

MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING  
MINUTES  
Tuesday May 10, 2022  
(Approved 5/24/22)

The meeting was called to order by Stephen Pilcher at 7:00pm.

Members in attendance: Stephen Pilcher (chair), Paul Low, Bill Martin, Marikate Kelley, John McNerney

Members absent: none

Others in attendance: Jessica Demeritt (recording secretary)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

P. Low said Green Up Day was a success with more volunteers than in previous years. S. Pilcher said he was impressed with how the green up drop-off was organized at the town garage.

Ben Doyle, president of the Preservation Trust of Vermont, did a site visit of the three buildings in transition (old town hall, library, general store). Possibly there is some grant money that could assist future projects with those buildings.

**REGULAR BUSINESS:**

APPROVE MINUTES

**J. McNerney moved to approve the minutes of April 26, 2022. P.Low seconded. All voted in favor.**

REVIEW AND APPROVE CHECK WARRANTS

**J. McNerney moved to approve PR 20509 in the amount of \$10,849.79. P. Low seconded. All voted in favor.**

**B. Martin moved to approve AP 20509 in the amount of \$15,180.86. Seconded by P Low. All voted in favor.**

REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC.

The following permits were reviewed and approved:  
REDLINE UNLIMITED, INC.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

**NEW BUSINESS:**

TOWN OFFICES LANDSCAPE PROJECT – STONE WALL

The project was bid out as is policy. Masefield Dry Stone Masonry remained the only proposal.

**J. McNerney moved to approve the proposal by Masefield Dry Stone Masonry, LLC for \$8,000. Seconded by P. Low. All voted in favor.**

#### 2022 MOWING CONTRACT

Brian's Lawn Care submitted a bid for the town of Monkton for \$5,500. S. Pilcher would like to waive the bidding policy for the mowing this year so it can begin and because that amount is in the approved town budget. J. McNerney thinks Brian's has done a very fine job, and has been the low bidder by a significant margin in when previously bid out. The Select Board will be bidding it out next year as policy dictates. **B. Martin moved that the Select Board waive the bid policy and approve the bid from Brian's Lawn Care. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor.**

#### VERMONT MUNICIPAL BOND BANK CERTIFICATE OF PROJECT COMPLETION

**B. Martin moved to approve signing the bond bank certificate of project completion. Seconded by J. McNerney. All voted in favor.**

#### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR JOB DESCRIPTION / PAY RATE

no action taken

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### SALVAGE YARDS IN MONKTON

no action taken

#### 1859 TOWN HALL STATUS

S. Pilcher said R. Hopps and C. Pozella proposed inventorying the Monkton Museum and Historical Society items and displaying the items during the summer months. P. Low said he can turn the water back on and make sure the systems are functioning. J. McNerney wondered who would check on the buildings for safety. P. Low said the system in the old library is up to date and he will periodically take a look at it. The MMHS could be asked to keep an eye on the old town hall. **J. McNerney moved to allow the MMHS temporary use of the old town hall. B. Martin seconded.** It was noted that the hot water will remain turned off, to minimize electrical use and expense. **All voted in favor.**

#### ARPA FUNDS STATUS / PROCESS

P. Low had an addition to the scorecard for assessing proposals for ARPA funds. He suggested that a proposal should have a business plan with a definitive and sustainable budget and detailed operations program. J. McNerney is looking to add sustainability so the town is not responsible for future funding. B. Martin would like to see a plan for succession for each proposal: who will have ongoing responsibility for overseeing the project or program. M. Kelley doesn't want to see

a large project get penalized, as one scoring item currently does. She said that the town has an opportunity to make a difference. J. McNerney noted that these funds were an opportunity to be transformative for the town; he suggested the amount requested should be commensurate with the benefit to the community. Maple Broadband was discussed as an example. M. Kelley thought the scoring system might not capture the relevance of a proposal and maybe a good proposal will be turned down. There was some discussion about guiding principles versus a scorecard. M. Kelley said the Select Board has to make the hard decisions and the point system on the scorecard may be limiting. There was discussion and agreement that there should be flexibility in the process. B. Martin would like to see all the proposals at once to help keep track of fund distribution. It was pointed out that this may not be possible, since some projects need to move forward to meet deadlines, such as for matching funds, while others may not exist yet. M. Kelley and P. Low would like to see the town programs which were approved to receive the replacement of lost funds due to COVID without hesitation. There was discussion about affordable housing and how to bring more of it to Monkton.

#### **SIGN**

The signs for Raven's Ridge parking should be here this week. Also, twenty-two road signs will be posted for enforcement of the law regarding moving violations.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

J. McNerney will speak with MCS about the availability of school facilities for town resident use. No one has connected with C. Johnston to get his resignation letter for the DRB position.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 24, 2022, 7pm.

**M. Kelley moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14pm. All voted in favor.**