



MONTGOMERY
FOUNDED 1789

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION
Montgomery Water Plant (*note special location*)
Monday, May 15th 2017, 6:30pm
Unapproved

Selectboard members present: Charlie Hancock-Chair, Mark Brouillette, Colin Sorenson, Jacob Racusin

Visitors: Sue Wilson, Lindsey Wight, Ross Dunham, Kirk Patch, Lydia Menendez

Clerk: Elizabeth Reighley

Charlie called the meeting to order at 6:38

1. Review and make any changes to the agenda. None.

2. Review/approve minutes of the April 24th and May 1st meeting: Mark motioned to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Colin and passed unanimously.

3. Public Works

a) Roads and Bridges

a. Grants: Status Updates:

i. Amended Paving Grant. Carry over.

ii. Structures Grant for Route 58. Carry over.

iii. Better Back Roads Bridge and Culvert Grant. Has been signed and submitted, Mark will be in touch with Deanna to get the insurance certificate submitted.

iv. USFS Culvert Grant for AOP design. Carry over

b. Longley Bridge Update

i. Easement- Charlie is still waiting for the drafted Mylar.

c. Fuller Bridge Repairs- Carry over

d. Brady Road. Carry over.

e. Insurance for Covered Bridges. Sue Wilson volunteered to investigate this topic and will reconnect with Deanna and Charlie to discuss details.

b) Buildings and Grounds

a. Generators. The town will need to plan a service date for testing the transfer switch, Charlie will follow up with Doug Kopacz.

- c) **Transition to Blouin.** Charlie reviewed the status of the transition, he has called Liberty and placed all town accounts on will-call. He summarized the reduction in invoice costs that were inflated due to a contract expiration that was never sent to the town for renewal. Blouin Bros. should be monitoring tanks then when they have reached a specific level they can take over.

4. Visitors (7:00pm)

MRBA/VT River Conservancy.

Lindsey Wight (Missisquoi River Basin Association) and Lydia Menendez (Vermont River Conservancy) introduced themselves to board members. Lydia gave a brief statement about her work with VRC, which is a statewide non-profit organization that protects land access along river corridors and flood plain. Their main focus is to protect public access all Vermont rivers for fishing, swimming holes, waterfalls, trails, and paddling pond areas. They also work with landowners to help keep flood plains open and allow river corridors to adjust naturally. Lydia stated her main goal with visiting Montgomery was discuss protection of swimming hole accesses; more specifically: how to mitigate problems with access challenges, grant funding, proper signage, community engagement, and helping landowners with trespass issues. Board members suggested starting with River Walk first to see how addressing these issues works and if there is a positive outcome then engage further with the VRC and landowners on the smaller swimming holes to create a positive outcome for both the public and the property owners. Charlie suggested that the VRC and MRBA should also reach out to the Recreation Board or attend an upcoming meeting with them to discuss these ideas. Lydia will mock-up a design for signage at River Walk with Lindsey stepping in as her local contact and get back to the board. Lindsey discussed water testing of the local swimming holes with the board. She will reach out to either Mark or Jacob to schedule sampling for the swimming holes for E Coli testing and coordinate delivery to the lab.

Sue Wilson had some questions regarding the McLawn contract which is now owned by Mountain Roots Property Care. She requested the property maintenance for the town be put out to bid to other local mowing companies as the bill from the new company doubled from what the town paid last year for mowing. She volunteered to work with Michael, Director of Public Works, to put together letters to send each company with a request for a bid. Board members agreed and will follow up with Sue and Michael for the next meeting.

5. Water Commission Issues

- a. **Water Plan Automation quote.** Kirk stated that the dialer at the water plant currently is only able to send error signals to the water operators regardless of what the malfunction may be thus if there is not an actual emergency they do not know this until they get to the plant. Kirk has looked into getting a new system that would allow the operators to login remotely through cellular phones that would replace the dialing system; this would trend data, allow monitoring, and troubleshooting offsite. This will save on emergency service calls and allow them to distinguish between actual emergency versus regular maintenance calls. The program provides monthly run time sheets and tabulates info about the system that allows for dissemination of more information. The initial cost would be \$8000.00 which includes hardware, installation, service upgrades, tech support, as well as the first year of service. After installation the annual cost would be \$568.00 or there is a three year option at a discounted price. Town officers could have access as well for monitoring and data analysis. Mark motioned to authorize the water plant automation upgrade not to exceed \$8000.00 to include installation/hardware and first year cost, seconded by Jacob

and passed unanimously. The board will remove the current phone/dsl lines that are unused. Kirk will get back to the board with contract proposal. Jacob requested that they submit monthly reports from the new system directly to the board.

- b. Source Water Protection Plan.** Board reviewed the changes and updates to the source water protection plan, this must be submitted by June 1st; system information remains the same, it is merely an update for any landowners that have changed. Charlie indicated he will leave this item on the agenda to allow board members more time to review the plan in case of any amendments. Mark motioned to approve and submit the source water protection plan Jacob seconded and motion passed 3-0-1 abstention
- c. Waterline Leaks.** SOS reviewed with the board members some issues they found with a few pipes that were showing corrosion which resulted in leaks. Service line repairs in some areas of the water system have occurred twice. Kirk suggested the town may need to look into having SOS replace some of the piping with PVC which is less susceptible to freezing it expands and contracts with usage. Charlie asked about cost estimates Kirk will obtain estimates for the board. The Town will need to change the water ordinance to include verbiage to allow PVC piping.
- d. Dig Safe Membership.** Now offers a notification program for free; anytime someone is digging in town they have to call Dig Safe which, with this new membership, would then notify Water Operators. Kirk will be in touch.
- e.** Town will need to put a curb stop in for a new service line as a resident is planning to build a house. Mark will be in touch with Kirk and Ross to discuss.

6. Old Business

- a. Final Appointments**
 - i. Zoning Administrator.** Planning Commission has not met yet to discuss candidates. Carry over.
 - ii. Rep to Wild and Scenic.** Carry over.
- b. Town Office Needs; Main Street Office Repairs; Next Steps with Community Engagement.** Charlie passed out quotes for gun safes for vault storage. The board discussed preparations for the meeting June 19th with VCRD. They discussed what goals and objectives should be brought up for discussion and who else should be involved at the meeting. The primary focus being that they work on creating a strategic process to begin community building. Discussion took place. Jacob will draft for next meeting some focus questions and goals for the meeting and will put together a small quip for the newsletter.
- c. Balloting Initiatives.** Carry over
- d. Final Adoption of Emergency Management: Hazard Mitigation Plan.** Mark motioned to formally adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan and authorize Charlie to sign away from the table, Colin seconded and this passed unanimously.

- e. **Stanion Court Case Status.** Final briefs have been filed and the town is waiting for the Judge to make the decision.
- f. **Options for Electronic Participation at Open Meetings.** Carry over.
- g. **Posting Locations (Elementary School addition).** Colin will coordinate with Deanna to order the bulletin board for the school for posting.
- h. **Economic Development—Future Efforts.** Carry over.

7. New Business

- a. **Overweight Truck Permits.** Mark motioned to approve and sign the overweight truck permits for David Record and Gaylord West, Jacob seconded and the motion passed 4-0.
- b. **Liquor/Tobacco Licenses.** None

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

9. Review Action Items for Board Members. Colin followed up with the resident in town that had been having some issues with the town road crew, water department, and town offices and no further action is needed at this time.

Motion to adjourn by Jacob, seconded by Mark, and the meeting ended at 8:58pm

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Reighley