

**Monkton Select Board Meeting Minutes – Final (Approved 7/14/14)**  
**June 23, 2014**  
**Monkton Town Hall**

1. Call to Order: Chair S. Pilcher called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.
2. Select Board (SB) Members Present: Henry Boisse, Anne Layn, Stephen Pilcher

SB Members Absent: John McNerney, Roger Parker, Jr.

Others Present: Jennifer Baker, Tyler Billingsley, PE – CHA, Mike Bowen, Claire Broughton, Ivor Hughes, Michael Hurlburt, Renee McGuinness, Jane Palmer, Nate Palmer, Gregory Peyser, Melanie Peyser, Charlie Pughe - VGS, Eileen Simollardes - VGS, Maren Vasatka, and Bill Joos

3. Announcements: S. Pilcher reported on the VT Gas Systems (VGS)/Monkton landowners meeting held at the Monkton Fire Station run by Chris Bray and Chris Reccia of the Public Service Department. Approximately 20 people attended. S. Pilcher mentioned that *The Addison Independent* covered the meeting.
4. Regular Business:
  - a. **Approve Minutes**: There were no prior meeting minutes ready at tonight’s meeting for review and approval (from 5/28 and 6/09). The minutes from these meetings will be reviewed on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - b. The SB reviewed and approved the following **check warrants**:
    - A/P# 40609, 06/09/14, \$ 42,300.97
    - P/R# 40616, 06/16/14, \$ 7,493.64
    - A/P# 40618, 06/18/14, \$ 88,844.00
  - c. The SB reviewed and approved the following **overweight permits**:
    - Huntington Homes, Inc.
    - Hutch Crane and Pump Rental Corporation
  - d. **Public Comment**: I. Hughes asked that the SB submit to the PSB and/or VGS an invoice for \$27,000 to offset the taxes necessary to cover the payments to attorneys by the Town related to the Addison Natural Gas Project (ANGP). I. Hughes commented on the taxes to be gained from the pipeline, and asked specifically how much revenue the town would town retain (approximately 25%, per S. Pilcher). I. Hughes shared his opinion that the Town should have requested more money from VGS for hosting the pipeline. I. Hughes also spoke in support of the VT Council on Rural Development.
5. New Business:
  - a. **Vermont Gas Town Right of Way Application**: S. Pilcher explained that the SB requested from VGS an overview of its right-of-way activity related to the ANGP. E. Simollardes mentioned a parcel on Old Stage Rd. and a post Certificate of Public (CPG) proceeding. C. Pughe and T. Billingsley presented an overhead of the proposed

pipeline route and the various rights-of-way. C. Pughe identified where traditional drilling and horizontal directional drilling will occur. VGS contractor workspaces and project access roads were also identified. C. Pughe identified the location of the VELCO power line/corridor. C. Pughe provided specific drilling details, in response to an S. Pilcher inquiry about drilling depths, with 5' benchmark noted. T. Billingsley explained that greater depth is required for directional drilling. T. Billingsley described numbered "clouds" to recognize new revisions to the map. N. Palmer asked for a confirmation of streambed drilling depth, which C. Pughe detailed. C. Pughe explained that criteria exists on the design drawing which provides minimal depths and drilling profiles for each directional drill, to which a certified professional engineer stamps the drawing. It was noted that an additional temporary curb cut would be needed along the route, a stone entryway off Rotax Rd (to accommodate dump trucks). M. Peyser asked about deeded access, and wondered if town maps and/or land records were reviewed prior. C. Pughe confirmed that VGS does not review town records, but rather interacts with landowners, using the easement process. Stillson Rd. was reviewed in detail; an open excavation is planned along this road. C. Pughe confirmed that contractors would return the following spring to review their work. C. Pughe reviewed the plans for Hollow Rd, and explained the drilling process, including use of a concrete pipe (5' minimum depth beneath the lowest object). C. Pughe confirmed that drilling would occur in the right-of-way. C. Pughe advised also that the Menard's well will need to be relocated, due to its proximity to the drilling. C. Pughe reported that an access road near to Post Rd. might be necessary. S. Pilcher asked if VGS had contacted Post Rd residents. M. Bowen confirmed his ownership interest at Post Rd, and advised that no one had yet contacted him. C. Pughe advised that the contractors would do extra work, if necessary, to keep Post Rd open to residents/traffic (one way). C. Pughe noted where the directional drilling will begin at the Monkton swamp, and reiterated how the process will work. M. Vasatka asked about the possibility of the drilling path changing, to which C. Pughe responded. The audience asked about the length and weight of the drill itself. An audience member asked if Old Stage Rd would be passable during the project. Yes, per C. Pughe, with one lane open, and traffic control present. A question was asked about the archeological sensitive area(s), but no specific details were shared. UVM's consulting archeologists are digging test pits now. An audience member asked if a bond would put up to cover any issues. C. Pughe replied that VGS does not typically do this. J. Palmer asked if roads would be encumbered. C. Pughe responded that single lane traffic should be kept flowing. J. Palmer also asked if a projected time frame for the entire project exists. Surveying needs to be completed first. The VGS request for a partial waiver was discussed. M. Peyser commented, and provided her opinion on the issue. M. Vasatka expressed concern that a precedent may be established, if the Town does not object. J. Palmer stated that the CPG "is all we've got" and feels very vulnerable. S. Pilcher reiterated that the SB would need to review any document to make a decision. S. Pilcher agreed to look at the motion submitted by the Town of New Haven, which M. Peyser will provide. M. Hurlburt asked a technical question about ramifications to town right-of-ways. M. Hurlburt asked if the permits are permanent. A formal response needs to be confirmed. The audience and SB discussed easements briefly. For further discussion.

- b. Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD): S. Pilcher explained briefly the activity of the VCRD, and referred to the Town of Guilford's plan. There was a consensus among citizens to proceed at the recent VGS/landowner meeting. **H. Boisse moved to ask the VCRD to pursue its plan in Monkton. A. Layn seconded the motion. Voted and approved.**
- c. Tax Sale Date: B. Joos, the Delinquent Tax Collector, suggested Thursday, 8/14 as a Tax Sale date. The SB needs to name an Agent to Deed Real Estate. **S. Pilcher nominated H. Boisse as Agent to Deed Real Estate for 2014 and moved to set a Tax Sale date of August 14, 2014; A. Layn seconded the motion. Voted and approved.** The SB also discussed the need for delinquent tax counsel.
- d. Budget Review: This subject was tabled for tonight's meeting. The 2015 budget process will commence after the Listers conclude any grievance hearings.
- e. RFQ for Town Propane and Oil: S. Pilcher spoke briefly with B. Joos, who will provide copies of existing fuel pricing and agreements for the Town and fire department. For consideration at a forthcoming SB meeting.

6. Old Business:

- a. VELCO Well Contamination Update: S. Pilcher reported that the Public Service Board (PSB) has requested comments. S. Pilcher prepared a proposed memorandum, which includes S. Pilcher's prior email to Ashley Diamond. S. Pilcher read his memo. **H. Boisse moved to send the memorandum to the PSB. A. Layn seconded the motion, Voted and approved.** S. Pilcher advised of his conference call to request a walk through of the VELCO power line corridor. C. Bray has emailed a request to organize another meeting between VGS and landowners. N. Palmer asked about soil contamination. S. Pilcher replied that the SB is concerned about all forms of contamination, not just well water.
- b. Posting of Public Areas: Tabled for tonight's meeting.
- c. Mission Statement: Tabled for tonight's meeting.
- d. Review of Conflict of Interest Policy: Tabled for tonight's meeting.
- e. Juniper Lane Update: S. Pilcher received an email from John Winsor, a Juniper Lane resident. J. Winsor expressed concern about the proposed driveway remedy, and wants the SB to contact engineer Steve Revell. S. Pilcher will forward the email to S. Revell.

7. Other Business: a) No applications have been received for the open Planning Commission position, per S. Pilcher. b) H. Boisse requested that the SB send a confirmation letter regarding the new Town Plan to Adam Lougee at the Addison County Regional Planning Commission. c) A draft Release and Waiver of Liability for MVFD Mud Bogs was received. The SB will submit the document to the town attorney for review. d) The Park and Ride "ball is rolling." Road Commissioner W. Preston advised that the Highway Department could truck the gravel and

related material for the project. e) Determine time/date of next SB meeting. The SB will meet next at **Monkton Town Hall** on **Monday, July 14, 2014** at **7:00 PM** for its regular meeting.

8. Adjournment:

**H. Boisse moved to adjourn at 8:44 PM; seconded by A. Layn. Voted and approved.**

Minutes submitted by Bill Joos

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