

MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING
MONKTON TOWN HALL
MINUTES

DATE: Monday April 25, 2016
(approved 5/9/16)

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** S. Pilcher called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
2. **ATTENDANCE:**
 - BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Stephen Pilcher, John McNerney, Anne Layn, Roger Parker, Henry Boisse.
 - OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Melanie Peyser, Brian Barrows.
3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
 - PSB Peyser Eminent Domain has been dismissed.
 - Jim Dumont requested for a delay in the VGS pipeline Eminent Domain hearing for 12 weeks for Clair Broughton due to health reasons.
4. **REGULAR BUSINESS: 7:10 – 7:30**
 - APPROVE MINUTES: The Board reviewed the 4/11/16 meetings. Corrections were made. **H. Boisse moved to approve as amended. A. Layn seconded this motion. Motion carried with a vote of 3-0-2, R. Parker and J. McNerney abstained.**
 - REVIEW AND APPROVE CHECK WARRANTS:
 - A/P #60418 04-18-16 \$ 770.23
 - A/P #60412 04-12-16 \$31,103.98
 - P/R #60418 04-18-16 \$ 9,758.97
 - REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC.:
 - Dennis W. Casey
 - Ben Waterman (Waterman Siteworks)
 - David W. Welch
 - Arnold Blair / Blair Forestry Hauling
 - Many Excavating Inc.
 - Hutch Crane and Pump Rental Corp.
 - David M. Newton, Inc.
 - John Barrows
 - PUBLIC COMMENT (Guests) : No Public Comment.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- APPOINTMENTS:
 - H. Boisse moved to appoint Diane Bennett as 911 coordinator, A. Layn seconded this motion. Voted and passed 5-0-0.

- A contract for lodging of impounded/stray animals was received from Homeward Bound located in Middlebury. The Town has already signed a contract with the Town of Bristol but there are questions regarding if it would be better to use Homeward Bound.

- POTENTIAL SALE OF TOWN OWNED PARCEL: Michael Hurlburt has approached the town to buy a landlocked 32 acre piece of swamp land that the town received from a tax sale several years ago. Mr. Hurlburt wants this land because there is an issue with beavers flooding his land, and he would like to daylight some of his drainage tile to a ditch on that parcel.

A 1061 process would be necessary, and a price in which to sell would be needed. S. Pilcher provided information to Mr Hurlburt detailing the valuation of a similar piece of property in Monkton. This similar parcel was valued at \$208/acre for the purposes of establishing a conservation easement on the parcel in 2015. The Listers came up with a value of \$20,400. A. Layn wanted it made clear that if the town agrees to sell the land this is not permission or support for Mr Hurlburt to make the changes to drainage he described. He will need to follow the appropriate permitting and regulations. S. Pilcher will talk to the town attorney, about initiating the 1061 process and notify abutting landowners. The Selectboard decided to ask for bids on the parcel rather than set a price. Those interested in bidding will be provided the same information that was provided to Mr. Hurlburt.

- REVIEW AND AWARD MOWING BID: Only one bid was received on the mowing contract: Brian's Lawn Care in the amount of \$4,000. **H. Boisse moved to award the mowing bid to Brian's Lawn Care, R. Parker seconded this motion. Motion carried with a vote of 5-0-0.**

It was noted that this bid did not include mowing of the lot near the Monkton Friends Church. S. Pilcher would also like to see this area leveled out, and mow a larger portion than was mowed last year. The Board will have the area to be mowed staked out. Brian's Lawn Care will provide a quote for adding this to the area to be mowed.

- **NEW RECYCLING DUMPSTER:** S. Pilcher received a call from Casella and the driver apparently indicated that the second dumpster is in poor shape. S. Pilcher contacted ACSWMD and there are still 50/50 grants available. The Town is currently renting a dumpster for \$100/month, it was noted that at that rate, buying a dumpster would pay for itself in 3 years, with many years of life remaining on it. **J. McNerney moved to approve the purchase and apply for a grant for a new dumpster valued at \$7,139.00. A. Layn seconded this motion, motion carried with a vote of 5-0-0.**
- **FINANCIAL REVIEW OF FY2015 BY PACE & HAWLEY:** A quote was received for getting a financial review of the towns 2015 finances. It was noted that such a review is required in order to get a tax anticipation note, which the town does plan on getting. The quote was received for \$3,000, which is \$500 over the existing budget. **J. McNerney moved to retain Pace and Hawley for the 2015 financial review for the quoted amount of \$3,000. R. Parker seconded this motion, motion carried with a vote of 5-0-0.**
- **MCGUINNESS LETTER:** Renee McGuinness sent in a letter regarding water testing. She mentioned that the contractor performing the test stated that there was no point in doing a flow/drawdown test, given the flow rate on this well. J. McNerney was concerned that samples were from a faucet, which may be after various home filtration and softening systems. This can affect the accuracy of the test. It should be done at the pressure tank or a similar location before any treatment or filtration systems. She also provided a list of what was being tested for. She is suggesting that the Selectboard put out on Front Porch Forum and Facebook that the residents so residents know that these tests should be done following the proper procedure. S. Pilcher will be addressing this.
- **UPDATE STOP SIGN ORDINANCE:** The Board reviewed the existing stop sign ordinance. There will be additional stop signs added, and the Board will talk with Wayne Preston regarding adding more stop signs in specified locations, adding some existing stop signs to the town ordinance, and confirming some stop signs that are on private roads and whether or not they are in the Town's Ordinance.
- **UPDATE LOCAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN:** No changes have been made at this time. It was pointed out by M. Peyser that the plan should be updated to reflect pipeline emergency procedures. This will be reviewed to be sure the pipeline emergency information is within this plan and addressed at the next meeting.
- **ANNUAL FINANCIAL PLAN – TOWN HIGHWAYS 2016 TA-60:** This needs to be sent in to AOT as part of the grant process. **J. McNerney**

moved to approved the financial plan of the town highway for 2016. H. Boisse seconded this motion. Voted and passed 5-0-0.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

- **REVIEW AND UPDATE OF PERSONNEL POLICY:** The Board reviewed the updated personnel policy. Corrections were made, and some information will be further researched.
- **FINALIZE PARK AND RIDE BID:** R. Parker will work on creating a detailed map, S. Pilcher can send information to R. Parker on how to create a detailed drawing of the parking lot.
- **FIRE STATION ADDITION STATUS:** Dave Layn contacted R. Parker last week and wanted to know if work can be done in house. S. Pilcher will look at the bid contract.

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

- **DETERMINE TIME/DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on May 9, 2016 at 7:00pm.
- Stanley Livingston 1531 Hardscrabble Road Curb Cut. H. Boisse has done a site visit. A new culvert will need to be replaced. **R. Parker moved to approve Livingston curb cut with stipulations, and H. Boisse seconded. Motion carried with vote 5-0-0.**
- S. Pilcher asked if the Board would be interested in a shared Town administrator, and if there would be any opposition of S. Pilcher attending the next Starksboro Selectboard meeting to explore this option with them.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

- **A. Layn moved to adjourn at 9:09pm, H. Boisse seconded this motion. Voted and passed 5-0-0.**