

**Town of Monkton  
Selectboard Meeting  
November 26th, 2018**

**Call to Order:** Stephen Pilcher called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

**Attendance:**       **Present-** Bill Martin, Anne Layn, John McNerney, Stephen Pilcher  
                          **Absent-**  
                          **Visitors-** Mary Kate Kelly, Sam Burr, Ben Hollwedel

**Announcements:**

- Addison County Solid Waste District recently passed their 2019 budget. They voted to make an offer on a piece of land in Ferrisburg for a Regional Transfer Station. It was noted that as of now, there isn't a budget for the construction of that transfer station.

**Regular Business:**

- **Approve Minutes:** Bill Martin made a motion to approve the October 22nd, 2018 meeting minutes as amended. Anne Layn seconded the motion and it passed 3-0-1.
- **John McNerney made a motion to approve the November 12th, 2018 meeting minutes as amended. Bill Martin seconded the motion and it passed 3-0-1.**
- **Review and approve check warrants-** The following check warrants were reviewed and signed:
  - P/R #81126 \$11,083.39
  - A/R #81124 W\$26,990.33
  - A/R #81029 \$3,488.67
- **Review and approve overweight permits-**
  - RP Frost INC- Hinesburg VT
- **Public comment-** Sam Burr, vice chair for Agriculture and Natural Areas Committee (ANAC), came before the board to share information regarding a project that has been presented to them. There is a piece of land that may be suitable for a town forest. The town plan doesn't have a good definition of what a town forest is or what it would be used for, therefore it is challenging to know if this project would be a good match. Mr. Burr noted that in some other towns there is a separate committee that oversees the town forest. The Selectboard discussed how other committees and commissions could handle that responsibility, or if it would be better to have a separate group. Mr. Burr noted that feedback and guidance would be helpful on what the town would want to use a town forest for (educational, wood, recreational, etc.). There could be grants available, however the ANAC committee would need to know more information first. It has not yet been decided if this piece of land would be a suitable for a town forest.

**New Business:**

- **Appointment of New Selectboard Member-** The open position was advertised, there was one applicant. Bill Martin nominated Mary Kate Kelly to fill the position until March 2019. All Selectboard members present approved the nomination. Mary Kate Kelly was present and joined the Selectboard at the time.
- **2019 Budget-** Ben Hollwedel was present to discuss the highway department budget.
  - Culvert replacement line- there are projects scheduled for Pond Rd, Church Rd, Monkton Rd, and Boro Hill Rd. Mr. Hollwedel has applied for grants to help offset costs. It was noted that by 2029 the town must comply with new regulations for all sections of roads that are connected to hydrologically sensitive areas. Monkton is doing fairly well with this requirement, but there are areas that need attention.
  - Paint and Sign budget line item-Fog lines must be painted on all roads that have more than 600 cars per day. A traffic study from 2000 shows that Bristol Rd would need fog lines. There is a question of if Vergennes Rd and Silver St would also need fog lines as well, however there isn't a traffic study on those roads as of now. There may be ways to obtain state aid to help with this cost.
  - Road improvements items have been increased to take into account the increase in materials.
  - Capital Equipment Expense line- The highway department would like to purchase portable traffic lights in order to meet safety guidelines. When comparing hiring flaggers or to rent the portable units; it is more cost effective to purchase the portable traffic lights. There is also a grant that may be available to help offset as much as 50% of the cost.
  - The Highway Dept is considering a gate installed across the driveway and new locks on the doors to ensure safety and security.
  - Salaries were also discussed.
  - The equipment schedule was reviewed. The Case Tractor and Diamond Mower could wait until 2022 to be replaced, the backhoe can be replaced with used machine and can be pushed to 2020. The 2009 Mac truck should be replaced as soon as possible. Two quotes were shared with the Selectboard. If we order a truck right now, it will take until close to January 2020 before the truck is ready to be out working; this is due to a backlog from the manufacturer. It was noted that it could be difficult to find a truck to buy off a lot, due to the requirements for a plow truck. Mr. Hollwedel will follow up to find out when the company would charge the town for the truck (at date of ordering, at the delivery, etc). The Selectboard will discuss this as the budget discussion continues. It would be an article put to vote on Town Meeting Day.
  - Purchasing a pick-up truck was also discussed for the future. Currently the town pays Mr. Hollwedel to use his truck when needed.
- **Curb Cut on Nichols Road-** John McNerney recused himself from this order of business. David and Alan Huizenga had come to the Selectboard at a previous meeting regarding a curb cut. Stephen Pilcher went to a site visit and the location meets the requirements. **Anne Layn made a motion to approve the curb**

**cut on Nichols Road for David Huizenga. Bill Martin seconded the motion and it was passed 4-0-1.**

- **Preview of Town Plan and Timeline-** The Selectboard set the timeline for reviewing and holding a public hearing. The Planning Commission will be holding a public meeting on December 12th, 2018. The Selectboard members will read through and discuss the town plan before that public meeting.

**Old Business:**

- **Lower Speed Limit-** No action at this meeting.

**Other Business:**

- No other business at the time

**Adjournment:**

- **Anne Layn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bill Martin seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.** The meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm.

The next meeting will be December 10th, 2018 at 7:00pm at the town hall.

Minutes submitted by Bailee Layn-Gordon