

MONKTON SELECTBOARD MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday January 10, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Stephen Pilcher at 7:00 pm.

Members in attendance: Stephen Pilcher (chair), John McNerney, Paul Low, Marikate Kelley

Members absent: none

Others in attendance: Jessica Demeritt (recording secretary), Stan Wilbur, Debra Sprague, Shane Lawrence, Diana Butler, Walter Crandall, Susan Randall Davis

ANNOUNCEMENTS

none

REGULAR BUSINESS:

APPROVE MINUTES

J. McNerney moved to approve the minutes of December 27, 2022 as written. P. Low seconded. The vote passed 3-0-1. M. Kelley abstained.

REVIEW AND APPROVE CHECK WARRANTS

M. Kelley moved to approve AP 21231 in the amount of \$12,893.58 . P. Low seconded. All voted in favor.

M. Kelley moved to approve PR 30103 in the amount of \$13,977.68. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor.

M. Kelley moved to approve AP 21227 \$89,575.97. J. McNerney seconded. \$70,000 was dispersed to the Monkton Volunteer Fire Department. All voted in favor.

M. Kelley moved to approve AP 21228 in the amount of \$24,944.21. J. McNerney seconded. All voted in favor.

REVIEW AND APPROVE OVERWEIGHT PERMITS, ETC.

The following overweight permit was reviewed and approved:

Dutch Valley Transportation

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

NEW BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENTS - SELECTBOARD

S. Pilcher asked if W. Crandall had had a chance to look at the conflict of interest policy. He said this time of year is busy for the Select Board because they are

getting ready for town meeting. P. Low said a desire to help the community is a big part of the qualification for being a Select Board member. **J. McNerney moved to appoint Walter Crandall to the Select Board to fill the open seat. P. Low seconded. All voted in favor.**

ENERGY COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

no action taken

WATER SYSTEM OPERATOR

D. Butler spoke to the Select Board about her experience working for a non-profit and working with water system operators. She said there are some local contractors to work with. S. Pilcher said Otter Creek Engineering charges \$100/hour. There have been issues with coliform and shocking the well. There was discussion about the requirements for a public water system and UV treatment and a standby chlorination system. D. Butler offered to send a list of contractors.

2023 BUDGET

The town highway budget was discussed. There will be an article for a new truck. One penny on the tax rate equals about \$27,000 in town spending. There was discussion about payroll, grants, culverts, hot mix, water flow devices, and coding invoices. S. Lawrence is waiting for final numbers from FEMA. S. Pilcher thinks the highway fund is looking at a surplus.

The budget was discussed by line item. Judicial fines netted \$48,000 in 2022. There was discussion about increasing hourly pay. The new town hall is heated with electricity. There was discussion about the costs associated with the old town hall. At town meeting the voters will need to weigh in about keeping or selling the old town hall. The listers will take care of data entry/desk work. The appraising will be done by a NEMRC employee. There was discussion about property maintenance costs for the new town hall. Social services that the town funds were discussed. The fire department asked for \$98,200, including \$40,000 for the truck fund.

REVIEW DRAFT TOWN WARNING

no action taken

REVIEW DRAFT SELECT BOARD REPORT

no action taken

FACILITY USE REQUESTS

P. Low said there were 2 scheduled for March.

OLD BUSINESS:

SALVAGE YARDS IN MONKTON

no action taken

1859 TOWN HALL STATUS

no action taken

ARPA FUNDS STATUS / PROCESS

no action taken

OTHER BUSINESS:

none

On Tuesday, January 24, 2023, there will be an informational meeting on the UPD at 6:30pm and a hearing at 6:45pm. The times for these may be extended, if needed. This will be followed by a regular Select Board meeting.

M. Kelley moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:26pm. All voted in favor.

These minutes were respectfully submitted by Jessica Demeritt.