

## Monkton Select Board Meeting Minutes

July 22, 2013

(Approved Aug, 12, 2013)

### Monkton Town Hall

1. Call to Order: Chair J. Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.
2. Select Board (SB) Members Present: Anne Layn, John McNerney, Roger Parker, Jr., John Phillips, Stephen Pilcher

Others Present: Thea Gaudette, Rob Hunter, Town and School Treasurer Charles J. Roumas and Bill Joos

3. Announcements: None

4. Regular Business:

- a. **Approve Minutes** of Previous Meeting: The SB reviewed the meeting minutes of July 8<sup>th</sup> 2013. There were no requests for edits or additions. **J. McNerney moved to approve the July 8<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes as written; motion seconded by S. Pilcher. Voted and approved.**
- b. The SB reviewed and approved the following **check warrants**:
  - A/P# 30722, 07/22/13, \$63,703.27
  - P/R# 30715, 07/15/13, \$ 7,992.60
- c. There were no **overweight permits** to review.
- d. **Public comment**: Departing Treasurer C. Roumas shared his formal letter of resignation dated 7/22/13; the resignation is effective 7/26/13. C. Roumas spoke about transition considerations, including his conversation with Pace & Hawley, LLC, (P&H) the town's public auditor. In the opinion of P&H, there is no need at this time for a formal audit, given P&H's recent audit of the town, and the work each month of the town's elected auditors. C. Roumas will prepare and deliver a 2013 year-to-date trial balance and year-to-date entries report to Town Clerk Sharon Gomez. C. Roumas also mentioned the forthcoming determination of the 2013 tax rate, and the possibility of the wildlife crossing project gaining traction. J. Phillips and S. Pilcher, on behalf of the SB, expressed their appreciation to C. Roumas for his performance and many contributions to the town and school as treasurer.

5. Old Business:

- a. **Cemetery Commissioner (CC) - Status Update**: R. Hunter appeared and asked questions regarding the town's cemeteries. J. Phillips provided a rundown of all town-owned cemeteries, and stressed the overriding need for organization. R. Hunter asked the SB to outline what service(s) it hopes the CC will provide. J. Phillips provided a historical perspective on cemetery administration within Monkton. R. Hunter asked various questions, to which the SB responded. R. Hunter wanted to learn about the anticipated time commitment. R. Hunter asked

about the current budget related to the cemeteries; the SB explained typical annual cemetery expenses, with an emphasis on maintenance/mowing, which is provided by an annually bid contract. R. Hunter requested cemetery contact information. Also, J. Phillips referred R. Hunter to Brian Barrows (whose firm provides lawn care service) to discuss mowing/maintenance concerns. R. Hunter will learn more about the status quo, and continue to consider the position.

- b. Park & Ride Grant: T. Gaudette appeared and provided an update on a grant opportunity. T. Gaudette encouraged the town to submit an application, which is due 8/30/13. A local firm is prepared to assist the town with completing the application. The SB supports the work necessary to submit a grant application, and shared that view with T. Gaudette.

6. New Business:

- a. Curb Cut Applications: 1) Kyle Nolin – R. Parker confirmed his site visit to Boro Hill Rd (Lathrop Subdivision) with Road Commissioner Wayne Preston. J. Phillips provided a historical perspective on the Nolin curb cut application(s). R. Parker expressed his opinion that safety would be enhanced with use of the new curb cut (“the 3<sup>rd</sup>”), which he supports. J. McNerney mentioned decisions previously made by the DRB relative to the larger subdivision/development. S. Pilcher referenced also the 2 curb cuts authorized by the subdivision approval process (via the DRB). The SB traded comments back and forth, with numerous questions asked. S. Pilcher suggested that the DRB be consulted about the issue. The next DRB meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. A. Layn and R. Parker will appear before the DRB to solicit their feedback on the additional curb cut application (to be) submitted by K. Nolin; 2) The Nature Conservancy is proposing a curb cut on the opposite side of Rotax Rd from that which was proposed originally (east side of road). If approved, visitors to Raven Ridge will be required to cross Rotax Rd. No decision is required tonight; J. Phillips will visit with representatives of the Nature Conservancy to discuss their revised plan further.

- b. Personnel Issues (Executive Session): **S. Pilcher moved to enter into Executive Session at 8:02 PM to discuss a personnel issue; the motion was seconded by J. McNerney. The SB invited Bill Joos to join the Executive Session to take minutes. Voted and approved.** The SB discussed issues and a course of action in response to a complaint lodged by a Monkton resident. **S. Pilcher moved to come out of Executive Session at 8:16 PM; seconded by J. McNerney. Voted and approved.**

- 7. Other Business: S. Pilcher asked if any resumes have been received to date for the posted Interim Treasurer’s position. Yes, one has been received, per J. Phillips. The next regular SB meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, at which time any resumes received will be considered. The SB also discussed the Town Clerk and Delinquent Tax Collector’s positions, and related annual compensation for each. **S. Pilcher moved to appoint Bill Joos as Interim Treasurer, effective 8/26/13, until such time that a new acting treasurer is appointed; R. Parker seconded the motion. Voted and approved.** J. McNerney mentioned an email inquiry from Jane Palmer regarding the availability of

legal assistance to citizens with concerns about the Addison Natural Gas Project. J. McNerney mentioned that Vermont Law School might be a resource.

8. Adjournment: **S. Pilcher moved to adjourn at 8:32 PM; seconded by A. Layn. Voted and approved.**

Minutes submitted by Bill Joos

SBMinutes20130722