



MONTGOMERY
FOUNDED 1789

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION
Temporary Town Office (86 Mountain Road)
Monday, May 1st 2017, 6:30pm
UNAPPROVED

Selectboard members present: Charlie Hancock-chair, Darren Drevik-vice chair, Mark Brouillette, Colin Sorenson, Jacob Racusin (via conference call)

Visitors: Gabrielle Marquette, Michael Snider, Deanna Robitaille, Alissa Hardy, Joe Sherman, Tim Smith

Clerk: Elizabeth Reighley

Charlie called the meeting to order at 6:34pm

1. Review and make any changes to the agenda. Under Water Commission add item C ‘Request for water bill abatement’.

2. Review/approve minutes of the April 17th meeting. Mark motioned to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Darren and passed 4-0-1 by a roll call vote of: Jacob-yea, Mark-yea, Darren-yea, Colin-abstained, Charlie-yea

3. Public Works

a) Roads and Bridges

a. **Grants: Status Updates:** No updates on the grants

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 is still waiting to hear back from VTrans with the survey.

- c. **Fuller Bridge Repairs.** Vehicle damage continues to happen at Fuller Bridge due to larger sized trucks not abiding by signage and attempting to cross the bridge. Board members discussed ways to mitigate further damage. Darren will look into what it might cost to put up a camera at the bridge, giving the town the potential for legal recourse if need be.
- d. **Brady Road.** Michael, public works director, is still monitoring the culvert.
- e. **Insurance for Covered Bridges.** Carry over.

Mark will schedule a meeting with Bethany Remmers regarding bridges/deck replacement needs on Bridges 19, 20; Rt. 118. Mark and Michael recapped the meeting they attended regarding the clean water act; there may be new fees that the town will have to budget for in 2018. Michael stated to the board his concerns with a local resident that has been causing some issues with the road crew, the water department has also reported similar problems, as well as the town clerk's office; despite attempts to discuss in reasonable manner the actions have only gotten worse and could even pose a safety hazard when the crew is out grading/working on the roads. The board advised that he keep record of all the interactions, keep in touch with Brent, and if things continue to get out of hand they may need to call the state police and file a report. Colin volunteered to follow-up with the resident. Michael noted that he cannot send Larry and Mark to grading school yet as there is an OSHA 10 course that is a prerequisite.

Buildings and Grounds

- a. **Generators.** Carry over
- b) **Transition to Blouin Contract.** The transition is underway, we are waiting for tanks to be drawn down before Blouin can begin delivery. Charlie will be in touch with Liberty to discuss final billing.

4. Visitors (7:00pm) Gabrielle Marquette came to discuss what options they have for any help regarding class 4 road and culvert replacement on West Hill Extension; Discussion about policy on class 4 roads took place. In the past the only extra help the town has provided for a class 4 road was providing a culvert, but residents still had to pay to install it. Gabrielle will be in touch with Mark and Michael to discuss further. Colin suggested reaching out to the four wheeler groups that frequent the road and ask donations towards road maintenance in order to have continued access. Further discussion took place.

Joe Sherman and Alissa Hardy came on behalf of the Planning Commission to discuss what alternative energy options, projects, programs, and topics of interest the board wants the planning commission to pursue. Joe cited there are possibilities for alternative wastewater projects such as disposal fields that would serve as a common leach field; they have discussed creating a series of walking paths in own such as what other towns have implemented; Incentives for new business owners, renewable energy, and options for public infrastructure development. Discussion ensued. Colin suggested the planning commission look into the PACE program as a

starting point on renewable energy topic. Board members agreed that these were all topics of interest that the board supports and agrees should be investigated further by the commission.

Tim Smith, Executive Director for Franklin County Industrial Development Corp introduced himself to board members and state that he came to talk about county levels items in Franklin and some of the major jobs happening in the local areas. Discussion was had.

5. **Water Commission Issues:** Carry over to meeting at the Water Plant*.

a. **Water Plan Automation quote ***

b. **Source Water Protection Plan***

- c. **Request for abatement.** The board reviewed the written request for a water bill charge due to a meter leak caused by frozen pipes in a vacant home that resulted in an overage. Mark motioned to deny the abatement, Darren seconded the motion passed 4-1 by a roll call vote of: Jacob-yea, Darren-yea, Mark-yea, Colin-nay, Charlie-yea.

6. **Old Business**

a. **Final Appointments**

- i. **Zoning Administrator.** Carry over pending Planning Commission recommendation.
- ii. **Rep to Wild and Scenic.** Darren will talk to Stacy Manosh to see if she wants to fulfill the role as the secondary representative.

- b. **Town Office Needs; Main Street Office Repairs; Next Steps.** Deanna discussed with board members the recommendations she received for gun safe storage and that should the offices purchase them for use in housing the records safely that they must be able to withstand more than a half hour of fire resistance. Charlie asked that she create a detailed memo for the board with purchase prices, quantity of safes, cost estimates for building shelves in the safes, and information of warranty transfer. Deanna will create a proposal for the board at the next meeting. Jacob has been in touch with the VT Council of Rural Development and they have been scheduled to meet with the selectboard for June 19th to share in preliminary discussions with the board about how they can help with community engagement, identifying community goals, and sorting priorities. Charlie stated that they should set up some time to prep questions and thoughts for the upcoming meeting and if possible get some feedback and questions from community members to bring to that meeting. Jacob has also been in touch with design professionals to get a sense of how they would approach the situation in town. Discussion was had at length.

- c. **Balloting Initiatives.** Carry over

- d. **Emergency Management: Hazard Mitigation Plan progress report / Adoption of LEOP.** Mark motioned to adopt the LEOP for Town of Montgomery, Darren seconded and the motion carried 5-0. Hazard mitigation is still with FEMA.
- e. **Stanion Court Case Status.** Carry over
- f. **Options for Electronic Participation at Open Meetings.** Board members talked about investigating better technology/hardware options for the purposes are calling in to meetings. Mark motioned to authorize Darren to purchase a speaker phone system, at a price not to exceed \$300, seconded by Colin and the motion passed unanimously.
- g. **Posting Locations (Elementary School addition).** Colin brought to board the pricing for a bulletin case to mount to the school entrance. Darren motioned to authorize Colin to spend up to \$250 and coordinate the installation with Sandy Alexander. This was seconded by Mark and passed unanimously; Charlie will reach out to all other boards to see how they feel about making it a mandatory posting site.
- h. **Follow up on Dog Complaint.** Darren reviewed for board members the results of the dog hearing. The dog is in the custody of the dog officer and he is looking into re-homing options for the dog.

7. New Business

- a. **Overweight Truck Permits: Paul Sylvester Sr.** Mark motioned to approve and sign seconded by Darren the motion passed unanimously.
- b. **Liquor/Tobacco Licenses: Lantern Holding LLC** Mark motioned to approve and sign seconded by Jacob. Motion passed 3-0-2 by roll call vote of: Charlie-yea, Mark-yea, Jacob-yea, Colin abstained, Darren abstained.
- c. **First Quarter Budget Review.** Board reviewed budget status together with Deanna, town treasurer, and the director of public works.
- d. **Economic Development—Future Efforts.** Darren spoke with business owners up and down main street about how to improve the economy and what they feel the town needs; Darren presented the board with a drafted strategy for the town to move forward with economic development including, but not limited to, street scaping, adopting ordinances about abandoned/vacant buildings, and grant

funding for residential and business front improvements. Discussion was had, joined by Tim Smith.

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

Motion to adjourn by Mark seconded by Colin and the meeting was ended at 9:18pm

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Reighley