



MONTGOMERY
FOUNDED 1789

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION
Temporary Town Office (86 Mountain Road)
Monday, July 17th 2017, 6:30pm
Unapproved

Selectboard members: Charlie Hancock-chair, Darren Drevik-vice chair, Mark Brouillette (arrived at 6:45), Jacob Racusin, Colin Sorensen

Visitors: Anita Woodward, Larry Letourneau, Sue Wilson, Parma Jewett, Lynda Cluba, Merle VanGieson, Christina Bilodeau

Clerk: Elizabeth Reighley

6:34 Charlie called the meeting to order

1. Review and make any changes to the agenda. No change.

2. Review/approve minutes of the July 3rd meeting & July 10th Special Meeting. Darren motioned to approve the July 3rd minutes as written, Mark seconded, and they were approved 3-0-2 abstentions. Mark motioned to approve the Special Meeting minutes of July 10th as written, seconded by Darren, and they were approved 3-0-2 abstentions.

3. Public Works

a) Roads and Bridges

a. Grants: Status Updates:

- i. **Amended Paving Grant.** Mark has not heard back from Jim Cota re: initial invoice.
- ii. **Structures Grant for Route 58.** Carry over
- iii. **Better Back Roads Bridge and Culvert Grant.** Carry over
- iv. **USFS Culvert Grant for AOP design.** Carry over
- v. **Grants in Aid Pilot Project.** Application for intent to participate has been submitted.

b. Longley Bridge Update

- i. **Easement.** Mr. Merriman, town attorney, has the documents for the easement, Charlie will be in touch.

- ii. **Roof Color.** Forest green was selected for the Longley Bridge roof.
 - c. **Fuller Bridge Repairs**
 - i. **Monitoring.** Board members agreed that prior to any monitoring taking place they should have the ordinance in place first.
 - ii. **Define Fine Structure for Damage.** Charlie will be in touch with Mr Merriman regarding any legal concerns with the draft ordinance.
 - d. **Brady Road; Cote Road bridge/culvert needs.** Michael met with Chris Brunell who has stated that in an emergency situation, i.e. culverts failing, the town can legally do bridge work during the late fall even after the restriction period. Michael is still waiting to hear about a quote from St Onge regarding temporary bridges.
 - e. **Insurance for Covered Bridges.** Carry over
- b) **Buildings and Grounds**
 - a. **Generators.** Carry over
 - b. **Monitoring Contract.** The town currently contracts with Sunray Fire & Security for building monitoring. Doug Kopacz, of Summer Electric, will provide the town a quote for the same monitoring services which may prove to be more beneficial as he is not only able provide the same services but also a local which will expedite response time to emergency situations versus the many channels Sunray has to go through to make contact. Charlie will ask Doug about the School and garage as well.

4. Visitors

Development Review Board. DRB members came before the board to request a one time waiver of a building permit fee, due to an administrative error from a previous Zoning Administrator, following the denial of the original building permit that has since been granted a Conditional Use at a subsequent DRB hearing. The prior application and permit fees have already been paid by the landowners and members of the DRB felt, given that the situation arose from an administrative error, it was redundant to require the fee again. Darren motioned to approve the DRB request for a one time waiver of the building permit fee, seconded by Colin, and the motion passed unanimously.

Christina Bilodeau re: Zoning Admin Position. Christina came before the board to request an hourly rate increase for the Zoning Administrator position from \$15.00 to \$18.00 as she has held this office once before in previous years and the pay rate she ended with has not seen an increase since 2012. Mark motioned to increase the Zoning Administrator's hourly rate from \$15.00 to \$18.00 per hour, Jacob seconded the motion, and this passed 4-1. Darren clarified for other board members his position on this vote was not in favor only due to the fact that the Planning Commission did not make the board aware of Christina's intent to ask for the increase when they first provided their recommendation.

Merle inquired about the roads and the grading operations. Discussion took place regarding the continued need to work on increasing training efforts for road maintenance (which are underway) and working around the difficulties surrounding weather restrictions and changing conditions of increased traffic.

5. Water Commission Issues

- a. **Ordinance Review re: materials.** Darren brought up the delinquent water accounts,

stating there are two account that are currently vacant and have been delinquent for a number of years. He feels that it is necessary for the board to investigate placing these delinquencies possibly with Anita Woodward Delinquent Tax Collector, or another person charged with fee collection, and place put liens on the two properties to ensure that the town is paid prior to any case of tax sale or purchase. Discussion was had regarding delinquencies as well as other properties that have water hookups that are no longer in use. Mark suggested we call Richford and see how they handle the lien process and reach out to Charlie Merriman to discuss legality of collections prior to the sale of property. Discussion was had regarding permanent disconnects from the water system and the need to possibly revise the water ordinance to include exact language about the removal of users from the water system. This would relate only to situations where dwellings have been completely removed/torn down and there is no way of reconstructing a building now or in the future that could be hooked back up to the system.

Charlie suggested edits to the ordinance to include changing the restrictions on material used for water pipes, however he withdrew his amendment until exact language could be defined and submitted by SOS for the board to review. Charlie stated that the radio unit on Regan Rd needs to be replaced, it will cost around \$1500.00 to replace. Mark motioned to approved Kirk Patch, SOS, to replace the radio control unit tank on Regan Rd at a cost not to exceed \$1700.00 for purchase and installation, Jacob seconded and motion passed 5-0.

6. Old Business

- a. **Town Office Needs.** Charlie asked the board if they felt that there was an immediate need to take action between now and when the potential Community Visit program could begin. Discussion took place. Sue asked about the Post Office, Charlie has not heard back from the US Postal Service or Sen. Sanders office. Mark suggested the board may need to revisit the quotes from Freeman, French, & Freeman to obtain feasibility studies on how much it would cost for a town office addition versus a new building in order to have these estimates at the table for Community Visits versus waiting until the program potentially begins. Jacob posed that it may be detrimental spending more money on feasibility studies prior to the program because this could become even more confusing and overwhelming if there are too many aspects for the public to focus on. In depth discussion continued. Jacob will keep in contact with VCRD to find out if there is any footwork that can be done in the interim. Charlie will do a budget review to look at where funds are at in order continue some remediation efforts such as removal of carpets or even drywall at the old office so as to not let the building further deteriorate.
- b. **VCRD Community Visits Program (pending announcement Fall 2017) / Economic Development—Future Efforts.** Carry over
- c. **Stanion Court Case Status.** Carry over
- d. **Sorensen Insurance Claim.** Carry over
- e. **Posting Locations (Elementary School addition).** Darren motioned to approve Colin to purchase the original tack board at a price not to exceed \$400.00, seconded by Jacob,

approved unanimously. Discussion was had. Colin motioned to rescind the previous motion to expend money on a tack board for posting at the Elementary School, Mark seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

- f. **Vacant Building Ordinance proposal.** Darren is still working on editing this and will get back to the board with revisions.

7. New Business

- a. **Proposed Pit Bull Ordinance Repeal.** Board members reviewed the Pit Bull Ordinance that was adopted by a previous installment of the selectboard in 1988. Mark motioned to repeal the Pit Bull Ordinance in its' entirety, seconded by Jacob, and the motioned passed 5-0.
- b. **Town Radio System.** Darren cited there have been issues with the Radio Systems within the town with Fire/Rescue regarding static noise and clicking. It is causing issues with responders being unable to hear calls properly and having troubles communicating with dispatch. Darren has not heard back from Kevin on the status of the repeater and whether that was causing the static issues. Darren will be in touch with Kevin.
- c. **Overweight Truck Permits.** Mark motioned to approve the overweight permit for Spaulding Construction, Jacob seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- d. **Liquor/Tobacco Licenses.** None

8. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters. All orders signed at this time. Charlie has met with Zach regarding the town website and he is going to propose some mock up revisions to better utilize the site for spreading information, event awareness, and also look into changing some formatting on the site such as consolidating the separate board calendars into one all-encompassing town calendar.

Mark motioned to end the meeting, seconded by Jacob and board adjourned at 8:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Reighley