



MONTGOMERY
FOUNDED 1789

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION
Temporary Town Office (86 Mountain Road)
Monday, January 8th 2018 6:30pm
Unapproved

Selectboard members: Charlie Hancock-chair, Darren Drevik-vice chair, Mark Brouillette, Jacob Racusin

Visitors: Lynne Drevik, Larry Letourneau, Anita Woodward, Kevin Scheffler, Sue Wilson, Pat & Carol Farmer, Merle VanGiesen, Leanne Barnard, Kirk Patch, Morgan Daybell

Clerk: Elizabeth Reighley

Charlie called the meeting to order at 6:40pm

- 1. Review and make any changes to the agenda.** Under new business, discuss paperwork received on the Locher discontinuance request.
- 2. Review/approve minutes of the December 18th and December 21st Emeeting.** Jacob motioned to approve the minutes of the 18th as written, seconded by Darren and passed unanimously. Mark motioned to approve Emergency meeting minutes of the 21st seconded by Darren and passed 3-0-1 abstention.
- 3. Appointment to Selectboard Vacancy.** Colin emailed the selectboard a letter stating his resignation as a selectman for the Town. Mark motioned to accept Colin's letter of resignation seconded by Darren and passed unanimously. There is a vacancy to which a nominee could be appointed for the remainder of Colin's two year term which is up for re-election in March of 2018. Leanne Barnard stood before the board and visitors and indicated her interest in serving the community. Merle stated his interest in serving as well. Charlie gave each interested part a chance to speak and opened the floor for nominations. Darren moved to nominate Leanne Barnard, no other nominations were heard, and Leanne Barnard was appointed to fulfill the remainder of the vacant two-year term to expire in March 2018 by unanimous vote.

4. Public Works

a) Roads and Bridges

a. Grants: Status Updates:

- i. **Amended Paving Grant.** Charlie motioned to have Mark as Road Commissioner sign the State Standard Paving Grant Agreement, Darren seconded and the motion passed 4-0.
 - ii. **Structures Grant for Route 58**
 - iii. **Better [Back] Roads Bridge and Culvert Grant**
 - iv. **USFS Culvert Grant for AOP design**
 - v. **Municipal Grants in Aid Pilot Project**
 - vi. **SFY Transportation Alternatives**
- b. **Covered Bridge Ordinance.** Officially adopted. Charlie noted the board will have to revisit this ordinance to make an amendment for a clerical error. Charlie will prepare the amendment and notices posting.
- c. **Brady Road.** The budget committee is aware of the expense and will be budgeting for this repair.
- d. **Road Crew Training.** Grader training for the road crew is still planned for the spring; Mark will touch base with Jim and Michael about hosting one of the Orange Book VTrans discussions here in town.
- e. **Gravel (future needs, sourcing).** Charlie stated the town did receive a letter from Leach Family Inc stating that the business is going to be running as usual in the springtime. There are still long term issues regarding sourcing as gravel pits close and local road closures during the spring will restrict the town from accessing gravel from Berkshire so the board will keep this on the agenda for future research on how to solve the longer term needs.

b) Buildings and Grounds

- a. **Generators: Service Contract; Training.** Still waiting on a quote from Milton-Cat for services; Charlie is working on getting in touch with Doug Kopacz for municipal officials to learn how to operate the generator in cases of emergency, he noted it may be a good idea to wait until after town meeting for Emergency Management appointments before scheduling the training.

5. Visitors. Kevin scheffler, Morgan Daybell, and Lynne Drevik came to discuss the future of the Montgomery Rescue group. With recent changes in state law and several resignations from the Rescue team their recommendation is for the town to contract for full time coverage with either Enosburg or Richford; Montgomery would hopefully be able to work with the contracted town to remain as volunteer first responders. As first responders they could still respond to a local emergency to take vital signs/stop bleeding/administer CPR ect... until the other ambulatory

service reaches the scene. Discussion ensued. The board will look at proposals from both Enosburg and Richford and put on the agenda for the next meeting, Charlie suggested Morgan, Lynne, and or Kevin come to that meeting to look at the contract proposal as well as add certain language or items to the contract that may be helpful to them.

Merle questioned board members as to the rationale behind appointing Leanne as he felt his prior years of serving on town boards could have provided more experience to the board. Darren stated that the board was happy to have not only one but two people interested in the position and that either candidate would have made a great choice and not to take any offense that they selected Leanne.

6. Water Commission Issues

- a. **Ordinance Amendments.** The amendments to the water ordinance have been officially adopted
- b. **2018 Budget with Kirk Patch.** Kirk and board members reviewed the budget line items to garner an idea of what to budget for next year; equipment will need to be increased because of the leaks this past year. Upkeep of the pumpstations and sites need to be better maintained and some of the trim on the treatment building has some rot which could use some maintenance. Kirk queried whether the distribution maps for town could potentially be digitized or even have an engineer draw them again to ensure proper restorative care. Kirk cited that the state has mapping grants to help with costs associated with updating these maps. One hydrant off of 242 will need an extension which will need to be budgeted for this year. Charlie asked whether there were any major upgrades or changes that the budget committee should be looking at for future needs. Kirk suggested looking into how many times lines have been repaired over the years and consider which water lines may need full replacement in the future (at least 5-10 years down the road) he will plug in the numbers for the budget committee and be in touch. Charlie and Sue will work up an RFP to ask for quotes about doing all mowing and upkeep for the water department stations and look at whether it would be cost effective to contract with one company to do the whole town.

7. Old Business

- a. **Town Office Needs (pending FY18 municipal budget projections).** The board is currently waiting on final budget numbers to see what is available for funds, if any, to work on anything to do with the post office building.
- b. **Stanion Court Case Status.** Charlie Merriman is working up an agreement for both parties to sign before entering into any negotiations.
- c. **Vacant Building Ordinance proposal.** The board discussed reviewing the ordinance again, Charlie will email the draft back out to everyone to include Leanne. Member discussed making this an actionable item at Town Meeting as a

means of gaining more public feedback and potentially putting this to the voters for a floor vote. Review and discuss for the next board meeting.

- d. **Fire/EMS radios.** No new information
- e. **Proposed Amendments to Zoning Bylaws.** Charlie will reach out to the Planning Commission to clarify the status of the proposed amendments.

8. New Business

- a. **Town Report / Town Meeting Warning.** The board will need to start ironing out the rest of the articles and items necessary for the warning for Town Meeting and in the town report as February 2nd is the deadline for posting the warning. Charlie noted that they could hold a special selectboard meeting on January 29th in order to approve a final budget; town report preparation could include under ‘the state of the town’ information regarding the VCRD program. For the cover of the town report Carol McGregor was suggested by several people as a good candidate due to her services and dedication to the town during her life. The board discussed the publishing of the delinquent tax report in the town report, the need to publish such a list has been brought up recently, Darren suggested putting this as an article on the warning to ask the electorate to vote on whether to publish this in the town report. Sue suggested the board also consider, while on the topic of delinquencies, publishing the water as well. Charlie will add these items to the draft warning.
- b. **Overweight Truck Permits.** Mark motioned to approve the permit for Structural Wood Corp, seconded by Darren, the motion passed unanimously.
- c. **Liquor/Tobacco Licenses.** None.
- d. Board members discussed the paperwork received at the office regarding the Locher road discontinuance. He has spoken with Charlie Merriman, who is drafting a letter asking the court to dismiss, based on the lack of decision of TH27 as this was never brought to discussion because the highway the was request and talked about was TH33 in error.

9. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters. Mark motioned to sign and return the final inspection engineering report for the Longley Bridge, seconded by Leanne and the motion passed unanimously. 2018 Certificate of Mileage, needs to be amended because of the discontinuance of Neary Road, table until next meeting. Jacob motioned to accept BCN contract for a 36-month term at the reduced quotes for our long distance service contract, Leanne seconded and motion passed unanimously.

Mark motioned to enter in executive session to discuss personnel matters, Jacob seconded 7:45.
Mark motioned to come out of executive session at 8:51 seconded by Jacob.

All orders signed at this time.

Mark motioned to end the meeting, seconded by Jacob and the board adjourned at 9:06pm

NOTE: JANUARY MEETINGS of the SELECTBOARD are SCHEDULED for the 8th and
22nd

With likely a special meeting on Monday January 29th for Final Budget Approval

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Reighley