

Monkton Select Board Meeting Minutes - Final
January 20, 2014 (approved 1/27/14)
Monkton Town Hall

1. Call to Order: Chair S. Pilcher called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.
2. Select Board (SB) Members Present: Anne Layn, John McNerney, Roger Parker, Jr., John Phillips, Stephen Pilcher

Others Present: Greg Cota, Wayne Preston, and Bill Joos

3. Announcements: 1) G. Cota appeared to advise that he would not continue as Fire Warden, effective April 1, 2014. Two candidates, both members of the fire department, have expressed interest in succeeding G. Cota, who estimated that he issued 150-180 burn permits annually over his 27 years of service. J. Phillips explained the notification and paperwork parameters related to naming a new fire warden. The SB expressed its appreciation to G. Cota for his nearly 3 decades of service as Fire Warden. Congratulations to Greg on a job well done. G. Cota continues to serve on the fire department as well. 2) S. Pilcher shared an email notification that VGS consultant CHA will be in Monkton the week of 1/20/14 performing a location and topographic survey in support of Vermont Gas Systems/ANGP. CHA advised that VGS has received right-of-entry permission from all respective landowners.

4. Regular Business:

- a. **Approve Minutes** of Previous Meetings: The SB reviewed the regular meeting minutes of January 13th. **J. Philips moved to approve the 1/13 minutes as written; J. McNerney seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**
- b. There were no **check warrants** ready to review.
- c. The SB reviewed and approved the following **overweight permits**:
 - John Chamberlain, Jr.
 - Markowski Excavating, Inc. dba Fire Hill
- d. **Public Comment**: None

5. New Business:

- a. Letter – Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal: S. Pilcher explained what action was needed. **J. McNerney moved to approve the terms appearing and pay the invoice for \$238.81; seconded by R. Parker. Voted and approved.**
- b. Curb Cut Application - Patrick Miner: R. Parker confirmed he reviewed the location, and understands that the curb cut application approved in 2007 expired. A very brief discussion followed. **J. McNerney moved to approve the Miner curb cut application as submitted, subject to the review and approval of Road Commissioner Wayne Preston; A. Layn seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**

- c. Certificate of Highway Mileage/Vermont Agency of Transportation: Another brief discussion occurred. **J. Phillips moved to approve the highway mileage certificate as presented (with data unchanged from 2013); J. McNerney seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**
 - d. Schedule Right-of-Way (R-O-W) Meeting with Vermont Gas Systems (VGS): VGS has requested a meeting to address concerns expressed by the SB in its recent letter to VGS consultant CHA. S. Pilcher suggested that two SB members and the Road Commissioner meet with VGS sometime after 2/4/14. S. Pilcher and R. Parker will join W. Preston to meet with VGS (tentatively) on Wed 2/5/14.
6. Old Business:
- a. Curb Cut Application – Frank Walch: S. Pilcher commented on the Walch application. R. Parker confirmed that he and W. Preston visited the location. The visit confirmed that no significant issues exist; R. Parker noted that nighttime headlights might be a minor concern. **R. Parker moved to approve the Walch curb cut application as submitted; A. Layn seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**
 - b. Draft Town Report/Meeting Articles – Review: S. Pilcher read the draft article related to the position of Delinquent Tax Collector, as approved at the 1/13 SB meeting. S. Pilcher shared a proposed article submitted by Sam Burr related to a Planning Commission term of office. **J. Phillips moved to accept Article 8 as written and submitted. A. Layn seconded the motion. Voted and approved.** J. Phillips commented on articles to be voted on by Australian ballot, and how such articles were presented last year. J. Phillips suggested that the language be clearer in 2014. The SB discussed ANAC funding and funding the Recreation Committee. J. McNerney took detailed notes related to drafting the individual articles.
 - c. Budget Review – Highway/MVFD/Town: W. Preston appeared to present his proposed budget. S. Pilcher also asked W. Preston to comment on the equipment replacement schedule. W. Preston spoke about the cost to replace the John Deere loader, and noted that the 2009 Mack dump truck was paid off last year. B. Joos confirmed that the John Deere 772 road grader will be paid off in October 2014. The SB agreed to draft language to put the purchase of a used loader (with a 3 yard bucket), with a purchase price not to exceed \$100,000, before voters for their consideration this year at Town Meeting. The SB and W. Preston discussed employee compensation, in general, and different approaches to evaluate and compensate employee performance. With initial discussion concluded, **R. Parker moved to increase the Highway Department’s 2014 pay rates for applicable employees by 1.5%; J. McNerney seconded the motion.** J. McNerney asked if the compensation levels of neighboring towns are known, to which W. Preston responded. A. Layn commented on lump sum payments. S. Pilcher called for a vote, and **the motion was voted and approved.** The SB continued its review of

budget submissions. The SB agreed to move the ANAC budget line item to Article 6, concurrent with a suspension of its .02 off the Grand List in annual funding. S. Pilcher led the discussion and review of 15 pages of draft budget data.

7. Old Business:

- d. Determine Time/Date of Next Meeting: The SB will meet again at Monkton Town Hall on **Monday, January 27, 2014 at 6:00 PM.** *Note the early start time.*

8. Other Business: None

9. Adjournment: **A. Layn moved to adjourn at 9:02 PM; R. Parker seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**

Minutes submitted by Bill Joos

SBMinutes20140120