

MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING

Minutes

DATE: Monday December 14, 2020

REMOTE MEETING ONLY – Meeting will be recorded and recording posted

S. Pilcher called the meeting to order at 7:01pm

Members Present: Stephen Pilcher, Marikate Kelley, John McNerney, Bill Martin, Paul Low

Members Absent: none

Others Present: Betsy Brown, Recording Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

S. Pilcher stated that he had a conversation with Kirk Lea on Silver Street who recommends that no more curb cuts be allowed on a part of Silver Street due to safety.

S. Pilcher mentioned that a couple members of the Board did a hard hat tour of the new town offices.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

APPROVE MINUTES

B. Martin moved to approve the minutes of November 23, 2020 as written. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor. Motion passed by a vote of 5-0-0.

J. McNerney moved to approve the minutes of the Special Selectboard meeting on December 7, 2020 as amended. B. Martin seconded. All voted in favor. Motion passed 5-0-0.

REVIEW AND APPROVE CHECK WARRANTS

P/R 01207 \$9534.84 **M. Kelley moved to approve check warrant P/R #01207 in the amount of \$9,534.84. B. Martin seconded. All voted in favor. Motion passed 5-0-0.**

B. Martin moved to approve check warrant A/P #01130 in the amount of \$30,702.51. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor. Motion passed 5-0-0.

P. Low asked about the Addison County Independent charge on A/P #01211. S. Pilcher noted it was for legal notices for the UPD and the North Pond Road hearing. **B. Martin moved to approve check warrant A/P #01211 in the**

amount of \$18,806.13. M. Kelley seconded. All voted in favor. Motion passed 5-0-0.

REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC.

The following overweight permit was reviewed and signed:

- McElwain Contracting, LLC

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS:

REVIEW UNIFIED PLANNING DOCUMENT AND SCHEDULE HEARING

S. Pilcher noted that this is time sensitive so it can make the town warning for Town Meeting Day. The Selectboard looked through the proposed Unified Planning Document (UPD). M. Kelley made several suggestions for clarity and consistency of phrasing as well as to improve formatting. There was discussion regarding the word “absolutely” in the Ridgeline Overlay District. M. Kelley noted that the word “development” is not defined. The SelectBoard also reworded a section to swap “grandfathered” with “pre-existing non conforming”. There were some minor typos in the Camp Conversion section that were corrected. S. Pilcher explained the energy additions. There was a discussion regarding temporary election signs on town property. S. Pilcher noted that it appears the town would have to have an official sign ordinance in order to deal with that issue.

B. Martin moved to approve the UPD for the Town of Monkton as edited. M. Kelley seconded. All voted in favor. Motion passed 5-0-0.

A date for the hearing as discussed. January 18th, 2021 appears to be a good date.

BUDGET REVIEW

Due to the late time, it was decided to wait until the December 28th meeting to discuss this at length. S. Pilcher did note that there are a lot of delinquent taxes coming in. P. Low noted that he would like the road foreman to come to at least one meeting a month with a budget report. Social service agency requests for funds are coming in per S. Pilcher. P. Low asked how the Selectboard decides how much money to appropriate for the social service agencies. S. Pilcher explained the process - the agency writes a letter stating how many people they serve in Monkton, etc. The Selectboard reviews the requests and considers how those social services have been utilized by those in our community.

NORTH POND ROAD DECISION AND FINDINGS OF FACT

The Board reviewed the North Pond Road Decision and Findings of Fact. M. Kelley noted that the Board needs to go into executive session to deliberate.

B. Martin moved to enter executive Session for the purpose of deliberating on the North Pond Road decision. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor. The Board moved into executive session at 9:24 pm.

J. McNerney moved to leave executive session. M. Kelley seconded. All voted in favor. The Board moved out of executive session at 9:36 pm.

J. McNerney moved to accept the Findings of Fact and Decision on the reclassification of Pond Road between Davis Road and Rotax Road as written.

Since voice vote was not unanimous, a roll call vote was taken

J. McNerney - aye

M. Kelley- aye

B. Martin - aye

P. Low - abstain

S. Pilcher - aye

Motion passed 4-0-1.

SHADE TREE PLAN LETTER OF AGREEMENT

This is for a grant that the Tree Warden has applied for. **J. McNerney made a motion to sign the letter of collaboration with the Vt Urban and Community Forestry Shade Tree Plan. M. Kelley seconded. All voted in favor.**

HALLOCK LOT

This is a piece of land that is mostly swamp along Hollow Road (last parcel of land along Hollow before the septic area for Vaughn Court. The owner is wondering what possibilities are for that lot. This will be discussed further at a later meeting.

PLANS FOR TOWN MEETING DAY - DISCUSSION

S. Pilcher noted that an “informational meeting” prior to the town meeting can happen remotely via zoom, but a town meeting itself cannot be held via zoom under current state requirements. Since we have no meeting place with the capacity to hold a live town meeting under current COVID-19 restrictions, it appears we will have to have all votes by Australian ballot.

NEW TOWN OFFICES AND LIBRARY STATUS

The old town hall is ready to go up for sale when the Town is ready.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR STATUS RE: COVID-19

No update

OLD BUSINESS:

OLD STAGE ROAD

No action taken

INFRINGEMENT OF ROW ON JOCKEY LANE

J. McNerney stated that he still has not heard back from the surveyor regarding a mylar.

SALVAGE YARDS IN MONKTON

No action taken

TH 36 ROAD RECLASSIFICATION

No action taken

TOWN CREDIT CARD AND POLICY

No action taken

CLOUD STORAGE AND POLICY

No action taken

OTHER BUSINESS:

In reference to discussion at our previous meeting regarding B. Hollwedel's suggestion for using M. Dupont as a part time employee for vehicle repairs, J. McNerney noted that we need to investigate the pros and cons of hiring him as a contractor or as a part-time employee. J. McNerney contact VLCT/PACIF for guidance.

DETERMINE TIME/DATE OF NEXT MEETING

December 28, 2020 at 7pm via Zoom. Will be mostly a budget meeting. M. Kelley asked that letters from social service agencies be included in the packet prior to that meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

M. Kelley made a motion to adjourn. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy Brown
Recording Secretary