

MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING
MINUTES

Tuesday, August 8, 2023
(Approved 8/22/23)

The meeting was called to order by Stephen Pilcher at 7:05 pm.

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

Members absent: none

Others in attendance: Jessica Demeritt (recording secretary), Stan Wilbur (town administrator), Debra Sprague

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

S. Pilcher noted that the Selectboard received a letter requesting information about the town forest proposal. P. Low acknowledged that three times in three weeks, motorized vehicles have vandalized Morse Park. He has learned who is responsible. S. Pilcher said the email provider was changed for the town, and users are getting accustomed to the changes. It was noted that the town clerk is on vacation. She will return August 21, 2023.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

APPROVE MINUTES

P. Low moved to approve the minutes of July 25, 2023 as written. W. Crandall seconded. The vote passed 4-0-1. J. McNerney abstained.

REVIEW AND APPROVE CHECK WARRANTS

M. Kelley moved to approve AP 30731 in the amount of \$3,442.22. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor.

REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC

The following overweight permit was reviewed and approved:
Sid Sumner Inc.

FACILITY USE REQUEST

P. Low noted one request.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

NEW BUSINESS:

SET MUNICIPAL TAX RATE

M. Kelley moved to approve the municipal tax rate of \$0.4541 for 2023. W. Crandall seconded. All voted in favor. It was noted that the townwide reappraisal currently underway has not been reflected in the current taxes or tax rates. That is scheduled to happen in 2024.

BIKE/PED COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

S. Pilcher noted the committee's recommendation was to approve the proposal from Dubois and King subject to adjustment for the historical survey and corrections to the route. **J. McNerney moved to accept the bike/ped scoping study proposal subject to the revision of route and archaeological study changes as discussed. W. Crandall seconded. The vote passed 4-0-1. M. Kelley abstained.**

ARPA REQUEST - MVFD

S. Pilcher noted that the fire department is asking for ARPA funds to cover a washer/dryer installation, personal protective equipment, radios, thermal imaging camera. S. Pilcher apologized for not following up on asking a representative from the MVFD to attend the Selectboard meeting. The request was tabled until the next meeting when a member of the fire department could be asked to attend. The board discussed making sure that possible applicable grants are researched and applied for to stretch the ARPA funds as far as possible.

PACIF LOSS CONTROL / SAFETY INSPECTION

P. Low noted that he will communicate progress on meeting the safety inspection requirements. With the heavy rains, the road crew is very busy with road maintenance.

RADAR SIGN FOR SILVER STREET

S. Pilcher said the sign is here.

OLD BUSINESS:

SALVAGE YARDS IN MONKTON

no action taken

LOWER TOWN HALL PARKING LOT

no action taken

BEAVERS

P. Low said Skip Lisle is contracted to come to Church Road and Hollow Road. He noted that Bev Soyachak has been very helpful assisting with the communication.

OTHER BUSINESS:

J. McNerney asked how the Mountain Road culvert was going. S. Pilcher replied that work was still ahead of schedule. J. McNerney volunteered to meet with the road foreman to check out a curb cut application from a local resident.

J. McNerney moved to waive the penalty on the Homestead Declaration. P. Low seconded. M. Kelly moved to table the motion. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor.

S. Pilcher and S. Wilbur shared information about the status of multiple grants.

There was discussion about committing ARPA funds.

There was discussion about ongoing road maintenance.

S. Pilcher said the focus of the Municipal Roads Grant is to cut down on phosphorus going into the lake. Monkton has completed high priority spots except on class 4 town roads.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 7:00pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

none required

J. McNerney moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Demeritt