



MONTGOMERY
FOUNDED 1780

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION
Temporary Town Office (86 Mountain Road)
Monday, January 2nd 2016, 6:30pm

Selectboard members present: Charlie Hancock-chairman, Scott Perry-vice chair, Mark Brouillette, Sarah Silva, Colin Sorenson (conference call)

Visitors: Michael Snider, Sue Wilson, Wayne Hurtubise, Keith Sampietro

Clerk: Elizabeth Reighley

Charlie called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1. Review and make any changes to the agenda. Add to item: Employee Compensation under new business.

2. Review/approve minutes of the December 19th meeting. Scott motioned to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Mark by a 4-1 roll call vote of: Colin-yea, Mark-yea, Charlie-yea, Scott-yea, and Sarah-abstained

3. Public Works

a. Roads and Bridges

Grants: Carry over all*

Status Updates

Amended Paving Grant

Structures Grant for Route 58

Better Back Roads Bridge and Culvert Grant

USFS Culvert Grant for AOP design

Longley Bridge Update. Carry over

Fuller Bridge Repairs. Michael has setup bracing within the bridge to stabilize it for now as it is not ideal weather to be doing repairs and will commence with fixing the bridge come spring; in talking with the St Onges' they may need input from an engineer for some of the repairs.

Brady Road update. Carry over

Insurance for Covered Bridges. Carry over

b. Buildings and Grounds

PSB Alarm System; additional needs; update. Carry over

Generator at Elementary School (Water Plant, etc.) The board is waiting on an estimate for servicing the generators; Colin suggested implementing a system for operating the town generators in which selected personnel would be trained in how to use the systems to ensure that in any given emergency situation several citizens/or town employees could start generators if need be. Charlie suggested that Colin and Greg put together a list of people they both agree would be viable options for training to determine who should become a volunteer operator. Michael noted that within the PSB there were some electrical issues that Doug Kopacz found with the conduit to the building that has since been taken care of. Michael also noted that they will need to establish a plan for plowing turnarounds for the trucks that will work for both the road crew and homeowners.

c. 2017 Budget. Carry over

4. Visitors (7:00pm). Keith Sampietro was present to discuss his new role as the town Animal Control Officer which deals with all domesticated animals, rabies control, licensing, and strays. Discussion took place.

With the recent issues found with Liberty Propane delivery Sue Wilson suggested taking a look at our vendors and seeing if there was any consolidation that the town could do to ensure proper service as well as better pricing with local companies. Sue requested from the board an appropriation of no more than \$125.00 to have the wreath rack and cover made to ensure that the winter decorations for the town are not only properly stored but out of the way for the road crew as well. Scott motioned to make the appropriation for the wreath rack/cover at a cost not to exceed \$125.00, seconded by Sarah, and passed unanimously.

5. Water Commission Issues There are two water leaks, one at Comstock Bridge at the flushing hydrant which Kirk has repaired with the kit, and another leak on Black Falls that they need to look into.

6. Emergency Management: Hazard Mitigation Plan progress report (draft review). Charlie has not heard back from Shaun Coleman, he will reach out via email, to determine the current status of the Hazard Mitigation Plan and come back to the board with an update as soon as possible.

7. Town Office Needs; Main Street Repairs; Next Steps; Public Forum Prep. Charlie reminded board members of the upcoming public forums set for January 11th at 7pm & January 14th at 10am; both meetings will be held at the Public Safety Building conference room. Charlie will continue to work with the Fletcher selectboard chair to setup a meeting in the meantime.

8. Old Business

a. Stanion Court Case Status. Carry over.

b. Town Land Lease Agreement Renewal Decision. Wayne Hurtubise was present to discuss the town land lease. Colin suggested renewing the lease for only one year and working with the other boards in town to come up with a plan for another use on the town land; Mark noted that the reasoning behind offering leasing on a five year schedule was because of the way farming schedules involve extensive planning, soil preparation/management, and buying of seed etc., and that one year would not be feasible. Wayne cited that if the town was willing to renegotiate for five more years that he would be willing to try the soil injections as well as increase the acreage amount to \$70 per acre increasing his yearly lease to \$1,260.00 in addition to the recreational use such as x-country skiing, snowmobiling, dogsledding, public access he already provides to Montgomery residents on his land. Discussion ensued at length. Colin motioned to not renew the lease and place a one year moratorium on the land following a plan for new usage, discussion was had, motion failed. Board members agreed that more input should be had from conservation commission and planning committees to come up with a solid plan of action for the acreage for future usage. Mark motioned to renew the lease for five years at the increased rate of \$70.00 per acre provided that the Hurtubise use only injection for manure spreading on the leased land, totaling 18 acres of active use; the motion was seconded by Scott. The motion was passed 3-2 by a roll call vote of: Mark-yea, Sarah-nay, Charlie-yea, Scott-yea, and Colin-nay. Charlie suggested that in the meantime the board take this opportunity over the next few years to meet with other boards and have a solid plan ready to propose come the end of the next lease. *7:36 p.m. Colin lost contact with the board from conference call.

c. Dog Officer. *See above

9. New Business

a. Overweight Truck Permits: None

b. Liquor/Tobacco Licenses: None

c. Employee Compensation. Charlie motioned to enter into executive session at 7:55p.m citing state statute 1 V.S.A 313 Section A&B: Contracts/Labor relations agreements with employees, motion passed unanimously. Discussion took place. Board exited executive session at 8:05p.m. Charlie motioned to increase Michael Sniders salary by 2% effective the next pay period, seconded by Scott, and passed unanimously.

10. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters. All orders were signed at this time.

Charlie motioned to end the meeting, seconded by Scott. Board adjourned at 8:23p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Reighley