

**Monkton Select Board Meeting Minutes - Final**  
**March 10, 2014** (approved Mar. 24, 2014)  
**Monkton Town Hall**

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

Others Present: Renee McGuinness, Maren Vasatka and Bill Joos

3. Announcements: a) The 2014 Spring Selectboard Institute is scheduled for April 12<sup>th</sup> in Rutland; see the Treasurer if you are interested in attending. b) The VT Animal Control Association has its meeting and training session scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup>. c) We received a letter from the VT Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation dated 3/6/14 confirming that the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) has acquired 73 acres in town from Pat & Ray Mainer. S. Pilcher mentioned his interest in forming a Trails Committee to identify and publicize recreational trail use in and around Monkton. d) The Preston tax appeal case has been settled, with an approximate \$10,000 reduction resulting in the Preston property's appraised value. e) S. Pilcher provided a brief report on the Monkton Town Fair that was held on Sunday, 3/2 in the MCS gym. f) Monkton landowners impacted directly by the Addison Natural Gas Project (ANGP) attended a meeting at the Monkton Fire Station organized by State Senator Chris Bray. A number of officials from the Department of Public Service attended. Vermont Gas Systems (VGS) is starting over its negotiations with residents who have been unable to reach agreements to date with VGS.
4. SB Organization:
  - a. Elect Officers: S. Pilcher solicited comments and nominations from the SB to elect officers, as follows: 1) A. Layn nominated S. Pilcher as Chair; H. Boisse seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations or discussion. **S. Pilcher was elected as Chair by voice vote**; 2) J. McNerney nominated A. Layn as Vice Chair; R. Parker seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations or discussion. **A. Layn was elected as Vice Chair by voice vote**; 3) H. Boisse nominated J. McNerney to serve as Clerk; R. Parker seconded the nomination. **J. McNerney was elected as Clerk by voice vote**.
  - b. Establish Meeting Times: A very brief discussion followed; **H. Boisse moved to schedule (i.e., continue) regular SB meetings at Town Hall twice monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 7:00 PM (or earlier, as may be needed occasionally). R. Parker seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**
  - c. Establish Publication of Record: **H. Boisse moved to retain *The Addison Independent* as the newspaper of record to post official town notices. J. McNerney seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Voted and approved.**
  - d. S. Pilcher postponed discussion of any legal counsel consideration by the SB until a later date, following further review of issues and needs.

5. Regular Business:

- a. **Approve Minutes** of Previous Meetings: The SB reviewed the regular meeting minutes of February 24<sup>th</sup>. J. McNerney requested a content change to item 4d. to which the SB agreed. There were no other requests for edits or additions. **J. McNerney moved to approve the 2/24 minutes as amended; A. Layn seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**
- b. The SB reviewed and approved the following **check warrants:**
  - A/P# 40224, 02/24/14, \$ 29,645.84
  - A/P# 40228, 02/28/14, \$ 7,383.23
  - P/R# 40310, 03/10/14, \$ 12,234.61
- c. The SB reviewed and approved the following **overweight permits:**
  - Barrett Trucking Co., Inc.
  - Clark-Wright Septic Service
  - Currier Logging & Transport Inc
  - Engineers Construction, Inc.
  - John G. French & Sons Trucking, Inc
  - Germaine Excavating, Inc.
  - Josh Masterson/Masterson Excavation, LLC
  - Rice Lumber Co., Inc.
  - SD Ireland Concrete Const. Corp. & SD Ireland Brothers Corp.
  - Spence Excavating & Construction, Inc.
- d. **Public Comment:** A question was asked if any minutes/notes taken at the recent meeting of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission were available. "Not at this time," per S. Pilcher.

6. Old Business:

- a. **Animal Control Update:** R. Parker reported on contacts with Animal Control Officer (ACO) Gary Clodgo and his work regarding an ongoing neighbor vs. neighbor (dog) dispute. The neighbors who own the dogs have asked to view the video taken that reportedly shows the animals trespassing onto adjacent property. The ACO's incident log has also been requested for review. This ongoing matter will require further review and discussion.
- b. **Owner Maintained Roads:** J. McNerney reported on his review of the town's policy, following the receipt of a letter from Jason Barnard, an engineer working with developer Mike Hinsdale. The future maintenance of a portion of Bennett Rd is being considered, near to where M. Hinsdale plans to build. J. McNerney has conferred with Road Commissioner Wayne Preston, several Monkton residents, and others. J. McNerney drafted a reply to J. Barnard's letter. It was mentioned that there are a number of roads in town that are owner-maintained, so no precedent exists for the town to take over those roads. The distinction between a class 3 versus class 4 roadway was discussed at some length. A need exists to

confer with the Development Review Board (DRB) about specifications/roadway requirements. A lengthy discussion followed, the end result of which was that the town would not assume responsibility for maintaining the road in question. **J. McNerney moved to authorize the SB Chair to respond in writing to J. Barnard/M. Hinsdale, and share the viewpoint and considerations as discussed tonight. H. Boisse seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**

- c. Review letter sent to VGS and DPS: S. Pilcher read a revised portion of the letter as sent. A distinction was noted between easements versus options. Supposedly, VGS is no longer pursuing options, but rather easements. M. Vasatka asked for confirmation of letter recipients [VGS and the Department of Public Service (DPS), but not the Public Service Board (PSB)]. J. McNerney and S. Pilcher commented on the recipients, and referenced the recommendation of attorney Josh Diamond. A. Layn asked a follow-up question. The audience commented as well. **H. Boisse moved to send the letter to the PSB; A. Layn seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**

7. New Business:

- a. Review and Publish Positions to be Appointed: The SB reviewed a list of appointed positions to identify which require immediate action. An advertisement listing the open positions will appear in *The Addison Independent*. **J. McNerney moved to name Rachel Schattman as a regular ANAC member (and remove the alternate designation) while maintaining her current term; H. Boisse seconded the motion. Voted and approved.** J. McNerney will provide an updated and corrected listing of all positions to the Town Clerk and Webmaster.
- b. Mission Statement: The SB agreed to table consideration of a mission statement for this evening. S. Pilcher asked the SB to return to the next regular meeting with a list of qualities to consider.
- c. Request for Bids – Mowing: S. Pilcher reviewed briefly the 2013 advertisement for mowing bids, which included the cemeteries, area surrounding Town Hall, and the town green. The Town Clerk will be asked to research further.

8. Other Business: Determine time/date of next SB meeting. The SB will meet next at **Monkton Town Hall on Monday, March 24, 2014 at 7:00 PM** for its regular meeting. b) A curb cut application was received from KDW Development; R. Parker will review the application. c) All SB members signed the PACE resolution, which was discussed at the February 24<sup>th</sup> SB meeting. d) **J. McNerney moved to approve the Annual Town Highway Financial Plan as written; seconded by A Layn. Voted and approved.** The SB signed the form. e) S. Pilcher circulated the 2014 Town Employee Pay Rates sheet, which the SB signed. Several questions and observations were shared. f) S. Pilcher asked if any SB member might be available to attend the DRB meeting scheduled for Tuesday evening at 7:30 PM. g) The SB will review the draft Town Meeting minutes and share comments/edits at its next regular meeting on 3/24.

9. Adjournment:

**H. Boisse moved to adjourn at 8:54 PM; seconded by J. McNerney. Voted and approved.**

Minutes submitted by Bill Joos

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