

MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday, August 27, 2024

(Approved 9-10-24)

The meeting was called to order by Stephen Pilcher at 7:02 p.m.

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

Members absent: none

Others in attendance: Jessica Demeritt (recording secretary), Stan Wilbur (town administrator), John Zaikowski, Jen Austin, Debra Sprague, Jaime Schulte, Mike Winslow, Janet Fairchild

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

none

**REGULAR BUSINESS:**

APPROVE MINUTES

**W. Crandall moved to approve the minutes of August 13, 2024 as written.**

**J. Szarejko seconded. All voted in favor.**

REVIEW AND APPROVE CHECK WARRANTS

**W. Crandall moved to approve AP 40816 in the amount of \$177,133.98.** He noted that this item was for Pike Industries hot mix. **J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor.**

**W. Crandall moved to approve AP 40826 in the amount of \$13,336.61. J. Szarejko seconded. All voted in favor.**

**W. Crandall moved to approve AP 40827 in the amount of \$44,775.34.** He noted this paid for road repairs across the board. **J. Szarejko seconded. All voted in favor.**

**W. Crandall moved to approve PR 40826 in the amount of \$13,310.58. J. Szarejko seconded.** S. Pilcher asked how overtime was going for the road crew. J. Szarejko responded that it appeared to have been reduced for a while since the storms. **All voted in favor.**

REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC

none

FACILITY USE REQUEST

There was one, said W. Crandall.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

**NEW BUSINESS:**

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#### BIKE/PEDESTRIAN FACILITY ALTERNATIVES PRESENTATION - DUBOIS & KING

J. Austin presented the project for a 3.5 mile loop around the pond. There was discussion about bike lanes, aggregate paths, curbed sidewalks, needs for drainage and permitting. The Opinion of Probable Construction Costs (OPCC) were discussed. The final scoping study report will be completed in October. S. Pilcher asked about bike lane and car lane sizes. S. Pilcher asked about Rotax Road and bike lanes; and learned it would require paving the road. J. Zaikowski, speaking for himself, noted that there is currently a gate on one of the proposed routes through Morse Park. He also noted that there are archeological considerations in that there are pre-contact Indigenous findings on the Morse Park property. J. Zaikowski noted that the Recreation Committee had ARPA funds for improving the paths at Morse Park. He noted the class 2 wetlands on the property. VHCB has an easement on Morse Park, J. Zaikowski stated. M. Winslow noted traffic calming and narrowing of lanes. Link to the [Bike/Pedestrian Facility Alternatives Presentation](#).

#### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATE

J. Szarejko noted the road crew is working on roadside mowing, grading, a pump for chloride machine is on order to calm the dust, still working on storm clean up, and cutting back brush. The Mountain Road ditching is nearly done, and gravel is coming next. Pond Road will get attention soon. States Prison Hollow Road will get some ditching in a problem washout area. There was discussion about cutting trees, digging deeper ditches, and bigger culverts for Piney Woods Road. There was discussion about FEMA and the Tyler Bridge Road culvert, which has sunken quite a bit. J. Szarejko noted FEMA is here this week. Engineering studies and hydrology studies may be needed before work is done. FEMA is only covering 75%, rather than 90%. The state will cover 12%, said S. Pilcher. It was noted that Piney Woods Road follows a creek. There was discussion about invoices from contractors doing work for Monkton. There was discussion about the Procurement Policy. There was discussion about the road crew being able to purchase from nearby stores. There was discussion about needs from the treasurer. W. Crandall noted that Hardscrabble Road was looking good and thanked the road crew.

#### PINEY WOODS ROAD REBUILD

see above

#### SOUTH WING BID REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

There was discussion about requesting proposals and storage space and timing.

#### RIGHT OF WAY APPLICATION - DUCHARME

S. Pilcher proposed a site visit. W. Crandall volunteered to do the visit.

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#### APPOINTMENTS

S. Pilcher noted a Health Officer has not been appointed, and the Planning Commission needs appointments. **W. Crandall nominated Debra Sprague to the Planning Commission for a term ending 3/2027. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor.**

#### OLD AIRPORT ROAD SURVEY

S. Pilcher noted that there were a number of markings by T. Short on Old Airport Road. J. Schulte noted that the survey held no surprises. S. Pilcher commented that the Selectboard was generally satisfied with the survey. The invoice could be submitted for payment.

#### MONKTON TOWN FOREST CONSERVATION EASEMENT

no action taken

#### EDGE LINE MARKING AWARD

S. Pilcher noted only one bid was submitted when the project was put out to bid. There was discussion about getting stop bars painted. J. McNerney asked about narrowing lanes for traffic calming. **W. Crandall moved to accept the bid for the edge line marking from L & D Safety Marking Corp. for \$28,000.** It was noted that lane width should be checked in the complete streets study. **M. Kelley seconded. All voted in favor.**

#### TRAFFIC ORDINANCE UPDATE

S. Pilcher made two changes to the traffic ordinance: 1) included a description of a designated school zone, 2) added to parking regulations, no vehicles in town right of way for more than 48 hours. There was discussion about safety. J. McNerney noted a few additions including seasonal conditions. M. Kelley noted that during the winter, nothing should be parked in the right-of-way. There was discussion about a winter parking ordinance. S. Wilbur spoke about towing or ticketing.

#### HIGHWAY ACCESS POLICY UPDATE

S. Pilcher noted that the policy listed the b71a and b71b regulations and some typos. **W. Crandall moved to approve the Town of Monkton Highway Access Policy as amended. M. Kelley seconded. All voted in favor.**

#### OLD BUSINESS

none

#### OTHER BUSINESS

none

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

none

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The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 7 p.m.

**W. Crandall moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. All voted in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Demeritt