



**MONTGOMERY**  
FOUNDED 1789

**Town of Montgomery - P.O. Box 356**  
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REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION  
Temporary Town Office (86 Mountain Road)  
Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017, 6:30pm  
Unapproved

**Selectboard members: Charlie Hancock-chair, Darren Drevik-vice chair, Mark Brouillette, Colin Sorensen (absent), Jacob Racusin (absent)**

**Visitors: Michael Snider, Sue Wilson, Merle VanGiesen, Deanna Robitaille, Remi Gratton, Sarita Khan**

**Clerk: Elizabeth Reighley**

**6:43 called to order by Charlie**

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

**2. Review/approve minutes of the June 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.** Mark motioned to approve as written, seconded by Darren, and approved unanimously.

**3. Public Works**

**a) Roads and Bridges**

**a. Grants: Status Updates:**

- i. Amended Paving Grant.** Mark will call Jim Cota to figure out the breakdown of the town liability on the Pike Industries 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.** Mark has been in contact with Bethany from Regional Planning, she stated that the project will be going out to bid this fall, the town may need to do small amounts of labor such as tree cutting, Mark will keep the board informed of further details..

v. **Pilot Project.** Municipal Roads Grants-In-Aid Pilot Project is a voluntary program that Vermont towns have been contacted to participate in. If Montgomery partakes the town will receive funding to bring hydrologically-connected roads up to more current standards. Mark stated that through the pilot program the town is eligible for \$10,800 for stone line ditching and depending on any further assessments to roads/culverts the town may be awarded more. The paperwork to be involved in the pilot program must be signed and sent in by July 5th. Charlie motioned to sign Regional Planning Commission & Department of Environmental Conservation Municipal Roads Grants-In-Aid Pilot Project letter of intent to participate, seconded by Darren and passed unanimously.

**b. Longley Bridge Update:**

i. **Easement.** The Mylar is printed and has been submitted to the Town Office for recording; Mr. Merriman, the town's attorney, will need to be contacted in order to draft the easement documents. Charlie cited that the estimated deadline for the Longley bridge is now looking at November 25th for a completion date.

**c. Fuller Bridge Repairs**

i. **Monitoring.** Carry over

ii. **Define Fine Structure for Damage.** Charlie called Mr. Merriman to ask what the town can legally do for a fine structure from vehicle damage to the bridge. Board members agreed it would be best to continue researching this and put together a draft ordinance based on their findings.

d. **Brady Road; Cote Road bridge/culvert needs.** Michael will follow up with St Onges' to obtain an estimate on renting a temporary bridge or construction of a new temporary/permanent bridge for the board to review in order to take care of impending bridge needs at both Brady and Cote road.

e. **Insurance for Covered Bridges.** Sue Wilson requested permission to talk with Sue Scribner from VTrans about insurance needs for covered bridges and was given the go ahead.

**b) Buildings and Grounds**

a. **Generators.** Carry over

b. **Post Office Door.** The door to the post office building has been sanded and repainted; Michael is working with local carpenters on fixing the railing and fire escape of the Grange.

#### 4. Visitors:

- Merle VanGiesen came before the board, suggested contacting Charlotte about road grading and potential help with training. Merle also wished to address the board regarding a letter, written to the Department of Taxes- Property Valuation & Review by the Board of Listers, however since one of the listers is out of town he stated it can wait until the next meeting.
- Remi Gratton, chair of the Community Garden Board, stated they are having issues with a guest of a garden plot renter acting in an abusive manner towards other residents renting garden plots. He wanted to make the selectboard aware that after receiving three reported incidences the Garden Board feels it is necessary to create and adopt a set of rules and bylaws outlining proper code of conduct with plots and acceptable behavior towards fellow gardeners in order to help mitigate any future problems as well as foster a friendly and respectful environment. Charlie suggested that after the Garden board drafts bylaws that they bring them to the selectboard for review.
- Sarita Khan will be putting together faerie gardens around the Salt Caves and suggested making this into a town wide art project for all the school kids to participate in; each child could donate their faerie gardens to houses or businesses on main street and potentially turn the gardens into a tourist attraction involving tours around these gardens as another way for Montgomery to gain an economic boost. Board members suggested getting in touch with Sandy Alexander at the Elementary School to coordinate with the children and parents.

#### 5. Water Commission Issues

a. **Begnoche Connection.** Mark motioned to approve the request for water hookup and approve the waiver of usage of a plastic tubing versus copper for the hookup, Darren seconded; Mark will need to get the hookup fee and bond payment before work begins; motion passed unanimously. Mark will work with Kirk Patch and oversee setup of the new connection. Charlie will be in touch with Kirk to let him know this has been approved.

b. **Ordinance Review re: materials.** carry over

#### 6. Old Business

a. **Town Office Needs.** Charlie stated that while they are waiting to hear back from VCRD they will need to set aside time to further discuss what needs to be done in the interim regarding town office needs regardless whether VCRD selects Montgomery for the community visit program. For a temporary solution to the lack of a true and adequate vault space, the fire proof safes have been outfitted with shelving and are awaiting the next step of being moved into the temporary office

b. **VCRD Community Visits Program.** Charlie stated that the letter of invitation has been submitted.

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

- d. **Sorensen Insurance Claim.** Carry over
- e. **Options for Electronic Participation at Open Meetings.** Darren motioned to rescind the speaker phone purchase, seconded by Mark, passed unanimously.
- f. **Posting Locations (Elementary School addition).** Carry over
- g. **Economic Development—Future Efforts.** Carry over and tie into the VCRD discussion.
- h. **Vacant Building Ordinance proposal.** Darren polled board members on their feelings about the draft ordinance with regard to pursuing this topic. Charlie put to question how they could find a way to take public comment on the draft ordinance. Darren will rework the draft with suggested edits submitted by Charlie and then put out a second draft soliciting public feedback.

#### 7. New Business

- a. **PACE District.** Carry over
- b. **Pit Bull Ordinance.** Mark noted that the board should add to the next agenda the dissolution of the town Pitbull Ordinance as it is outdated, unenforceable, discriminatory, and Montgomery is currently one of the last towns left in the county to repeal this ban.
- c. **Selectboard Attendance.** Concern over selectboard attendance was raised again, observing that the full five member board has not been entirely present for a meeting since April
- d. **Overweight Truck Permits.** None
- e. **Liquor/Tobacco Licenses.** None

**8. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters.** All orders signed at this time. Board had continued discussion over meeting attendance.

Darren motioned to end the meeting, seconded by Mark, and the board adjourned at 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Reighley