

MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING
MONKTON TOWN HALL

Minutes

DATE: Monday February 22, 2016

1) **CALL TO ORDER:** S. Pilcher called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM

2) **ATTENDANCE:**

Members in Attendance: Stephen Pilcher, Henry Boisse, John McNerney.

Members Absent: Ann Layn, Roger Parker

Others in Attendance: Ivor Hughes, Raymond Huizenga, Michael Hurlburt, L.S. Peyser, Melanie Peyser, Lorilyn Bothwell, John McCaffrey, Jennifer Baker, Nathan Palmer, Claire Broughton, Jane Palmer, Dave Walker (Right-of-Way mgr, VGS), Ned Farquhar (Communications & Gov't, VGS), John St. Hilaire, (VP Operations, VGS), Christopher LeForce (Project Engineering, VGS), Joshua Sky (Environmental Consultant, VHB)

3) **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Vermont Gas Informational Hearing regarding blasting will take place Wednesday 2-24-16 at 6:30pm at Monkton Fire Station.

Vermont Supreme Court Ruled in the towns favor on Brisson Stone LLC v. Monkton (Docket 2014-455).

4) **REGULAR BUSINESS:**

- **APPROVE MINUTES: J. McNerney moved to approve the minutes. H. Boisse seconded. Voted and passed. 3-0-0.**
- **REVIEW AND APPROVE CHECK WARRANTS:**
 - A/P #60222 02/22/16 \$ 34,639.65
 - A/P #60221 02/21/16 \$ 15,395.49
 - A/P #60211 02/11/16 \$ 1,881.61
 - P/R #60222 02/22/16 \$ 8,257.78
 - A/P #60209 02/09/16 \$ 157,984.00
- **REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC.:**
 - T&C Trucking LLC
 - AC Wright LLC DBA Clark-Wright Septic Service
 - Livingston Farm Landscape Products

- Pike Industries
- United Natural Foods, Inc.
- PUBLIC COMMENT (Guests): Ivor Hughes stated that Vermont Agency of Natural Resources will hold a hearing regarding Stormwater and Wetlands permits associated with the Addison Natural Gas Project. This hearing will be held at CVU on 3/24/16 at 6:00pm. .

5) NEW BUSINESS:

- MCCAFFREY DISCUSSION OF JOCKEY LANE MAINTAINANCE: Monkton does not plow the last several hundred feet of Jockey Lane to McCaffrey driveway. Mr. McCaffrey was told his road was not plowed because it was considered a class 4 road. He is asking why the town can't plow the 300 feet to his driveway. The McCaffrey's are looking for snow removal only, they will continue maintenance. Selectboard members will discuss with the road commissioner, plan to make a site visit and look at the road, and will then touch base with the McCaffrey.
- RAYMOND HUIZENGA RE: CONSERVATION COMMISSION: Raymond is interested in joining the Conservation Commission. The Board gave some information on the Conservation Commission and ANAC. Mr. Huizenga was encouraged to attend an ANAC and/or Conservation Commission meeting to be sure he interested in joining.
- VGS COMPLIANCE WITH MOU AND CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE: S. Pilcher went over what information was within a packet that was handed out to the Selectboard members.

VGS described the expected construction & testing process: Clear, probe for rock, blasting (where probing indicates the need), erosion control measures installed, pipe stringing (lining up pipe), welding (including x-ray inspection of welds), excavate trench/bore/or best method for area, Install pipe (wrap pipe in areas where extra protection is needed), backfill, restoration (seeding, mulching, topsoil). For the most part, these processes are expected to follow one right after the other, so there may be multiple crews in the area at once, each working on a different phase. The exception to this is areas where HDD is planned, which happens more or less independently of the other processes.

Schedule: Expecting to start in May for the construction crew which will start up north. Clearing has started, VGS is in St. George right now. There is not an exact time frame as to when this will happen in Monkton. Prior to the start of blasting, property owners that are within 600 feet of a potential blasting sight will be offered a well survey and foundation survey. S. Pilcher would like to have coordination between the gas engineer hired by the Department of Public Service (DPS), the oversight engineer hired by the Town and VGS. S. Pilcher has

requested 4-6 weeks' notice for prior to any blasting, HDD or trenching operations start, and VGS feels that this is a reasonable request. VGS will be sending out notices regarding clearing and will send a copy to the Selectboard. The Selectboard is reaching out to engineering company in effort to have engineer on site, but the budget will not allow someone on site full time.

Per the MOU water quality testing will be provided. Letters will go out to the effected land owners within 300' of pipeline, and 600' feet of the blasting zones. Landowners within 300' will receive well testing to compare pre-construction and post-construction water quality, and within 600' of blasting will receive blasting, flow levels, water quality, and foundations survey to compare pre-construction and post-construction levels. S. Pilcher asked VGS to send a copy of the landowner letter to either himself or the Selectboard when they are sent out. S. Plicher also requested that VGS test for explosive residue.

A resident asked how soon after the blasting well testing was done, since some problems may not show up immediately. This question should be asked to the well testing company that will be present at the 2/24/16 meeting.

A resident asked about blackout dates for bird nesting? This was addressed in initial surveying and permitting: sensitive breeding habitat area in the Monkton Swamp will have HDD which will limit the impact on these breeding birds. The Monkton Swamp was the only sensitive area identified for nesting birds.

When will archaeological study be complete? This cannot be completed with the ground frozen, and will most likely resume in May when the ground has completely thawed.

How long will VGS and construction crews be in Monkton? The estimate is around 7 months but there are no firm dates or time frames at this time.

The Selectboard reviewed the MOU. VGS stated that there are approximately 60 parcels that will get the Dept. of Health well testing.

Impacted agricultural lands: MOU states that pipeline will be below 4' deep. It also required VGS to discuss in good faith with landowners where the depth might need to be increased (e.g. where subsoilers may be used). It was indicated by a resident that VGS refused to consider going below 4'.

How is agricultural soil determined and can a landowner determine how their land is treated. S. Pilcher stated the need to agree on a definition of "agricultural soils/lands".

Approved blasting plan will be made available. CPG approved necessary changes and further discussion can be held during the informational meeting Wednesday 2-24-16.

There were question about how blasting could take place in a wetland without contamination.

- LETTER FROM PEYSER RE: MLV-4: The Selectboard reviewed a letter from Melanie Peyser. The Selectboard does not plan to approve the change. The letter will be kept on file with the Selectboard and parties will be notified if changes are to be made.
- BANK NOTE FROM F550 TRUCK: S. Pilcher received the bank note for the new F550 truck. It is a 5 year loan at 2.05% interest. **J. McNerney moved to approve the note for the F550 truck with Merchants Bank. H. Boisse seconded this motion. Motion carried with a vote of 3-0-0.**
- RUTLAND SOLAR SITING RESOLUTION: Topic has been tabled for further review. A resident pointed out that the Select Board had already voted on this resolution last year. Select Board will investigate.

6) OLD BUSINESS:

- NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONVEY LAND RE: MONKTON SWAMP LOTS: **J. McNerney moved to approve the notice of terms proposed real estate conveyance pursuant to 24 V.S.A §1061(a)(1), the Monkton Swamp Lot. H. Boisse seconded this motion. Voted and passed, 3-0-0.**
- ENGINEERING OVERSIGHT OF VERMONT GAS: S. Pilcher is seeking Statements of Qualifications from engineering firms.
- PARK AND RIDE BID REVIEW: No action taken.
- FIRE STATION ADDITION STATUS: No Action taken

7) OTHER BUSINESS:

- DETERMINE TIME/DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on March 14, 2016 at 7:00pm.

8) ADJOURNMENT:

- **J. McNerney moved to adjourn at 9:17pm, H. Boisse seconded this motion. Voted and passed with vote 3-0-0.**