

Monkton Select Board Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2013

Approved 5/13/13

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: Ann Layn, John McNerney, John Phillips, Roger Parker, Jr., Stephen Pilcher

Others Present: Sam Burr, Thea Gaudette, Scott Gordon, Tom Steadman and Bill Joos

3. Announcements: None

4. Regular Business:

- a. **Approve Minutes** of Previous Meetings: The SB reviewed the regular meeting minutes of March 25th 2013. There were no requests for edits or additions. **J. McNerney moved to approve the 3/25 minutes as written; the motion was seconded by A. Layn. Voted and approved.**

- b. The SB reviewed and approved the following **check warrants**:

- A/P# 30408, 04/08/13, \$ 23,264.51
- P/R# 30408, 04/08/13, \$ 10,380.30

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

- Bradford's Trucking, Inc.
- Brown's Certified Welding Inc.
- Denis W. Casey Excavating, LLC
- Dan Menard Concrete Construction Inc dba Dan's Concrete Construction
- Driscoll Brothers Excavating, LLC
- Feed Commodities International
- Gauthier Trucking Company, Inc.
- Harrison Concrete Construction, Inc. / Harrison Sand, Inc.
- Harrison Redi-Mix Corp.
- Masterson Excavation, LLC
- Michael A. Redmond dba M.A. Redmond & Sons, Inc.
- Chad Wright dba Wright's Septic Service

5. Old Business:

- a. ANAC Update: S. Burr appeared and provided an update of recent ANAC work. S. Burr mentioned the Orb Weaver Farm and shared some relevant details. S. Burr mentioned that several appraisals of large Monkton farms have been completed. S. Burr reported that the Lewis Creek Association has been monitoring Pond Brook. S. Pilcher inquired about the Wetlands Reserve Program. S. Burr replied that ANAC would take a look about the viability of the program, and whether it might apply to any Monkton property.

- b. Interview DRB Candidates (3): **A. Layn moved to enter into Executive Session at 7:28 PM to discuss personnel/DRB committee appointment(s); motion seconded by R. Parker. Voted and approved. S. Pilcher moved to come out of Executive Session at 7:58 PM; seconded by J. McNerney. Voted and approved.** Clerk J. McNerney received and counted 1st round paper ballots for the 3 candidates. T. Steadman asked why an alternate DRB member is even needed. The SB explained about attendance concerns, the periodic need for a DRB member(s) to recuse oneself from certain matters, and other factors. The candidate with the least amount of votes was removed from the second round of voting. The clerk received and reported on the 2nd round of voting; final tally: S. Gordon – 3, T. Gaudette - 2. **Accordingly, S. Gordon is recognized as the new full time appointee of the DRB.**
- c. Appointments – Finish 2013 List: The SB reviewed further the list of open positions, as a follow-up to those appointments made at its March 25th meeting. **The Board voted and approved the following positions (position expiration dates appear in brackets):**
- 1) **Energy Committee:** Charlie Huizenga, Sr. and Peter Dufault [3/16] (S. Pilcher nominated both candidates; 2nd by R. Parker).
 - 2) **Web Master:** Ian Schultz [3/14] (S. Pilcher nominated Ian Schultz as web master for the period 4/8/13 – 3/4/14 with an annual stipend of \$300; 2nd by J. McNerney).
 - 3) **Agricultural and Natural Areas Committee (ANAC):** Caitlin Cusack [3/15] (J. McNerney nominated (replacing prior 2014 term); 2nd by R. Parker). Deb Gaynor [3/14] (S. Pilcher nominated; 2nd by A. Layn).
6. New Business:
- a. Sheriff's Department Contract: J. Phillips presented the new contract from the Addison County Sheriff (ACS). The proposed terms feature an increased hourly pay rate and a higher cruiser mileage reimbursement rate. The SB discussed the rates/coverage/etc... The SB will invite the sheriff to visit to discuss issues related to the deputies' work and the new contract. **S. Pilcher moved to accept the ACS contract for the period 5/1/13 – 4/30/14 @ \$25.00 per hour and \$.565 cents per mile. The motion was seconded by J. McNerney. Voted and approved.**
 - b. Approve Liquor and Tobacco Licenses - MGS: The SB approved the license renewals without comment. **A. Layn moved to approve the Monkton General Store liquor and tobacco licenses for 2013; seconded by R. Parker. Voted and approved.**
 - c. Cemetery Care Contract: J. Phillips mentioned that bids are typically solicited via newspaper advertisement. The SB discussed the bid process, and whether a cemetery commission might benefit the town going forward. The commission will deal with cemetery upkeep issues beyond regular lawn mowing. It was noted that a resident expressed concern about possible damage at a cemetery. The SB will

make a site visit to review the complaint. J. Phillips will prepare an advertisement to appear in *The Addison Independent* seeking cemetery lawn maintenance bids.

- d. Nature Conservancy Curb Cut Application: R. Parker commented that he and Road Commissioner Wayne Preston made a site visit; sight lines are good in both directions, with more than adequate distances involved. The SB addressed the need to notify adjoining neighbors, as a courtesy. R. Parker believes the parking lot to be involved will be appropriately sized. **S. Pilcher moved to approve the curb cut as applied for by The Nature Conservancy, and as flagged during a recent site visit by R. Parker and the Road Commissioner. Voted and approved.**
 - e. Roadway Right-of-Way Permit Application: J. Phillips circulated a draft document for use by residents seeking a roadway rights-of-way. Road Commissioner Wayne Preston would oversee and approve/deny the application. **A. Layn made a motion to approve use of the Right-Of-Way Permit Application by residents for submission to the Road Commissioner; R. Parker seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**
7. Other Business: a) J. McNerney spoke about the recent energy audit completed at the town garage, with emphasis on specific audit recommendations. Resident Peter Norris has offered to pursue quotes for various energy saving projects applicable to the town garage. T. Steadman asked if routine building inspections occur within town buildings. "No," per J. Phillips; b) S. Pilcher referenced pending legal cases, and provided a brief update on the creation of a memorandum of understanding with Vermont Gas System (VGS). S. Pilcher reported that certain citizens have a need for financial and legal assistance with issues involving the Addison Natural Gas Project. S. Pilcher asked whether VGS should cover the legal costs of those impacted citizens. The SB debated the issue. The SB shared concerns expressed by residents; c) A. Layn offered to provide coffee for the town government seminar scheduled for Saturday, 4/20; d) R. Parker asked about the protocol to report poor road conditions to the Highway Department, and he cited 2 examples for consideration by the Road Commissioner. The SB encouraged R. Parker to confer with W. Preston directly.
8. Adjournment:
- S. Pilcher moved to adjourn at 9:29 PM; seconded by A. Layn. Voted and approved.**