

MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING
MONKTON TOWN HALL
Minutes

DATE: Monday May 25, 2015
(Approved 6/8/15)

1) **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

2) **ATTENDANCE**

Selectboard Members: John McNerney, Henry Boisse, Stephen Pilcher

Guests: Chris Slesar, Claire Broughton, Diane Derrick, Melanie Peyser, Deb Gaynor, Jen Baker

3) **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **SUN COMMON / KELIHER PROJECT**
Sun Common sent a letter to the Town indicating that it has withdrawn the application for a Certificate of Public Good for a 150kW solar project on Coach Road (just off the Monkton Vergennes Road)

4) **REGULAR BUSINESS: 7:10 – 7:30**

- **APPROVE MINUTES**
No action taken as there is not a quorum of members who attended either the April 27th or May 11th meetings.

- **REVIEW AND APPROVE CHECK WARRANTS**
The following warrants were approved:

P/R	5/18/2015	#50518	\$8,018.05
A/P	5/12/2015	#50512	\$10,703.66
A/P	5/25/2015	#50525	\$21,485.26

- **REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC.**
The following overweight permits were approved:

W.R. Preston
S.B. Collins
Parent Construction

- **PUBLIC COMMENT (Guests)**
Melanie Peyser gave the Selectboard copies of a 2 page pamphlet entitled "The Addison Natural Gas Project: Who Really Benefits? Who Really Pays" created by www.justpowervt.org. This was briefly discussed and will be reviewed by Selectboard members.

5) **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **OPEN WILDLIFE CROSSING OVERSIGHT BIDS**

Two bids were received by the Town of Monkton for construction oversight of the Wildlife Crossing Project STP EH 08(4)

Lamoureux and Dickinson of Essex Junction VT - \$19,353.43
KAS of Williston VT - \$13131.00

Chris Slesar, the Municipal Project Manager for the project, will put together the bid analysis team and make a recommendation to the Selectboard.

- **PENTACHLORAPHENOL WORKING GROUP STATUS**

As a direct result of the Pentachlorophenol (Penta) contamination of a shallow well in Monkton by VELCO when replacing utility poles, the Public Service Board created a working group to investigate utility practices (Docket 8310). At the behest of the Monkton Selectboard, Deborah Gaynor was added to the work group to represent the Town of Monkton, the general public and to lend her expertise as an environmental chemist. Meetings started in December of 2014 and are held on a 3 to 4 week cycle.

Deb Gaynor came to report on the current status of the Penta Working Group. The work group has focused on a Best Management Practices (BMP) document and has a draft with a supporting report prepared. The BMP contains sections on permanent pole storage, pole siting and construction, decommissioning retirement and disposal of penta poles and training and education. Questions were raised regarding public use of discarded poles, whether this type of reuse should be allowed and if so what type of consent form would be appropriate. It was also noted the given the toxicity of Penta, that personal protective gear for line workers should be required in a BMP. Deb also noted that in the event of storm events such as Tropical Storm Irene, there can be a loss of control over the type of treatment used on poles coming into the state and on old removed poles being land filled.

D. Gaynor also voiced concerns that the focus of the Working Group is too narrow, and may be short sighted. At present no consideration is being given to the effects of Penta releases on wetlands, livestock ponds or aquatic wildlife. Jen Baker suggested that the Selectboard should consider writing a letter to both the PSB and the facilitator of the Working Group expressing these concerns. No action was taken but the Selectboard indicated that they would like to know if the next meeting on June 2nd includes a discussion of the toxicity of Penta for aquatic wildlife.

The recent announcement of the joint meeting of the three global conventions on persistent pollutants and waste (Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm) banning pentachlorophenol was also discussed.

6) **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **HOLLOW ROAD SITE CLEANUP STATUS**
Due to the untimely death of the owner of the parcel, no cleanup work has happened pending the resolution of the estate and appointment of an executor.

- **PARK AND RIDE**
Thea Gaudette and Stephen Pilcher attended a meeting with Wayne Davis (Agency of Transportation) to discuss locating the Municipal Park and Ride on the lower parking lot at Monkton Central School. Wayne Davis indicated that he thought it was a good project and that by submitting a new application, the Town would be able to move the grant to the new location. The Selectboard discussed having Wayne Preston order signs directing the public to the new Municipal Park and Ride.

- **RIDGE LOT**
Stephen Pilcher contacted Brian Barrows, of Brian's Lawn Services, to mow a portion of the Ridge lot and see if it is what the Selectboard wants mowed for the rest of the year. Bob Radler has indicated that the Boy Scouts will construct two benches and a picnic table for the site for not more than \$400. **John McNerney moved to approve to purchase of two benches and a picnic table from the Boy Scouts for an amount not to exceed \$400. Motion seconded by Henry Boisse. Motion passed unanimously.**

7) **OTHER BUSINESS:**

- **DETERMINE TIME/DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
Next regular meeting of the Selectboard will be on June 8th at 7:00 at the Town Hall

8) **ADJOURNMENT**

H. Boisse Moved to adjourn, seconded by John McNerney. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.