

MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING
MINUTES
Monday, August 23, 2022
(Approved 9/6/22)

The meeting was called to order by Stephen Pilcher at 7:03 pm.

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

Members absent: none

Others in attendance: Jessica Demeritt (recording secretary), Stan Wilbur, Kris Perlee

ANNOUNCEMENTS

P. Low said the Rec Committee has allowed a large event at Morse Park: a JV Football Jamboree with 600 people on 8/27/22 from 8am-4pm. They will have a sheriff and volunteers to organize parking.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

APPROVE MINUTES

B. Martin to approve the minutes of August 8, 2022 as written. Seconded by P. Low. All voted in favor.

REVIEW AND APPROVE CHECK WARRANTS

M. Kelley moved to approve AP 20809 in the amount of \$35,842.39. Seconded by J. McNerney. All voted in favor.

M. Kelley moved to approve AP 20812 \$49,213.25. J. McNerney seconded. The new truck approved by voters is paid for and insured and will have a plow installed. All voted in favor.

M. Kelley moved to approve PR 20815 in the amount of \$9,155.39. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor.

REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC.

none

PUBLIC COMMENT

B. Martin gave a road update as reported by the road foreman. He said there is not much progress on the Mountain Road culvert due to FEMA and waiting to get approval from other state entities. The originally anticipated box culvert would

have been \$250,000. However, it appears we will be required to install a plank bridge which would be around \$600,000. FEMA funds should pay for much of the cost. We are preparing for ditching and culvert replacement on Bennett Road. GMP's tree service contractor will take down a large tree which threatens the power lines. The town will remove brush and logs. The road crew got water down at Church Road, but the culvert was still full of material. Rotax Road is being resurfaced with gravel. Sand is being stockpiled for the winter.

NEW BUSINESS:

SUSSMAN/POLLACK CURB CUT LIME KILN ROAD

M. Kelley moved to approve the curb cut on Lime Kiln Road. P. Low seconded. All voted in favor.

CLARK/BLOUIN BORO HILL ROAD

There was discussion about Maple Lane. It is a complex situation with soils, site line, and drainage issues as well as concerns about the ability to meet the driveway standards. **J. McNerney moved to deny the Clark/Blouin curb cut application because it does not demonstrate a driveway design that meets all the applicable standards. P. Low seconded. The vote passed 4-0-1. B. Martin abstained.**

WAIVER OF LATE PENALTY FOR HOMESTEAD DECLARATION

J. McNerney moved to waive the late penalty for homestead declaration. Seconded by B. Martin. All voted in favor.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR INTERVIEWS

B. Martin moved into executive session for the purposes of personnel interviews at 7:42pm. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor.

B. Martin moved to leave executive session at 8:38pm. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor.

The Select Board agreed they needed to review employee policy, and check references. A decision is anticipated in September.

BEAVER PROGRESS AND PROTECT OUR WILDLIFE MOU

J. Demeritt updated the Select Board on the progress with beaver deceivers. The Church Road culvert needs to be cleared before a device can be installed there, and it looks to be a challenging job. B. Martin said he would find out more about issues and schedule with that culvert being replaced. J. Demeritt asked the Select Board to adjust the wording in a MOU from Protect Our Wildlife to something they can accept in order to make progress on receiving funding from POW towards a beaver deceiver. S. Pilcher is working on those adjustments. Skip Lisle, of Beaver Deceivers LLC, came to assess some beaver/road issues in Monkton. He will be returning in a few weeks to hopefully install one or more devices. J. Demeritt asked the Select Board to fund beaver deceivers this year.

They are proven devices that are working on Monkton Pond, in Shelburne on Webster Road, and in Charlotte on Greenbush Road. The road crew spent many hours this spring trying to improve water flow where beaver activity was present. And the issues are not resolved. If a working device could restore water flow and protect roads, it would save the town money and time next spring. S. Pilcher asked where the money would come from and said he would take a look.

OLD BUSINESS:

SALVAGE YARDS IN MONKTON

no action taken

1859 TOWN HALL STATUS

S. Pilcher said the pizza party went ok. No one offered to spearhead trying to find or create a sustainable business in the old town hall. The Select Board discussed possible scenarios for the future of the 1859 building.

ARPA FUNDS STATUS/PROGRESS

no action taken

OTHER BUSINESS:

There is currently only one lister. S. Pilcher may inquire with NEMRC to see if they can do the work. The town may have to appoint an appraiser.

There will be a special meeting on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 7pm.

The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 7pm.

B. Martin moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:32pm. All voted in favor.

These minutes were respectfully submitted by Jessica Demeritt.