

**MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING  
MONKTON TOWN HALL  
MINUTES**

**DATE: Monday December 8, 2014**

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER:** S. Pilcher called the meeting to order at 7:03pm
- 2) **ATTENDANCE:** Stephen Pilcher, Henry Boisse, Ann Layn, John McNerney
- 3) **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Chris Slesar, Wendy-Sue Harper, Wayne Preston, Marty Illick.
- 4) **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

VERMONT GAS DOCKET 7970 POST CERTIFICATION REVIEW ORDER  
RECEIVED FROM PSB:

S. Pilcher has asked Bill Ellis to send any mail directly through without review to reduce legal bills.

ADDISON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP. ANNUAL MEETING:

S. Pilcher attended this meeting. They have a large revolving loan fund and other resources make available small business. S. Pilcher spoke with Robin Scheu was asked why Monkton was not on the supported municipalities. Monkton chose not to fund them last year. She was asked to send information again to be reviewed.

5) **REGULAR BUSINESS:**

APPROVE MINUTES: **J. McNerney moved to approve minutes as written. H. Boisse seconded this motion. Motion voted and passed with vote 4-0-0.**

REVIEW AND APPROVE CHECK WARRANTS:

- P/R 12/1/14, #41201, \$9,450.17
- A/P 11/21/14, #41121, \$36,949.63

REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC.:

There were no overweight permits to approve.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

6) **NEW BUSINESS:**

WILDLIFE CROSSING STATUS:

The Wildlife Crossing project currently has a construction cost of \$298,084 and the VT DOT has required a contingency cost of 10% and construction oversight of 10%. In discussions with Linc Prescott, a figure of \$29,808 for construction oversight seemed excessive so the estimate used is \$15,000. This would bring the total cost of the project to \$343,000.

- \$298,084 for construction costs
- \$29,808 for contingency
- \$15,000 for oversight

The project has raised \$303,540 in grants and donations

- \$142,000 from the Transportation Enhancement Grant
- \$45,000 from the State Wildlife Grant
- \$16,500 from the Defender of wildlife grant and other small grant
- \$57,260 from private donations
- \$42,780 from Indiegogo and donations from 2014.

There is a discrepancy of \$40,000. There was some discussion that the VT DOT estimate is too high.

Lewis Creek Association is willing to seek up to \$50,000 worth of pledges to cover the additional costs if the project ends up costing the full \$343,000. Since LCA has raised monies in excess of the 20% match there was a discussion of whether the Town can use some of the other fund to purchase the culverts separately. The Town would buy the materials and hire a contractor to save money. S. Pilcher will ask when he meets with Scott Gurley if it makes sense to buy outright, and to put the bid out with or without the culverts.

Wayne Preston asked if monies should be required for future maintenance. The answer was no, additional money would not be put in escrow for such a purpose. As long as there is proper maintenance to the ditches, and if there are any problems, then the town would seek state aid and funding for repairs. S. Pilcher wants the Board members to feel comfortable bidding the project out.

PLANNING COMMISSION BUDGET REVIEW:

The Selectboard asked the Planning Commission Chair, Wendy Sue Harper, to review their budget with the Selectboard. S. Pilcher asked about the consultant portion of the proposed budget, she felt that it would be better to have the additional money in the budget so they have the capacity to get the help if needed. Mileage reimbursement budget was clarified upon, and the increase was a result of the distance travelled to attend the ACRPC meetings in

Middlebury. S. Pilcher asked if the town got money back from ACRPC. Wendy Sue did not know the answer to this question. MPG stands for is Municipal Planning Grant, as J. McNerney was unsure what the meant. She based this budget on what is planned, and did not look at past budgets.

**J. McNerney moved to approve the Planning Commission Budget, H. Boisse seconded. Voted and passed 4-0-0.**

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BUDGET REVIEW:

Wayne Preston reviewed the Highway Department budget with the Selectboard.

The Selectboard discussed with Wayne the projected budget for machinery and vehicles since some are in need of replacement. If the 550 Ford truck is to be replaced, Wayne will need to provide a figure and it will need to be an article at Town Meeting.

Wayne helped clarify to the Selectboard on the highway revenue portion of the budget. Wayne suggested having someone designated to just writing grant requests. He feels that since he does not have the time to seek some of these grants, the town is missing opportunities.

S. Pilcher noted to Wayne that full time employees will have a \$10,000 life insurance as an added benefit.

STILLSON LANE NAME ISSUES:

There is some conflict with the name of Stillson Lane. The parcel map, Google Maps and the new road sign mark it as Stillson Road. The Grandlist, E911, Vermont 511, and the residents say Stillson Lane. S. Pilcher proposed that the road sign be changed to Stillson Lane.

REVIEW DRB FEE SCHEDULE:

There was no action taken.

VT DOT TA65 PAVING REIMBURSEMENT:

There was no action taken.

REVIEW OF PERSONNEL POLICY RE: VACATION:

It was brought to the attention of the Selectboard that holidays are treated inconsistently.

DESIGNATE ALTERNATE TO PENTACHLOROPHENOL WORKGROUP  
DOCKET 8310

The initial meeting of Pentachlorophenol workgroup will be on December 19, 2014 and the representative Deb Gaynor will not be able to attend. Wendy Sue Harper has indicated that she would be willing to attend as an alternate.

**J. McNerney moved to appoint Wendy Sue Harper as alternate. H. Boisse seconded this motion. Voted and passed 4-0-0.**

NATURE CONSERVANCY RE: USING RAVEN'S RIDGE IN VERMONT TRAILS AND GREENWAYS APPLICATION:

S. Pilcher has a letter ready to sign. **H. Boisse moved to authorize the Chair to sign the letter in support to designate Ravens Ridge to the Vermont trails system. J. McNerney seconded this motion. Voted and passed 4-0-0.**

7) **OLD BUSINESS:**

2015 EMPLOYEE HEALTH BENEFITS:

A. Layn asked to discuss the employee health benefits so there was some form of understanding prior to discussing the budgets. The town has received price quotes for the life insurance policy. The quoted costs to the town are as follows:

- Life insurance only would be \$9.00 per month for a \$10,000 premium.
- Life and Accidental Death and Disability would be \$27 per month for a \$25,000 premium.
- Life only would be \$48 per month for a \$50,000 premium.

The Selectboard discussed whether to add life insurance as a benefit and at what level. On review the Selectboard elected to add \$10,000 life insurance as an additional benefit.

2015 BUDGET:

Highway and Planning Commission budgets were considered.

REVIEW OF POSSIBLE ARTICLES FOR TOWN MEETING:

Two Articles were considered. One to start Town Meeting on Monday night with voting of Articles by Australian Ballot occurring on the first Tuesday in March.

The second Article considered was to ask the voters to authorize the building of a Municipal Park and Ride with the already approved grant of \$56,400. There will

have to be an informational meeting for the park and ride. If the vote is “no” and the park and ride is not built, the amount of money spent to date needs to be taken in to consideration. If voters say no to the Park and Ride, A. Layn wanted to know if this should be listed as an article or brought up in other business. S. Pilcher believes that if the town residents cannot be convinced, then it should not be done. H. Boisse stated that the land was not purchased by the town to preserve the scenery, but to be put to use by the Town for a future Town Hall.

No action was taken.

**8) OTHER BUSINESS**

The next Selectboard meeting will be held on December 15, 2014 at 7:00pm.

**8) ADJOURNMENT**

H. Boisse moved to adjourn at 9:26pm. J. McNerney seconded this motion. Voted and passed 4-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted by Miranda Boe  
Edited by Stephen Pilcher