



MONTGOMERY
FOUNDED 1780
Town of Montgomery - P.O. Box 356
Montgomery Center, VT 05471
802-326-4719
www.montgomeryvt.us

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION

Town Office

Monday, March 7, 2016, 6:30 p.m.

Unapproved

Selectboard members present: Scott Perry-chair, Charlie Hancock, Mark Brouillette, Colin Sorenson, Sara Silva

Visitors: Lynda Cluba, Brent Godin, Sarita Khan, Deanna Robitaille, Michael Snider, Merle Van Giesen, James Walsh, Sue Wilson, Maryanne Wood

Clerk: Elizabeth Reighley

Scott Perry called the meeting to order at 6:35pm

1. **Review and make any changes to the agenda.** No changes made.

2. **Organize:**

a. Confirm oaths, review quorum requirements. Scott opened the floor by introducing the newest members of the board. Town Clerk Deanna Robitaille administered the oaths while Maryanne Wood, local correspondent for the St. Albans Messenger, took their photograph. Scott reviewed the quorum requirements.

b. Elect Board officers / Delegate Authority to sign orders away from the table. The board held nominations to elect two selectmen to act as officers. Sara nominated Colin. Charlie nominated Scott. Scott was elected by a vote of 3-2 to serve as Chair. Mark nominated Charlie. Sara nominated Colin. Charlie was elected by a vote of 3-2 to serve as Vice Chair. Mark motioned to authorize Chairman and Vice Chairman to sign orders away from the table, Charlie seconded. Motion passed by a vote of 4-0 with 1 abstention.

c. Adopt procedures / adopt Conflict of Interest / Conduct Policy. Scott distributed the code of conduct policies and procedures, adopted by the previous selectboard, for new members to review. It will be discussed acted upon at the next meeting.

d. Set Day/Time for Regular Meetings. Mark motioned to setup regular meetings on the first and third Monday of every month at 6:30pm at the town office. Charlie seconded and motioned passed unanimously.

e. Set places for physical posting. Colin motioned to post notices in previously used areas: Town Office, Public Safety Building, and the Village post office. He will also reach out to the school to inquire about posting notices there as well and follow up with the results at the next meeting. Charlie seconded, and the motion passed 5-0.

f. Designate Newspaper(s) of Record. Charlie motioned to use the County Courier, with the St. Albans as the alternate newspapers of record, for posting notices from the town as required by state statutes. Colin seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

h. Review Board procedures for communication, agendas/minutes. Scott gave a brief overview of the requirements for board members in regards to written communications via

agendas, minutes, emails, and other platforms such as social media.

i. Review Vermont Open Meeting law requirements. Discussion took place on open meeting laws. New members were provided with a pamphlet on the Open Meeting law.

j. Review additional duties and authorities. Discussion was had regarding duties for selectboard members, and additional roles they play within the town, such as acting Grand Jurors as well as the Board of Abatement/Board of Civil Authority.

k. Review/assign areas of interest/responsibility, projects. Board members were given outlines for areas of interest and responsibilities for the town, including any projects, for which they may opt to take charge of or assign as necessary. Carry over to next meeting.

l. Make appointments. The board discussed the appointed positions, whose terms are up, for other officers in the town. Colin motioned to defer appointing town officers until the next meeting to allow newly elected members the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the appointed positions. Sara seconded and the motion carried 4-1.

3. Review/approve minutes of Feb 15 and Feb 19, 2016. Mark motioned to approve the meeting minutes of February 15th and 19th as written. Motion was passed by a vote of 2-0 with 3 abstaining due to the new members.

4. Public Works (Roads and Bridges, Buildings and Grounds).

a. Amended Paving Grant application and New Structures Grant Application. Hydraulic Studies request status. Crack sealing. Michael briefed the board on the amendments to the grants for paving and the hydraulic request, further discussion ensued.

b. Longley Bridge Project Update. Scott summarized the project for the new members and the board discussed the needs of the temporary bridges and culverts in areas of the town.

c. Equipment and Personnel report. Advertise new hire. The board talked about the vacancy in the highway department and need to hire a new full-time driver. Michael reviewed the replacement of equipment regarding the new trucks. Mark motioned to authorize Michael to purchase a new Ford 550 truck using the Machinery Replacement fund and the trade in value of the small truck, at a figure not to exceed \$70,000. Charlie seconded and the motion passed 5-0. Mark motioned to authorize the town Treasurer to proceed with loan process to obtain financing for the purchase of a 10-wheel truck, replacing the International 2009. Charlie seconded this motion and it was passed by a vote of 4-0- with 1 abstention.

d. Buildings / grounds report. Scott gave a short summary for the new members regarding the visit from VOSHA at the town office and the resulting recommendations. Three electrical items required immediate repair, pending violation, in order to remain compliant with building regulations. Charlie motioned to authorize Scott to sign/execute a letter to VOSHA away from the table attesting to the completion of those repairs. Mark seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Mark motioned to sign the annual Town Highway (TA-60) Financial Plan, Charlie seconded, and motion was passed by a vote of 3-0- with 2 abstentions.

5. 7:00 Visitors: Comments were taken from residents at this time.

6. Water Commission Issues:

a. Meter Reader System Update. Mark discussed the use of the new meter reader, citing that he plans to contact tech support and take readings one week prior to regular dates to ensure that the system is working properly.

b. Sanitary Inspection report formal response. The board discussed the inspection as well as the systems set in place for sampling to ensure town water is safe. Scott reviewed the role the selectboard has had in acting as the water commission in past years.

c. Review SOS contract. The board discussed the SOS contract for the town. The process for a new contract will begin in June or July. The current contract expires in October.

7. Old Business:

a. Hectorville Bridge Project update. Discussion was had regarding the Bridge Project. It was noted that the scoping study is now completed.

b. Town Office and New Town Office aftermath. Post Office lease. Scott went over the town meeting aftermath, noting that the Zoning Bylaws passed, while the Town Office Bond failed by two votes. Colin expressed concerns that the timing of the various bond votes violated State law. Charlie had checked with the Secretary of State's office and indicated this was not the case. Scott indicated a voter petition could result in a reconsideration vote; a voter petition to that effect, received within 30 days of Town Meeting, would require a vote within 60 days of receiving said petition. Scott polled the group on their feelings. The consensus was that a reconsideration vote would be too soon for the town.

c. Stanion Fence court case status. No change in the status of the court case. Discussion on the case took place to bring new members up to speed.

8. New Business:

a. Overweight Truck Permits: United Natural Foods, Pike Industries, Jack F. Corse, Norman Snider, John French & Sons Trucking, & Camp Precast Concrete Products Inc. Mark made the motion to approve/sign the overweight permits. Charlie seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Liquor/Tobacco Licenses: The Belfry. Mark motioned to approve/sign the license for the Belfry, Charlie seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

c. Village Dog Complaint. The current issues regarding a village dog complaint were considered and discussed.

d. Atlas Timberlands sale. Charlie gave a brief statement about Atlas Timberlands and the impending sale of land. He recommended inviting the VT Land trust to a board meeting to gather further insight into the Timberland sale that may be helpful for the town.

9. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters (e.g. Next meeting agenda, schedule). All orders were signed at this time.

10. Adjourn. Colin motioned to end the meeting, this was seconded by Sara. Meeting adjourned at 9:50pm

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Reighley