

Monkton Selectboard Meeting
Monkton Town Hall
Minutes
Monday September 28, 2015

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** S. Pilcher Called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. **ATTENDANCE:**
 - a. BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Stephen Pilcher, Henry Boisse, Ann Layn, Roger Parker, and John McNerney.
 - b. OTHER IN ATTENDANCE: Ralph Fitz-Gerald, Terri Fitz-Gerald, Matt Huizenga, Alan Huizenga, David Huizenga, Rick Dinkle, Ned Farquhar, Chris LeForce, Josh Sky, Jane Palmer, Nate Palmer, Maren Vasatka, Gregory Peyser, Renee McGuinness, Michael Hurlburt, Jennifer Baker, Teri Fitz-Gerald, Ralph Fitz-Gerald, Wayne Preston, and Logan LeCompte
3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
 - a. S. Pilcher informed the Selectboard members of the VLCT Member benefit for a Knowledge wave learning seminar if any board member is interested in participating.
 - b. S. Pilcher informed the Selectboard members of a letter received from ACRP regarding their support of the conserving of the Cota farm.
 - c. S. Pilcher informed the Selectboard members of the VLCT Town Fair will be held on October 8, 2015. This will be held in Killington and board members were encouraged to go to VLCT.org and register for the Town Fair if they were interested.
4. **REGULAR BUSINESS:**
 - a. Approving minutes: The Selectboard reviewed the minutes from September 14, 2015. A. Layn moved to approve minutes as submitted. J. McNerney seconded this motion. Voted and passed 3-0-2. R. Parker and H. Boisse abstained.
 - b. Review and Approve Check Warrants:

• P/R	9/21/15	#50921	\$ 7,877.65
• A/P	9/16/15	#50916	\$ 774.22
• A/P	9/25/15	#50925	\$11,074.01
 - c. Review and approve overweight permits, etc.:
 - Gary C. Clark
 - d. Public comment: No Public comment.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. RENTAL USE OF RIDGE LOT: Ralph and Terri Fitz-Gerald are interested in possibly renting the lot for an October 2016 wedding venue. S. Pilcher indicated that there is some work that needs to be done for clean-up by the town. R. Parker questioned the towns' liability if something like this were to be approved. A. Layn suggested putting in writing expectations and liability for general use. There is no set date for the wedding and the Fitz-Geralds were seeing if this was an even an option they could consider. The Selectboard does not see any reason why this would be a problem and will discuss general use of the Ridge Lot at a later date.
- b. TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE: No action taken.
- c. HUIZENGA CURB CUT: Alan, Matt, and David Huizenga are following up on a curb cut application and are seeking access on Bennett Road. No action had been taken prior to now as the original application was submitted seeking a curb cut off of a class 4 road. The Selectboard was under the impression that a subdivision was needed before they could issue the curb cut. Discussion ensued regarding driveway standards and road standards.

The Selectboard encouraged the Huizenga's to get in contact with Michael Hinsdale to see if there is an agreement that can be reached to regarding the need to come up to the minimum driveway and road standard expectations. The Town will not be responsible for maintaining the road.

H. Boisse moved to approve curb cut on Bennett Road with the condition that any portion along the Town Right of Way which services only one house be brought up to driveway standards as noted in the UPD. R. Parker seconded this motion. Voted and passed 4-0-1. J. McNerney abstained.

- d. REVIEW VT GAS NON SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES: Ned Farquhar, Josh Sky, and Chris LeForce discussed the three non-substantive changes.

J. McNerney disclosed that he owns a 1/16 share in some land jointly with Josh Sky (who works for the environmental subcontractor for VT Gas). The sense was that this was minor enough not to warrant McNerney recusing himself from these discussions.

The first change considered was PH1-NAN2 on the Latreille parcel. Change involved change to defined wetland areas based on better access to the land. The pipeline will not move.

The second change, PH1-28, is a relocation of main line valve (MLV) from the former Bailey parcel to the former Menard parcel off of Hollow road as valve access was better. The MLV cannot be under powerlines and this is why it has been moved approximately 250 feet. If the line needs to be taken out of service, it cannot be under the electric lines as this power lines are

considered an ignition source. If the line ever needs to be purged, it will only be done in the event of an emergency.

The maximum length of line from main line is 8 miles. The valve is underground and in a fenced in area, and will not affect the aesthetics value of the location. G. Peyser questioned whether the valve was going to be located in the old town dump. The Gate station can go almost anywhere and does not need to be near the valve. This location has not yet been decided, but will be presented to Monkton prior to being built.

The last change, PH1-29, involves increasing the Limit of Disturbance on Post road, to use additional portion of this road so vehicles can turn around for access. S. Pilcher asked if there was a Limit of Disturbance shown on the maps. This was identified for the board. The landowners have been notified. Some of the guest had heard that landowners had not been notified since which differs from the letter from VT Gas where it was indicated that they had. S. Pilcher asked that proof of contact be provided to the Selectboard. There was an inquiry as to the policy for notifying landowners regarding these changes. VT Gas indicated that they do and if it has not been done it will be.

It was asked when venting, how long it would take for the purged gas to dissipate. It was indicated that it was very dependent on various factors. The Selectboard has asked to be provided with a "worst case scenario".

Vermont Gas was asked the exact distance from the Recreation field to the valve. This information was not available this evening but will be provided. J. McNerney estimated that the distance is close to 400 feet, by looking at the area in question on Google Earth.

- e. VLCT MUNICIPAL POLICY REVIEW: S. Pilcher mentioned a few parts of the draft of the proposed VLCT Municipal policy that he disagrees with. S. Pilcher asked if there were members of the Selectboard that would like to attend the VLCT as a delegate. S. Pilcher will be happy to fill out paperwork and indicated that those interested needed to register before Friday.

J. McNerney moved to nominate S. Pilcher as the delegate. R. Parker seconded. Voted and passed 5-0-0.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. ROAD CREW STAFFING: **H. Boisse moved to go in to executive session with Wayne Preston and Logan LeCompte. A. Layn seconded this motion. Voted and passed, 5-0-0. The Board entered executive session at 8:28pm.**

The Board voted to leave executive session at 9:04pm. J. McNerney moved, A. Layn seconded voted and approved 5-0-0

- b. SOLAR PROJECTS SCREENING ALLOWED IN ACT 56: S. Pilcher presented to the board a draft of recommendations from ACRPC regarding solar project screening as allowed in Act 56. Discussion of good solar sites versus poor solar sites and decommissioning followed. The ACRPC are working on a policy to review projects 125KW or larger with regards to aesthetics. There will be no action taken tonight. The Selectboard was provided with this information to see if there is interest in re-writing any of the towns' by-laws. Interm by-laws of Cornwall and Woodstock regarding solar siting were also presented. J. McNerney noted that he may have to recuse himself from decisions involving screening of solar arrays due to a potential for a conflict of interest.
- c. STATES PRISON HOLLOW INTERSECTION: S. Pilcher has drawn out a diagram of the intersection and wanted to let the board know that he has reached out to ACRPC member to get some ideas as to what to do with this intersection to make it safer.
- d. REVIEW STATUTES REGARDING DISCONTINUING OR RECLASSIFYING HIGHWAYS: Discussion of this subject postponed for a later meeting. No action was taken.
- e. FIRE STATION ADDITION STATUS: The Fire Station addition received a waiver from the Town of Monkton regarding minimum set-backs. Project still needs an Amended Wastewater permit and a Construction Permit and Variance from the Department of Public Safety. The variance is needed to install a monitored fire alarm instead of a sprinkler system. Marshall's Alarm service has given the Town a bid of \$10,800.00 for a monitored fire alarm with a monthly charge of \$248/month for the monitoring service. Given that the permits have not been received yet and the lead time for the pre-fab steel addition, there was some discussion of whether the project should be delayed until Spring.
- f. WILDLIFE CROSSING PROJECT STATUS: R. Parker complemented the work done by SD Ireland, but indicated that a need to smooth out the temporary patches of the road as it is in poor condition. S. Pilcher will follow up on this.
- g. HOLLOW ROAD SITE CLEANUP STATUS: The Selectboard will reach out to the health officer to move forward.
- h. PARK AND RIDE STATUS: S. Pilcher has a grant now reflecting that the Park and Ride will be moved down by the School from the original location.

H. Boisse moved to authorize Board chair to sign the park and ride grant agreement. A. Layn seconded this motion. Voted and passed, vote 4-0-1. R. Parker abstained.

7. Other Business:

- a. DAVIS ROAD SPEEDING: A. Layn brought to the board a concern of people speeding on Davis Road. S. Pilcher will ask the Addison County Sheriff to patrol there and see if ACRPC would be willing to do a traffic study there as well.
- b. SOCIAL MEDIA: The Board discussed how the town uses and how the town can effectively use social media. This will be discussed further at another meeting.
- c. The Board briefly discussed Selectboard member expectations and responsibilities.

8. Adjournment:

- a. **A. Layn moved to adjourn at 9:40pm. J. McNerney seconded this motion. Voted and passed, 5-0-0.**