

MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING
MONKTON TOWN HALL
Monday December 9, 2019
(Approved 12/16/19)

S. Pilcher called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Members Present: Anne Layn, Bill Martin, Stephen Pilcher, Marikate Kelley, John McNerney

Members Absent: none

Others Present: Betsy Brown (Recording Secretary), Bailee Layn-Gordon, Jaime Schulte, Joshua Giard, Cathie Buscaglia, Ian Schulze

ANNOUNCEMENTS

J. McNerney noted that Thursday December 12th will be the culvert replacement day on Mountain Road.

S. Pilcher noted receipt of a letter to the Selectboard from Angela Auclair.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

APPROVE MINUTES

J. McNerney made a motion to approve the November 25, 2019 minutes as amended. B. Martin seconded. Motion passed by a vote of 3-0-2 (S. Pilcher & M. Kelley abstained).

REVIEW AND APPROVE CHECK WARRANTS

The following check warrants were approved and signed:

A/P #91129 11/29/19 \$11,055.57

A/P #91209 12/09/19 \$26,899.00

P/R #91209 12/09/19 \$10,543.42

REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC.

none

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

NEW BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENTS – DRB, RECREATION COMMITTEE

The board interviewed J. Schulte & J. Giard for the Development Review Board (DRB).

B. Martin made a motion to designate Jaime Schulte as a full member of the DRB, for the balance of a term expiring March 2023 and J. Giard as the alternate for a term expiring March 2022. M. Kelley seconded. All voted in favor 5-0-0.

DOG PARK PROPOSAL

Cathie Buscaglia & Ian Schulze approached the Selectboard representing an informal committee who has been getting together for the past year discussing the possibility of a fenced dog park somewhere in Monkton. The group is proposing a fenced area in Morse Park to the south and southeast of the parking area off Pond Road. The group is not asking for any taxpayer money. They hope to secure grants and do fundraising to pay for fencing and ongoing maintenance of the park. They presented to the Monkton Recreation Committee. C. Buscaglia state that the Recreation Committee had no problem with pursuing that location. C. Buscaglia mentioned they also read through the conservation documents for this property and it does not appear there is any conflict with having a dog park. A. Layn asked about insurance. C. Buscaglia noted that it has been discussed and they do not envision securing a separate insurance policy. I. Schulze noted that the group looked at rules and regulations of dog park as examples. J. Giard asked if there was a separate section proposed for small dogs. C. Buscaglia noted no, because the park is not big enough. J. McNerney noted that while the committee felt their review indicated no conflict with the conservation documents, they will need to notify the holder of those rights (who should be noted in the document) and get their agreement before proceeding. The Selectboard would like to see the dog park group put an information piece in the Town Report and set up an informational table at Town Meeting. S. Pilcher also mentioned that speaking up at Town Meeting would be another venue to get information out.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

B. Layn-Gordon noted that over the past few months many rumors have been discussed on the community Facebook page that she manages, which is not an official town page. She noted that maybe the Town could have an official Facebook page (in addition to the town website) where up to date town information can be posted. M. Kelley noted that information that goes on the town website should be the same information being put out

on a Facebook page. M. Kelley noted that by having commenting closed off would help to mitigate any kind of open meeting law issues. J. McNerney noted that he would not object to a “no comments” town Facebook page. A. Layn noted that she was in favor. S. Pilcher noted that not everyone has a Facebook account. B. Brown noted that if the town had a Facebook page and the settings were set to “public”, people can view it even if they don’t have a Facebook account. A. Layn suggests a small committee to draft a social media policy for the Town of Monkton. A. Layn and B. Layn-Gordon offered to help draft the policy. J. McNerney also offered his help.

DRAFT TOWN MEETING WARNING

The Selectboard reviewed the copy of the Draft Town Meeting Warning.

REVIEW OF TOWN PLAN ADOPTED BY PLANNING COMMISSION

The Board reviewed the proposed town plan as well as the enhanced energy plan. Some minor grammatical errors were corrected. S. Pilcher noted that he will warn the hearing for the Town Plan for January 6th at the Fire House.

2020 BUDGET

S. Pilcher noted that the proposed budget is up to date. No action taken.

OLD BUSINESS:

INFRINGEMENT OF ROW ON JOCKEY LANE

S. Pilcher will speak with the Town Attorney for further guidance.

FUTURE TOWN HALL STAFFING

No action taken

SALVAGE YARDS IN MONKTON

K. Perlee sent 5 letters and got 0 response or reaction from anyone per B. Martin.

TOWN OF MONKTON CHARTER

No action taken

TH 36 ROAD RECLASSIFICATION

No action taken

OTHER BUSINESS:

DETERMINE TIME/DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is December 16, 2019 at 7:00.

ADJOURNMENT

A. Layn made a motion to adjourn. B. Martin seconded. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:56 pm.