



**MONTGOMERY**  
FOUNDED 1780

**Town of Montgomery - P.O. Box 356**  
**Montgomery Center, VT 05471**  
**802-326-4719**  
**[www.montgomeryvt.us](http://www.montgomeryvt.us)**

REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION  
Temporary Town Office (86 Mountain Road)  
Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017, 6:30pm  
Unapproved

Selectboard members present: Charlie Hancock-Chair, Darren Drevik-vice chair, Mark Brouillette, Colin Sorenson, Jacob Racusin

Visitors: Sue Wilson, Barry Kade, Marijke Dollois  
Clerk: Elizabeth Reighley

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

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

**2. Review/approve minutes of the March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.** Colin noted that a change should be made to Item 11a to read *Colin suggested investigating just shingle roofing; Charlie will get back to the board with updated quotes.* Darren motioned to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Jacob, and passed unanimously.

**3. Public Works**

**a) Roads and Bridges**

**a. Grants: Status Updates:** \*Mark briefly summarized the various grants the town is invested in for Road/Bridges and the differing stages they are currently in for new board members.

**i. Amended Paving Grant\***

**ii. Structures Grant for Route 58\***

**iii. Better Back Roads Bridge and Culvert Grant\***

**iv. USFS Culvert Grant for AOP design\***

**b. Longley Bridge Update:**

**i. Easement.** Charlie will be in touch with VTrans/Hoyle Tanner to update the survey/site engineering for the projected work on the Longley Bridge in order to have a Mylar drawn up for official recording with the town office. Charlie will also be in touch with

the Longley's to discuss final details of the easement and continue to coordinate with the town's attorney.

- c. **Fuller Bridge Repairs.** Carry over
- d. **Brady Road.** Carry over
- e. **Insurance for Covered Bridges.** Carry over

**b) Buildings and Grounds**

- a. **Generators.** Charlie indicated the transfer switch for the generator at the school needs to be serviced for safety reasons prior to any testing. He will get back to the board about scheduling the maintenance of the transfer switch and the setup for the eventual test which will need to take place when school is not in session.

**Costs for Fuel: Blouin Contract.** Mark motioned to authorize Charlie to contact Blouin Brothers Oil and move forward with executing a town contract with dates amended to reflect actual beginning date of services. Charlie will sign away from the table. This was seconded by Darren and approved 5-0. Charlie will be in touch with Liberty Propane to terminate existing services and coordinate retrieving fuel.

4. Visitors (7:00pm). Sue Wilson wondered about the town getting new customers for Blouins and the potential of getting a price decrease. The board agreed that it would not be a good idea for potential legal reasons for the town to get involved in pledging to help a privatized company acquire new customers through solicitation. Barry Kade stated to the board his plan to contact Vermont legislature to discuss potential changes in open meeting law, specifically regarding electronic communications between town boards. Discussion took place. Charlie motioned to authorize Barry, on behalf of the town, to contact the legislature to ask them to clarify state statute 1 V.S.A § 310:

(1) "Deliberations" means weighing, examining, and discussing the reasons for and against an act or decision, but expressly excludes the taking of evidence and the arguments of parties. (2) "Meeting" means a gathering of a quorum of the members of a public body for the purpose of discussing the business of the public body or for the purpose of taking action. "Meeting" shall not mean written correspondence or an electronic communication, including e-mail, telephone, or teleconferencing, between members of a public body for the purpose of scheduling a meeting, organizing an agenda, or distributing materials to discuss at a meeting, provided that such a written correspondence or such an electronic communication that results in written or recorded information shall be available for inspection and copying under the Public Records Act as set forth in chapter 5, subchapter 3 of this title.

This was seconded by Jacob and passed unanimously.

**5. Water Commission Issues**

- a. **Water Plan Automation quote.** Board members reviewed the Water Automation quote. All agreed they would need a breakdown of the quote to answer some of the questions they have regarding software/hardware installation and annual fees.

Charlie will reach out to Kirk and go over the quote in detail and get back to the board.

## 6. Old Business

### a. Final Appointments (carried over from March 20<sup>th</sup>)

- i. **NW Solid Waste District Rep.** Barry Kade was nominated by Jacob and he was appointed to a three year term.
- ii. **Rep to MRBA Wild and Scenic.** Keith is unable to fulfill the representative position at this time, the board agreed to reach out to see if others are interested. Carry over.
- iii. **Zoning Administrator.** Carry over until the Planning Commission has given recommendation.

- ### b. Changes in Workman's Compensation—designation of individuals (Independent Contractors vs. Employees).
- Darren indicated that upon speaking with Deanna and in light of new information from VLCT regarding the workman's comp there is essentially no savings in switching independent contractors without insurance over to payroll. The board agreed that no action was necessary at this time. Mark motioned to authorize Charlie to sign a special warrant to pay Joey Buttendorf, since she will not be changed to payroll, away from the table. This was seconded by Darren and passed unanimously.

### c. Town Office Needs; Main Street Office Repairs; Next Steps

- i. **Process; Feasibility Assessment Quotes.** Charlie reviewed the changes in the plan to safe house the town records in light of pod storage not being sufficiently available. The town will look into purchasing several gun safes capable of providing adequate fire protection. The board went over the feasibility quotes and Marijke requested, on behalf of the Library Board, that should the board decide to pursue a study of expansion of the PSB that they also look at what the cost would be to potentially expand the library footprint as well. Colin mentioned that they should also consider what changes will need to be made to the parking lot area in lieu of the library request and the potential changes that would make to an addition to the building. Jacob cited that he had some concerns about whether the town needs to reevaluate the stage of this process as there is still many that do not agree on a new town office/space/future needs. His suggestion was to look into revamping the boards' strategy for finding solutions and to include greater opportunity for public input and involvement in the process. Rather than spend money on more feasibility study at this time he suggested the board first work to reunite the community and gain common ground with more information and garner greater consensus on a solution addressing the needs of the community, including, but not necessarily limited to, increased vault space. Jacob outlined the potential for

chartering a new committee charged with both rebuilding trust and clarity within the community while also vetting potential solutions. Charlie requested Jacob bring some material to the next meeting outlining the framework discussed so they can work towards a proposal. Further discussion took place. Senator Sanders' office has indicated that the board will need to sign a privacy release to allow them to work with their liaison to the USPS on the town proposal re: consolidation and renovation. Mark motioned to sign the privacy release for the town to correspond with Senator Sanders' offices, seconded by Darren and passed unanimously.

- ii. **Town Office Roof.** The board reviewed the updated roofing quotes citing that despite the uncertainty of the future of the building, as owners of this asset and as lessors to the USPS, they still need to replace the failing roof to protect the building from further deterioration and all for continued USPS function. Board members agreed that once work ensues on the roof there may be some public interest in what is happening with the building and where it stands in the larger picture in town. Colin suggested the town hold a duly warned Special Town Meeting to discuss with the public the work happening at the post office site and provide information on the process unfolding (outlined above, section i). It was also suggested that the outreach plan evolving would address this need. Discussion ensued. There was not consensus of the need for a Special Town Meeting at this time. Darren motioned to accept the quote from R&A Roofing and replace the post office roof, seconded by Mark and passed unanimously. The board agreed that a statement put on the website regarding the roofing work and movement on evolving plans would help address curiosity/concern. Mark motioned that Charlie put together the draft for the website, seconded by Darren and passed unanimously.

d. **Balloting Initiatives.** Carry over

e. **Emergency Management: Hazard Mitigation Plan progress report.** The town needs to put the approved Local Emergency Operations Plan up on the town website. The Hazard mitigation plan is still under the FEMA approval process. Carry over.

f. **Stanion Court Case Status.** Carry over

## 7. New Business

- a. **Overweight Truck Permits.** Mark motioned to approve the following overweight truck permits, seconded by Darren, and passed 5-0:

1. Ernest Krusch, GW Tatro, Vaillancourt Transport, Kennedy Excavation, Norman Snider, Rodem Inc Dba Drummac Septic, Sticks & Stuff.

**b. Liquor/Tobacco Licenses.** None

**c. Economic Development—Future Efforts.** Carry over

**d. ‘Go To Meeting’ Electronic Participation at Open Meetings.** Colin reviewed for the board the ‘Go to Meeting’ software that the town could look into getting to resolve issues with calling in on the phone. Currently only two lines can be used if board members are unable to attend a meeting and often it is hard for both the public and other board members to hear the caller via conference call. He outlined how the online system works and some of the potential benefits with electronic attendance as well as the potential to increase participation towards the public. Members agreed they should gather more information on the subject and bring back to the next meeting.

**8. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters.** All orders signed at this time. Charlie noted that for upcoming agenda topics the board will want to begin looking into cemetery consolidation, tax collection dates, second quarter budget reviews, and discuss the town newsletter idea that was brought up to the board.

Jacob motioned to end the meeting, seconded by Colin, and the board adjourned at 8:37p.m

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Reighley