



**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  
PSB Conference Room  
Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup> 2016, 6:30pm

Selectboard members: Charlie Hancock-chairman (via conference call), Scott Perry-vice chair, Mark Brouillette, Colin Sorenson, Sarah Silva

Visitors: Erin & Doug Kopacz, Lynda Cluba, Sue Wilson,

Clerk: Elizabeth Reighley

**1. Review and make any changes to the agenda.** Carry over budget review. Add to the agenda under Public Works: Roads & Bridges: Transportation Alternatives Grant Program and the Fairpoint Request Order.

**2. Review/approve minutes of August 1<sup>st</sup> 2016.** Board reviewed previous minutes. Charlie motioned to amend the minutes, seconded by Mark, to read as follows under paragraph 3b PSB Alarm System:  
*Scott motioned to authorize Charlie to sign and send in the Sunray Fire & Security Contract. This was seconded by Mark and passed by 4-0. Motion passed unanimously. Mark motioned to approve the meeting minutes of August 1<sup>st</sup> as amended, seconded by Sarah, the motion passed unanimously.*

**3. Public Works**

**a. Roads and Bridges.** Mark stated that Jim Cota is hoping to meet with him by the end of the week for updates on the following grant statuses. Mark is working with Michael on trying to rent excavators for the road/culvert work that needs to be done and will get a schedule from Michael of which culverts they will be starting with. \*Carry over until further updates.

**Amended Paving Grant\***

**Structures Grant for Route 58\***

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

**USFW Culvert Grant for AOP design\***

**Longley Bridge Update.** Carry over.

**Brady Road update/VT Transport Alternatives Grant.** Scott brought up that the town received an application for the VT Transport Alternatives Grant program and this may prove to be a good fit for the work needing to be done on the Brady road; this program could potentially provide the town with grant money to fund that or other pending road projects. Mark will get in touch with Michael, Public Works Director, to review the grant application and look into whether this could work for the Brady Road or other such road projects fitting the criteria for this grant.

**Fairpoint Request.** The board reviewed the letter from Fairpoint Communications requesting approval of work on RTE 58 to put in underground fiber optic cables, which would be within the right of way, in order to expand broadband in this area. Fairpoint provided maps of the selected areas to provide insight as to where the cables will be buried. Charlie motioned to approve and sign the work permit, seconded by Colin. The motion passed unanimously, with Charlie giving voice consent for Scott to place a mark on the signature page in lieu of Charlie's signature.

## **b. Buildings and Grounds**

**PSB Alarm System.** Doug updated the board on the status of the fire and security alarm system currently at the public safety building. He outlined the problems with the current setup in regards to the phone lines and the outgoing signals being sent from the panel indicating that he will need to separate the fire and security systems as they each need to be run on their own dedicated lines to ensure correct outgoing signals are sent to the right areas of operation. Initially the board authorized \$1400.00 for the replacement of the panel and alarm system, separating the phone lines and running new wires may cost an additional \$600.00; the board requested that Doug work out a full estimate for all the work and updates that will be required by the Fire Marshals for State Inspection and remit that to the clerks' office as soon as possible.

**Keys.** Doors have been re-keyed and the keys for building access have been distributed accordingly by the town clerk.

**TD Bank ATM proposal.** The proposal has been completed and remitted.

**Existing Town Office Status/Renovation/Repair.** The board reviewed the status of the old town office site. John Charrette submitted a quote for work needing to be done for the failing stairs and ramp, total cost for labor and materials coming in at \$9100.00; this would include removing old ramp, entry way, stairs, and all railing systems and replacing with new pressure treated framing and replace all decking using RDI products. Board discussed whether to commence with replacement project as the uncertainty of the building is still a factor however access to the building is still a must being that the Post Office is still in operations. Sarah voiced her concern about keeping building access safe and what would the towns' liability be should they not replace the stairs/ramp. Discussion ensued about the logistics of spending money on multiple building projects like the stairs and also the earlier quote from Doug and the fire/security project. Charlie stated that it may be best to wait for an official quote from Doug and in the meantime advertise again for the town office project to see if there are any other comparative quotes that come in and make a decision at the next meeting.

**Discussion of Public Meeting: August 24<sup>th</sup> 2016 7pm @ Grange Hall.** The board will put up the warnings for the public meeting around town, on the website, and the board at the town office to gain as many residents attention to increase attendance at the upcoming meeting. Charlie will put together an agenda; Larry Letourneau was contacted to give insight about current costs in comparison to the old facts and figures, based on the increases in the market, his recommendation was to add 5-10% when calculating construction costs based on the price per square foot. Scott will reach out to Tim Murphy to ask if he would be interested in moderating the meeting.

### **Bond Preparation: Bond Attorney Drafts of Resolution of Need, Warning, Ballot.**

Board members reviewed documents from Bond Attorney. Colin suggested changing the bond language to encompass all the building projects; this would include renovations of the old office as well as the new town office and site updates for the PSB; he put forth the question of whether it may be easier to present such a large bond value to the voters if they knew it would cover all the buildings. Sarah indicated that because of the fact that, despite a new town office being necessary for vault space, we would still have to maintain the old office site. She suggested the town shut down the main street building to renovate just for town office usage in order to cut down on the number of buildings the town has to oversee and maintain. As of now the U.S. Postal service will not commit to anything without a proposal from the town and based on the uncertainty of the future of the office nothing can be presented until a decision is made in November. The board discussed the pros and cons of the bond vote and what course of action to take with the old office versus the proposed office at length. Charlie stated that the deadline for adopting a resolution of need is on September 19<sup>th</sup> in order to ensure absentee ballots can be mailed out before the election deadline. While Sarah will continue to work with the board to come up with the best viable and sensible plan for taxpayers and future office needs she indicated that as of now she cannot support the bond vote as it stands for a new office site. She feels that they must focus on existing town structures before a new building project.

**4. Visitors (7:00pm). No comments.**

**5. Hazard Mitigation Plan/Local Emergency Operations Plan Updates.** Colin is working with Red Cross and contacting locals for volunteers to fill the vacant positions for shelter manager and

coordinators. Once Colin has finalized the plans he will work with Shaun Coleman at NRPC to file.

**6. Water Commission Issues.** Shut off notices have gone out.

**a. Review proposals from Simon Operation System (and other).** Carry over to next meeting.

**b. Adopt preferred proposal.** Carry over.

**7. Old Business**

**a. Hectorville Bridge Project Update.** Carry over.

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

**8. New Business**

**a. Town Lands/Lease Agreement Status(s).** Colin suggested not renewing the Hurtubise lease on the town owned land in the village. Discussed took place about the current usage of the land and the impact pesticides are having on the land and surrounding river/conservation areas. Both Colin and Charlie echoed the same wishes for the town owned portions to be put back to more natural habitats such as silver maples, hayfields, or even flood plains. Colin made a motion to not renew the lease on the town owned land in the village and restrict any further agricultural usage seconded by Sarah. The motion failed by a vote of 2-3. Scott noted that as of now the lease does not expire until May of 2017 so the board would have to review and decide on the renewal at that point in time. Charlie stated that because the lease is still active and will not expire until next year the board should reach out to the Recreation board and other interested parties, as some of the corn fields are also on privately owned land, and work out a plan for rehabbing the land. Scott also noted that they should reach out to the farmers leasing the fields as a courtesy so they can also plan for their future farming needs.

**b. Overweight Truck Permits:** None

**c. Liquor/Tobacco Licenses:** None

**9. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters.** All orders were signed at this time.

Mark motioned to end the meeting, the board adjourned at 8:50p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Reighley