

MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday July 12, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Bill Martin at 7:15 pm.

Members in attendance: Marikate Kelley, Paul Low, Bill Martin (Acting Chair, John McNerney

Members absent: Stephen Pilcher

Others in attendance: Renee McGuinness, Jaime Schulte, Deborah Sprague

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LETTER FROM ANAC RE: UPD
(See detail in Public Comment section)

LISTER RESIGNATION

B Martin noted that the Selectboard had received notice of John Howard's resignation from the Listers. Bill thanked him for his many years of service to the community in that position.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

APPROVE MINUTES

J McNerney moved to approve the minutes of the 6/28/22 meeting as written. Seconded by P. Low. Approved 3-0-1 M.Kelley abstained

REVIEW AND APPROVE CHECK WARRANTS

M Kelley moved to approve AP 20711 in the amount of \$22,411.48. P. Low seconded. B. Martin noted that we were receiving large reimbursements from tickets written by the sheriff, which probably more than covered the cost. **All voted in favor.**

M. Kelley moved to approve PR 20701 in the amount of \$11,013.22. J McNerney seconded. All voted in favor.

REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC.

The following overweight permits were reviewed and approved:
WHITE TRUCKING

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nate Palmer asked what the notice of violation from the PUC was about. P Low explained that it was a Dig Safe issue from some road work that had been done. Dig Safe did mark the area, but the time limit for the marking to be valid had expired prior to the completion of the work.

Renee. McGuinness asked, "What is ANAC?" It was explained that this was the Agricultural and Natural Areas Committee, which takes applications for the towns conservation fund, investigates them, and makes recommendations to the Selectboard.

Jaime Schulte read an email to the Selectboard from ANAC Chair Laura Farrell regarding ANAC's recommendation for UPD Ridgeline District. Text of letter follows:

Dear Selectboard,

Over the past year or so, Monkton's Agricultural and Natural Areas Committee (ANAC) has matched Monkton's Town Plan guidance with Zoning language in our UPD, and researched zoning language in other towns who have recently addressed similar concerns pertaining to ecological areas. We consolidated this research and made recommendations to the Planning Commission for their UPD revisions. Upon considering the changes to the ridgeline district zoning language in the current proposed UPD draft, ANAC unanimously voted to make the following recommendation to the Selectboard.

"Current and proposed Ridgeline language agree that no development in the district is most compatible with the goals of the Town Plan. Currently no development is permitted, although forestry, agricultural and recreational uses are. ANAC supports leaving the existing voter-approved language in place at this time, to remain aligned with the goals of the Monkton Town Plan, pending clarification of the Ridgeline definition, identification of forest blocks/connectors, and the permitted uses within the district."

*Sincerely
Laura Farrell, ANAC Chair*

NEW BUSINESS:

ACRPC REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENT

J. McNerney moved to appoint Deborah Sprague to the open position of representative to the Addison County Regional Planning Commission and

to ACRPC's Transportation Advisory Committee for terms expiring June 30, 2023. M Kelley seconded. All voted in favor

VT PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION NOTICE OF PROBABLE VIOLATION
(See above in Public Comment section)

HIGHWAY DEPT PICKUP TRUCK

We had hoped to order a new pickup truck through the State of Vermont's pricing program, but that program is not currently available. Road Foreman Shane Lawrence found a used 3/4 ton truck from a local resident. It will cost \$40,000 to buy and will need a plow and sander installed at a cost of \$14,000. P Low strongly urged getting the truck inspected by a good mechanic prior to purchase. **J McNerney moved to approve the purchase of the truck and equip it with a plow and sander for a price not to exceed \$54,000, subject to an inspection and approval of the truck by a reputable mechanic, P Low seconded. All voted in favor.**

SMITH BEERS CEMETERY

No action taken. Those present were not sure why this was on the agenda.

MAPLE LANE CURB CUT

P Low explained that he and Shane had visited the site. The application was invalid because the curb cut requested was not on the requesting persons property. P Low also explained to property owner that there are other issues which will need to be considered which could cause a problem with a curb cut on this property.

LIME KILN RD CURB CUT

J McNerney noted that he had been unable to meet up with Road Foreman S Lawrence prior to McNerney's trip last week, so he visited the site on his own, and arranged to leave the paperwork on the seat of one of the town trucks for Shane to pick up. J McNerney did not see any problems other than a blown down tree obstructing sight lines a bit. The owners said that would be cleared, along with whatever other vegetation might be deemed a problem. The sight line distances the landowner filled out were most likely incorrect (they appear to be better than what was indicated on the paper.). This will be verified/corrected by Shane during his visit. J McNerney asked if Shane had made it out to the site yet. B Martin will check with Shane.

Jaime Schulte asked about curb cuts and any inspections being done after the fact to make sure they comply with the standards. P Low relayed some conversations with the Zoning Administrator on the subject.

LOWER PARKING LOT AT TOWN OFFICE

Erosion is still a problem. B Martin mentioned that at last meeting, S Pilcher had mentioned the idea of getting that area paved. P Low said his understanding is

that we need an engineering study done before we can put out a request for proposals.

FACILITIES USE REQUEST

None

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR POSITION

The advertisement for the Town Administrator position will appear in Thursday's Addison Independent. B Martin mentioned that we have 2 parties indicating interest.

OLD BUSINESS:

SALVAGE YARDS IN MONKTON

No action taken.

1859 TOWN HALL STATUS

Received a letter from Kristen Farrell (see attached below)

ARPA FUNDS STATUS / PROCESS

S Pilcher added a page to the town web site so that townspeople can see what is being considered.

OTHER BUSINESS:

P Low mentioned that the town had received an inquiry about providing cleaning services at the town hall.

The next meetings (both at Town Hall)

Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 7 PM Special meeting to consider UPD language.

Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at 7 PM regular Selectboard meeting

B. Martin moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM. All voted in favor.

Minute recorded by J McNerney

Attached: email from K. Farrell regarding 1879 Town Hall

Subject: Re: Check In
Date: Fri, 1 Jul 2022 15:37:15 -0400
From: Kristen Farrell <monktonmhs@gmail.com>
To: Stephen Pilcher <spilcher@monktonvt.com>
CC: Selectboard <SelectBoard@monktonvt.com>, Kim Coates
<kingcoates@gmavt.net>, Robin E Hopps <rhopps@gmavt.net>, Patrick A.
Polzella <polzella@gmavt.net>, Joan Holloway <hollcpa@gmavt.net>

Dear Stephen and Selectboard,

Thanks for your reply and clarity on the questions that need to be answered. I will seek to answer those questions to the best of my ability in an August ARPA proposal.

I would like to give an update on our progress at this point.

- The MM&HS is committed to making our work for the town relevant and worthy of citizen support in the effort to create a physical museum. Our recent exhibition at the 1859 Town Hall and the Monkton Ridge History Tour, with sales of explanatory booklets, were successful. Thank you to all Selectboard members who stopped by to say hello.
- The MM&HS has applied to the Robert Sincerbeaux Fund (RSF) through the Preservation Trust of Vermont. We have agreed to fund the \$250.00 plus mileage match to the PT of V grant funding. After speaking with various members of PT of V, I expect this grant will be approved and we will get a recommendation for a contractor. I have attached the specific wording of the grant below:

"Robert Sincerbeaux Fund (RSF): This is a small matching grant program the Preservation Trust of Vermont uses to help groups like yours hire a preservation professional or architect to make an assessment and prepare a report on the condition of the various components of your building. These "Condition Assessment Reports" prioritize repairs and give rough cost estimates so groups can plan fundraising strategies. A corps of qualified consultants have generously offered to do these assessments for nonprofit organizations for a flat fee of \$500; the Preservation Trust grant pays for half, and your organization covers the other half. RSF grants may also be used for any other technical assistance that will move a project along its timeline; such as, hiring a fundraising consultant, an engineer, organizational development consultant, or architect to do beginning design work."

I appreciate the information you shared with Joan Holloway, which she then relayed to me.

Please don't hesitate to email me directly with any additional inquiries. My cell is 802-316-6415, if you would prefer to talk.

Thanks for all you do to support Monkton.

DRAFT

Sincerely,

Kristen B. Farrell

MM&HS President
1859 Town Hall ARPA Advocate