

**Monkton Select Board Meeting Minutes – Final (Approved 7/14/14)**  
**June 9, 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, John McNerney, Stephen Pilcher

SB Members Absent: Ann Layn, Roger Parker, Jr.

Others Present: Jennifer Baker, Joseph Boisse, Kevin Brennan, Esq., John Howard, Melanie Peyser, Bernie Wisniowski and Bill Joos

3. Announcements: a.) S. Pilcher advised of his graduation from the VT Leadership Council, and read a poem. b.) The Town received a letter from a group that maps town highways. The SB agreed that no action was required at this time. c.) The Addison County tax assessment for 2014-15 has been received, and is due 7/7/14. d) The annual VLCT assessment has been received; it reflects an 8% increase. e) S. Pilcher attended a recent Planning Commission meeting, during which CompleteStreets presented information. S. Pilcher shared placards and comments from the meeting. The SB discussed various related matters. H. Boisse commented on the absence of street lighting in Monkton, which he views as preferable.

4. Regular Business:

a. **Approve Minutes** of Previous Meetings: The SB was unable to approve the May 28<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes for lack of a quorum (of 5/28 attendees). The SB will review the 5/28 minutes at its next meeting.

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

- P/R# 40602, 06/02/14, \$ 7,554.35

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

- John Barrows dba Barrows Excavating

d. Public Comment: None

5. New Business:

- a. Correct Title Defects- 1787 School Lease: K. Brennan appeared and provided historical details regarding the title of the property owned by Robert and Faith Little. The SB asked several questions, to which K. Brennan responded. **H. Boisse moved to approve the relinquishment of lease rights specifically for the property owned by Robert and Faith Little, subject to review and approval by the Town Attorney; J. McNerney seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**

- b. Town-Wide Reappraisal: J. Boisse, J. Howard, and B. Wisniowski confirmed that a town-wide reappraisal is in its early action stages for a 2015 start. An outside appraiser will complete the work. The Listers have solicited bids for the project, and have reviewed those received to date. No selection has been made as of today (another bid is anticipated).
- c. Review Conflict of Interest Policy: The SB reviewed the policy. J. McNerney asked about “ex parte communications,” and referenced Article 4 (from the document available on the town website). The SB continued a brief discussion, with more to follow at a forthcoming meeting. No further action taken.
- d. Bank Loan for Loader Purchase/Mack Truck Loan Renewal: Treasurer B. Joos presented the financing terms applicable to the new John Deere 524K Loader. Merchants Bank was the low bidder, with a 3 year note to finance \$58,844.00 resulting. An additional \$30,000 will be used from the Capital Equipment Fund (total purchase price, after trade-in and State of Vermont discount is \$88,544.00). **J. McNerney moved to accept the Merchants Bank note with 3-year term at 1.80% and use \$30,000.00 from the Capital Equipment Fund to finance the John Deere 524K loader; H. Boisse seconded the motion. Voted and approved.** The SB discussed briefly the refinancing of the 2013 Mack Dump Truck, for which a 1-year note reached maturity. **H. Boisse moved to finance the remaining balance on the '13 GU713 Mack Dump Truck with Merchants Bank at 1.75%. J. McNerney seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**
- e. Hazard Survey of Garage/Playground/Ball Field: S. Pilcher advised of a visit to Monkton and resulting report by Chris LaBerge, a VLCT Loss Prevention representative. C. LaBerge recorded observations about areas of risk/concern at the town garage, Rec Field ball field, and playground. The Recreation Committee will review the report. A sample program to remedy typical concerns found at town garages was also received, and will be shared with Road Commissioner Wayne Preston.
- f. Agreement to Use Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) Cost Tables: S. Pilcher advised that the annual renewal of CAMA data is due. There was no discussion. **J. McNerney moved to approve the renewal and use of CAMA cost tables by the Listers for a fee of \$231.81. H. Boisse seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**

6. Old Business:

- a. Posting of Public Areas: S. Pilcher advised of a letter received from Pond Rd. resident Claire Broughton regarding speeding. The SB discussed the matter briefly, and believes the issue is likely related to questionable late night activity at Morse Park. J. McNerney commented that the roads are already posted with speed limits, so an enforcement issue exists. The SB focused on placing a sign at the Morse Park parking lot. **J. McNerney moved to create and place a sign**

**at Morse Park reading “Closed after Dark, Except by Permission of the Town of Monkton.” H. Boisse seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**

- b. Mission Statement: J. McNerney offered these five attributes: frugal, fair, consistent, open, and principled.
  - c. VELCO Well Contamination Update: S. Pilcher commented that Ash Desmond provided permission to VELCO to execute their plan. S. Pilcher spoke directly with VELCO’s Tim Follensbee, who had yet to see any response to the proposed plan. The question is how to direct VELCO, and how can the Town ensure that the DEC compels VELCO to act accordingly. The SB and guests traded comments and observations. The testing of poles was mentioned repeatedly, as were contamination concerns. M. Peyser drafted a letter documenting various concerns. M. Peyser will forward the draft to S. Pilcher, who will pass on to Town counsel Bill Ellis. M. Peyser asked if the Department of Health might have an interest in the matter, since compromised drinking water is involved. J. Baker commented on pesticide spraying by VELCO (is liquid PCP used?), and whether permission was received from the Department of Agriculture. H. Boisse replied. S. Pilcher offered to take the following actions: 1) S. Pilcher will follow-up with T. Follensbee at VELCO; 2) he will confer with Deb Markowitz; 3) S. Pilcher will contact State Representative David Sharpe. For further discussion.
  - d. Multi-Lot Parcels: The SB tabled consideration of this item tonight.
  - e. Juniper Lane Update: The SB tabled consideration of this item tonight.
7. Other Business: a) J. McNerney asked about the “throwing up” of Weisenbach Rd, with specific reference to the impassable portion extending from Peter Close’s house to Rotax Rd. P. Close’s opinion is that the road should be “thrown up.” As a series of steps is involved, S. Pilcher will review dated meeting minutes to ascertain a status/what further consideration might need to be provided. b) Determine Time/Date of Next Meeting: the SB will meet again at Monkton Town Hall on **Monday, June 23, 2014 at 7:00 PM** for its next regular meeting.
8. Adjournment: **J. McNerney moved to adjourn at 9:03 PM; H. Boisse seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**