

**Town of Monkton  
Selectboard Meeting  
January 14th, 2019  
(Approved 1/28/19)**

**Call to Order:** Stephen Pilcher called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

**Attendance:**

**Present-** Bill Martin, Anne Layn, John McNerney, Stephen Pilcher, Marikate Kelley

**Absent-**

**Visitors-** Peter Norris, David Layn, Curtis Layn, Michael New

**Announcements:**

- The Selectboard members are invited to the Monkton Fire Department Annual dinner on February 9th at 6pm.

**Regular Business:**

- **Approve Minutes:** Bill Martin made a motion to approve the January 7th, 2019 meeting minutes as written. John McNerney seconded the motion and it passed 4-0-1.
- **Review and approve check warrants-** The following check warrants were reviewed and signed:
  - None at this time
- **Review and approve overweight permits-**
  - Newport Sand & Gravel Co. INC
- **Public comment-** Peter Norris came before the Selectboard regarding the blind hill on Mountain Rd near the Jones property. He noted that it is a very dangerous hill. Mr. Norris suggested the Selectboard consider building up the road on both sides of the hill or rearranging the road and driveways in that area. Steve Pilcher stated that the first step would be to have our road foreman take a look at that area of road. John McNerney noted that VTrans had taken a look at that area a few years ago and there were suggestions made by them. The Selectboard will make a recommendation to have the road foreman research the notes from the VTtrans visit in the past.

Peter Norris recommended that the Selectboard take part in the selection of the person that is recognized on the cover of the town report.

**New Business:**

- **Monkton Volunteer Fire Department Budget** Michael New, Curtis Layn, and David Layn came before the Selectboard to present the Fire Department budget. The budget was revamped this year to be more transparent. For example in previous years some of the building maintenance that was required because it is a FEMA shelter. That is now in the FEMA line and not under building maintenance. In previous years the funds for the truck replacement fund was not earmarked into the correct line and was used for operation costs. Last year the

fire department ran a deficit and they are requesting an increase in funds this year to make up for that deficit. There has been a change in the fire department treasurers. The department wanted to audit their accounts to ensure accuracy; however they have not been able to due to lack of documents made available. The rent for the post office was also discussed. The post office pays the town of Monkton to house the post office at the fire station. The town then pays the fire department.

- **Review draft town meeting day warning** no action at this time
- **Review draft selectboard report** no action at this time
- **Appoint green up day coordinator** John McNerney has posted notices for the position. There has not been any interest at this time.
- **2019 Budget** The budget was discussed among those present. Computer equipment and software and building committee are both still waiting on more information. The highway department budget had some changes; including the amount of grant funds for the traffic lights. The recreation department budget was also submitted. The tax rate worksheet was discussed by the Selectboard members. VLTC sent a statute regarding highway fund surplus. It states that the funds raised for the highway fund must not be used for any other purpose. A lawyer from VLTC is being consulted to see what the options are. Selectboard members discussed some ideas of how to use the surplus for the highway department.

#### **Old Business:**

- **Lower Speed Limit** no action at this time
- **No Thru Trucks** no action at this time

#### **Other Business:**

- Bill Martin noted that the reason Monkton ran out of salt is that we can only store 4 loads.
- Bill Martin brought a matter to the Selectboard regarding a personnel issue. **John McNerney made a motion to move to executive session. Bill Martin seconded the motion and it passed 5-0-0. Executive session began at 8:30pm. John McNerney made a motion to leave executive session. Bill Martin seconded the motion and it passed 5-0-0. The Selectboard exited executive session at 8:39pm.**

#### **Adjournment:**

- **Bill Martin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Anne Layn seconded the motion and it passed 5-0-0.** The meeting adjourned at 8:46pm.

The next meeting will be January 28th at 7:00pm at the town hall.

Minutes submitted by Bailee Layn-Gordon