jane Palmer, Nathan Palmer, Tom Steadman, and Bill Joos

3. Organizational Meeting:
 - a. Elect Officers: J. Phillips solicited comments and nominations from the SB to elect officers, as follows: 1) S. Pilcher nominated J. Phillips as Chair; the nomination was seconded by A. Layn. There were no other nominations or discussion. **J. Phillips was elected as Chair by voice vote**; 2) J. McNerney nominated S. Pilcher as Vice Chair; R. Parker seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations or discussion. **S. Pilcher was elected as Vice Chair by voice vote**; 3) S. Pilcher nominated J. McNerney as Clerk; R. Parker seconded the nomination. J. McNerney nominated A. Layn. J. McNerney asked about the clerk's role and responsibilities. With discussion concluded, **J. McNerney was elected as Clerk by voice vote**.
 - b. Establish Meeting Times: A very brief discussion followed; **S. Pilcher moved to schedule (i.e., continue) SB meetings at Town Hall twice monthly on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 7:00 PM. J. McNerney seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**
 - c. Establish Publication of Record: **S. Pilcher moved to establish *The Addison Independent* as the newspaper of record to post official town notices. A. Layn seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Voted and approved.**
 - d. J. Phillips asked the SB to postpone its selection of legal counsel until a later date. J. Phillips responded to R. Parker's question about attorneys representing the town presently in various matters.
4. Regular Business:
 - a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings: The SB reviewed the regular meeting minutes of February 25th and March 11th 2013, and the amended Special Meeting minutes of March 18, 2013. There were no requests for edits or additions. **S. Pilcher moved to approve the 2/25 minutes as written; the motion was seconded by J. Phillips. S. Pilcher moved to approve the 3/11 minutes as written; J. McNerney seconded the motion. J. McNerney moved to approve the 3/18 minutes as amended; the motion was seconded by A. Layn. All motions were voted and approved.**
 - b. The SB reviewed and approved the following **check warrants**:
 - A/P# 30325, 03/25/13, \$ 44,186.12
 - P/R# 30325, 03/25/13, \$ 10,715.21

c. The SB reviewed and approved the following **overweight permits**:

- Barrett Trucking Co., Inc
- Birdseye Building Co. Inc
- Cardinal Logistics Management Corporation
- Champlain Valley Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
- Douglas Cole dba Cole Trucking
- Delphia Excavating LLC
- John G. French & Sons Trucking, Inc.
- Livingston Farms Landscape Products, LLC
- David M. Newton, Inc.
- Scott Oberle dba Oberle's Bulldog Trucking
- R. Parker Enterprises, Inc. dba Parker Excavation
- AJ Piper Excavating
- Spence Excavating & Construction, Inc.
- Thomas Steadman dba T & C Trucking, LLC
- United Natural Foods, Inc.
- Ronnie Wells dba Wells Trucking
- Weston Pulpwood Sales, Inc.

5. Old Business:

- a. Vermont Gas Systems, Inc. (VGS)/Addison Natural Gas Project (ANGP) Update: J. Phillips commented that not much has changed since the recent hearing in Hinesburg; J. Phillips understands that VGS has made an effort to sign up more and more residents. S. Pilcher commented on the recent 2 hour meeting with VGS. VGS provided a map reflecting proposed distribution within Monkton, including Monkton Ridge and Monkton Boro, by 2016. The location of a gate station has yet to be determined. The SB made requests of VGS, including 300' setbacks. The SB stated its intention to create a memorandum of understanding with VGS. I. Hughes asked if VGS is aware of articles 9 and 10 from the annual town meeting. I. Hughes inquired if any landowner consensus is required for article 10 to be acceptable. J. Palmer asked about the proposed content of the memorandum of understanding. For example, what recourse will the town have, if any, if VGS does not live up to its promises appearing in the memorandum? J. Baker mentioned that distribution maps have been created for Vergennes. J. Baker reiterated the core issue of minimum 300' setbacks. S. Pilcher confirmed that relevant information has been forward to attorney Josh Diamond. S. Wark of VGS wants to hold a public hearing on April 11, 2013 at Monkton Central School. N. Palmer asked if VGS has established a timeframe for replies to individual questions from Monkton landowners. J. Phillips responded to multiple comments about article 9 (establishment of a legal fund not to exceed \$50,000), and answered various other questions. The PSB hearing is now available online.
- b. Legal Actions Review: J. Phillips confirmed that 2 lawsuits have been received by the town: Brisson Stone, LLC (which is also appealing the DRB decision, via environmental court) and Donald Gould, who is suing the town in Superior Court.

J. Phillips has copies of each summons. Attorney Jim Carroll will represent the town, and respond within 20 days. J. McNerney asked for a follow-up on litigation involving the listers. J. Phillips provided an update. P. Close asked if the Willowell matter is considered a lawsuit (“No.”).

- c. Road Reclassification (Weisenbach Rd.): J. Phillips explained the issue: will the road be “given up,” or reclassified as a trail? Weisenbach Rd. resident P. Close prefers that the road be given up, which the town does not see as proper. P. Close referenced 1997 meeting minutes. P. Close confirmed that a “Dead End Road” sign exists. In the fall and deer season, people continue to travel down the road. S. Pilcher requested that more research be done. The issue will be revisited at the next regular SB meeting (4/8/13).

6. New Business:

- a. Approve Highway Mileage Certificate: J. Phillips circulated the certificate, which is unchanged from 2012. Total miles are 52.35, with 7 additional miles recognized as class 4 roadways. **S. Pilcher made a motion to approve the highway mileage certificate for the year ending 2/10/13; the motion was seconded by J. McNerney. Voted and approved.**
- b. Approve Annual Financial Plan for Town Highway: J. Phillips described the content of the form to be completed and signed by the SB. **S. Pilcher moved to approve the annual financial plan for fiscal 2013; J. McNerney seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**
- c. MAUHS Donation Request: A request was received seeking a \$100 donation to cover travel costs associated with students attending a presentation in Vergennes. J. Phillips will respond by email.
- d. Appointments: A listing of all appointed town positions was distributed. The SB reviewed the sheet in detail. A brief discussion followed concerning the potential need to interview candidates. J. Phillips mentioned the past practice of reappointing existing members who wish to continue in their role.

The Board voted and approved the following positions (*position expiration dates appear in brackets*):

- 1) **Development Review Board:** Chris Acker [3/17] (J. Phillips nominated; 2nd by S. Pilcher); Philip Russell [3/17] (S. Pilcher nominated; 2nd by A. Layn); no further appointment was made, pending confirmation of the open 3rd position.
- 2) **Recreation Department:** Pete Aube [3/16] (S. Pilcher nominated; 2nd by J. McNerney); Charlie Huizenga [3/16] (S. Pilcher nominated; 2nd by J. McNerney).
- 3) **Health Officer:** Robin Hopps [3/16] (A. Layn nominated; 2nd by S. Pilcher).
- 4) **Energy Committee:** existing terms expire in 2014-16; no nominations are required for 2013-14).
- 5) **Tree Warden:** Caitlin Cusack [3/14] (P. Norris nominated; 2nd by S. Pilcher).
- 6) **Web Master:** Open – for consideration on 4/8/13.

- 7) **Recycling Coordinator:** Amy Moody [3/14] (S. Pilcher nominated; 2nd by A. Layn).
- 8) **Green Up Coordinator:** Janet Kimball [3/14] (J. McNerney nominated; 2nd by A. Layn).
- 9) **Animal Control Officer:** Gary Clodgo [3/14] (R. Parker nominated; 2nd by A. Layn)
- 10) **VT State Police Comm. Adv. Board:** Henry Boisse [3/14] (R. Parker nominated; 2nd by S. Pilcher)
- 11) **Agricultural and Natural Areas Committee (ANAC):** Sam Burr [3/16] (S. Pilcher nominated; 2nd by J. McNerney); Caitlin Cusack [3/14] (A. Layn nominated; 2nd by S. Pilcher); the 3rd position remains open – for consideration on 4/8/13.
- 12) **Road Commissioner:** Wayne Preston [3/14] (S. Pilcher nominated; 2nd by R. Parker).
- 13) **911 Coordinator:** Diane Bennett [3/14] (R. Parker nominated; 2nd by J. McNerney).
- 14) **Town Municipal Building Committee:** Tom Steadman [no exp. dt.] (S. Pilcher nominated; 2nd by J. McNerney).
- 15) **Conservation Commission:** Laura Farrell [3/17] (S. Pilcher nominated; 2nd by J. McNerney); two other positions remain open – for consideration on 4/8/13.
- 16a.) **Delegates to Addison County Regional Planning Commission (ACRPC):** Thea Gaudette, Charles Huizenga, Sr., Wendy Sue Harper (alt) [3/14] (S. Pilcher nominated all 3 candidates; 2nd by R. Parker).
- 16b.) **Delegates to ACRPC Transportation & Advisory Committee:** Thea Gaudette, Charles Huizenga, Sr. [3/14] (J. McNerney nominated; 2nd by A. Layn).
- 17) **Delegate to Addison Cnty Solid Waste Mgmt District:** Deb Gaynor [primary], Stephen Pilcher [alternate] [3/14] (J. McNerney nominated; 2nd by R. Parker).

7. Other Business: None

8. Adjournment:

J. McNerney moved to adjourn at 8:50 PM; seconded by S. Pilcher. Voted and approved.