

**Monkton Select Board Meeting Minutes**  
**August 12, 2013**  
**Monkton Town Hall**

(Approved Aug. 26, 2013)

1. Call to Order: Chair J. Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
2. Select Board (SB) Members Present: Anne Layn, Roger Parker, Jr., John Phillips, Stephen Pilcher

Select Board Member Absent: John McNerney

Others Present: Jennifer Baker, Jane Palmer, Nate Palmer, Raymond Shepard and Bill Joos

3. Announcements: None

4. Regular Business:

- a. **Approve Minutes** of Previous Meeting: The SB reviewed the meeting minutes of July 22<sup>nd</sup> 2013. There were no requests for edits or additions. **S. Pilcher moved to approve the July 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting minutes as written; motion seconded by A. Layn. Voted and approved.**

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

- A/P# 30812, 08/12/13, \$12,903.00
- P/R# 30729, 07/29/13, \$11,536.16
- P/R# 30812, 08/12/13, \$ 6,732.46

- c. There were no **overweight permits** to review.

- d. **Public Comment (Morse Park)**: Pond Rd. resident R. Shepard appeared to express numerous concerns about what he described as questionable activity occurring, often at late/early morning hours, at the Morse Park parking lot, which is near to his residence. Concerns expressed included late night traffic, numerous meetings, and a rash of burglaries in the neighborhood (which may or may not be related to the parking lot). R. Shepherd also shared his frustration about a lack of response by the VT State Police and the Addison County Sheriff's Department. The SB asked various questions. R. Parker asked if posts might be viable to block the parking lot entrance/exit 'after hours,' after consultation with the Recreation Department. A motion sensor and lights were mentioned as possible tools to consider. The SB thanked Mr. Shepard for sharing his comments, and agreed to discuss his concerns directly with the Rec Department. The SB will also contact law enforcement agencies.

5. Old Business:

- a. Vermont Gas Systems (VGS) Easement Seminar: The SB is seeking out anyone able to provide legal assistance to Monkton residents who have legal concerns related to the Addison Natural Gas Project (ANGP). J. Phillips explained that J.

McNerney contacted Vermont Law School to ascertain if any help might be available to residents. J. Palmer expressed concern for Monkton landowners who might already be signing agreements with VGS without proper representation. J. Baker and J. Palmer asked several questions and shared extended comments.

- b. Curb Cut Applications - Brace & Nolin: 1) J. Phillips advised that no action would be taken this evening on the application submitted by the Nature Conservancy; 2) Brace application: Road Commissioner Wayne Preston & J. Phillips visited Doris Brace's property on Bennett Rd, and reviewed the area to have the curb cut. The desired location present no problems, but additional brush will need to be cut back. **S. Pilcher moved to approve the curb cut application submitted by Doris Brace for Bennett Rd. with the following condition: additional brush must be removed on each side of the driveway to improve safety/sight lines (minimally to 300 feet); A. Layn seconded the motion. Voted and approved;** 3) Nolin application: S. Pilcher read from a SB email exchange to bring everyone up-to-date on the status of the Nolin application; R. Parker believes the "new" curb cut will be safer than the existing curb cut. S. Pilcher brought out a site map to review the Nolin property. J. Phillips expressed concern about any change to 911 addresses and reiterated the town's policy of limiting curb cuts. R. Parker spoke again about the improvements to be realized by the new curb cut versus the existing cut. S. Pilcher wishes to visit the property. S. Pilcher requested that further discussion/any vote on the Nolin curb cut application be postponed until the next regular SB meeting on 8/26. A. Layn asked that the town's driveway/curb cut policy be circulated for review.
- c. Treasurer Appointment: J. Phillips advised that 3 applications were received, though only one candidate is a Monkton resident. J. Phillips conferred with VLCT and determined that since this is an elected position, a Monkton resident must occupy the position. The SB discussed compensation for the treasurer. S. Pilcher proposed that the incumbent interim treasurer remain as interim treasurer for remaining elected term (through March 4, 2014). The SB asked that salary requirements be submitted for consideration at the next regular SB meeting on August 26<sup>th</sup>.

6. New Business:

- a. Post Office Sign: Monkton Postmaster Elizabeth Hoag requested that signs directing passersby to the post office at the Monkton Fire Station on States Prison Hollow be erected on Monkton Ridge. A brief discussion followed, including mention of the annual \$100 fee payable to the state. A. Layn spoke in support of the sign installation. **S. Pilcher made a motion to approve Elizabeth Hoag's suggestion to purchase a directional sign to the Monkton Post Office; seconded by R. Parker. Voted and approved.**
- b. Emergency Plan: J. Phillips emailed the SB about the 2013 version of the Vermont Emergency Management Basic Emergency Operations Plan, hard copies of which were circulated.

- c. Animal Control Officer (ACO) Phone: The SB discussed briefly issues related to use of the ACO phone/phone management; A. Layn inquired about costs. The SB wishes to confer with the ACO about the phone and his responsibilities, including being available to residents-in-need by telephone.
- 7. Other Business: a) A final draft of the new town plan circulated; J. Phillips requested a complete timeline until the next town meeting in March 2014; b) Personnel Issue (Executive Session): **S. Pilcher moved to enter into Executive Session at 8:45 PM to discuss a personnel issue; the motion was seconded by A. Layn. The SB invited Bill Joos to join the Executive Session to take minutes. Voted and approved.** The SB discussed training to benefit town employees and appointed personnel. **S. Pilcher moved to come out of Executive Session at 8:53 PM; seconded by A. Layn. Voted and approved.**
- 8. Adjournment: **S. Pilcher moved to adjourn at 8:54 PM; seconded by A. Layn. Voted and approved.**

Minutes submitted by Bill Joos

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