



MONTGOMERY
FOUNDED 1788

**Town of Montgomery - P.O. Box 356
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Unapproved Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION
Monday, March 15th 2021
6:30pm

Full Recording of the Meeting can be found here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/NS146KVO5PC20Z7tiS6Wzjagsa5RY3allcvXhsO2WtV8_Kkxxa0D_SKQwqZQGZaxj.xz8_7AnX_BTtS6Ni Passcode: UZ@JXw?0

Attendees: Charlie Hancock, Leanne Barnard, Mark Brouillette, Suzanne Dollois, Emily Kimball
Clerk: Genevieve Lodal-Guild
Visitors: Sue Wilson, Howard Kalter, Larry Letourneau, Anita Woodward, NWATV (recording)

Charlie called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.

1. Review and make any changes to the agenda
2. Review/approve minutes of the February 15th and March 9th meetings
Mark made a motion to approve the minutes of Feb 15th, Leanne seconded. Vote: 4-0, Aye.
Emily abstained. Motion passed.

Mark made a motion to approve the minutes of March 9th, Leanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye.
Motion passed.
3. Board Organization (*board action*)
Charlie welcomed Emily Kimball to the Board.
 - a. Oaths of Office - Mark and Emily have taken their oaths.
 - b. Election of Officers
Charlie explained that there is a Chair and Vice-Chair to be elected. Mark nominated Charlie Hancock as Chair. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Charlie is Selectboard Chair.
Mark nominated Leanne Barnard for Vice-Chair. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Leanne is Vice-Chair
 - c. Designation of Regular Meeting Schedule/Newspaper of Record/Posting Locations
Mark made a motion to adopt the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 6:30pm as the regular meeting times, Leanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
Suzanne made a motion to establish the St. Albans Messenger as the newspaper of record, Leanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

Emily made a motion to re-adopt the posting locations of the Village Post Office, Montgomery Center Post Office, the Town Clerk's office, and the Town website, Mark seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

d. Review Internal Board Procedures & Vermont Open Meeting Laws

Charlie explained that it has worked well to have the agendas and warnings posted on the Friday before each meeting (The legal requirement is no later than 48 hours before a regular meeting). Charlie reminded everyone that all meetings are subject to Vermont Open Meeting laws, so more than 2 Board members cannot discuss in person or via email anything Board-related outside of warned meetings.

e. Review/Establish areas of responsibility

Charlie said that there is a light division of responsibilities (eg, Mark is Road Commissioner and stays abreast on Water Commission issues), but mostly the areas of responsibility are self-designated based on personal interest.

f. Review Conflict of Interest Policy

Charlie tabled this item until the next meeting so that all members have time to review the policy before voting.

4. Appointments (*board action*)

Charlie went through the list of appointments that are expiring:

- ★ Water Commissioner for a 3-year term, expiring in 2024; Suzanne nominated Mark Brouillette. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Water Commissioner for 2-year term, expiring in 2023; Mark nominated Emily Kimball. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Development Review Board seat for a 4-year term, expiring in 2025; Mark nominated Lynda Cluba. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Development Review Board (DRB) seat for a 4-year term; Mark nominated Merle Van Gieson. Vote: 1, Aye. Charlie nominated Wendy Howard; Vote: 4, Aye. Wendy is appointed to a seat on the DRB for a 4-year term, expiring in 2025.
- ★ Alternate seat for Development Review Board for a 4-year term, expiring in 2025; Mark nominated Barry Kade. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Alternate seat for Development Review Board to fill the remainder of a vacant 4-year term, expiring in 2022; Mark nominated Merle Van Gieson. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Agent to Convey Real Estate for a 1-year term, expiring in 2022; Mark nominated Barry Kade. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Budget Committee: All 5 seats taken as one vote. Mark nominated Scott Perry, Mark Brouillette, Sue Wilson, Erin Kopacz, and Charlie Hancock to the Budget Committee for 1-year terms, expiring in 2022. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Director of Disaster/EMS Management for a 1-year term, expiring in 2022: Emily nominated Doug Kopacz. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Deputy of Disaster/EMS Management for a 1-year term, expiring in 2022; Suzanne nominated Brent Godin. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

- ★ Fence Viewers, 3 seats for 1-year terms, expiring in 2022. Mark nominated the Listers. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Representative to the Transportation Advisory Board for a 1-year term, expiring in 2022; Charlie nominated Mark Brouillette. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Alternate to the Transportation Advisory Board for a 1-year term, expiring in 2022; Charlie nominated Michael Snider. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Recreation Board: 3 seats for 3-year terms, expiring in 2024. Mark nominated Peg Doheny, Nelson Mayhew, and Lisa Perry. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Zoning Administrator for a 3-year term, expiring in 2024. Mark nominated Ellen Fox. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Representative to the Missisquoi River Basin Association (MRBA) Wild & Scenic Committee. Suzanne nominated Misty McCartney and Carissa Stein. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Community Garden Board: up to 7 seats for 1-year terms, expiring in 2022. Charlie nominated Hannah Sorenson, Tiffany Jones, Remi Gratton, Wendy Howard, and Genevieve Lodal-Guild; Suzanne nominated Cassandra Krieger. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Conservation Commission: 2 open seats for 4-year terms, expiring in 2025. Mark nominated Sue Wilson and Carissa Stein. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed. Charlie also mentioned that there were 2 additional members appointed by the Board (which is not reflected in the 2021 Town Report). Sue Baker was appointed to a 4-year term, expiring in 2024, John Kuryloski was appointed to a 4-year term, expiring in 2024, and Parma Jewett was appointed to fill the remainder of a 4-year term, expiring in 2022. There was also a request to add a new 4-year-term seat to the Commission, to make it a 10-member board. This seat will expire in 2025. Charlie nominated Patrick Calecas. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Town Newsletter Editor for a 1-year term, expiring in 2022. Mark nominated Suzanne Dollois. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Financial Controls Officer for a 3-year term, expiring in 2024. Mark nominated Sue Wilson. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Inspector of Lumber/Shingles/Wood for a 1-year term, expiring in 2022. Mark nominated Wendy Howard. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Tree Warden for a 1-year term, expiring in 2022. Mark nominated Charlie Hancock. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
- ★ Weigher of Coal for a 1-year term, expiring in 2022. Mark nominated Jacob Racusin. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

5. Public Works

- a. Roads and Bridges
 - i. Grant updates - none at this time

Mark said that Jeff Kittell has finished working for the Town, and Mark has given Michael authorization to hire someone part-time to help with driving a truck, if needed.

- b. Buildings and Grounds

- i. 98 Main Street (*update—discussion re: USPS, TDBank ATM renewal*) - *no update at this time*
- ii. PSB/Town Office Renovation/RFP (*continued discussion/updates*)
Charlie reported that he and Jacob will be starting to look at this project again. Mark mentioned that there were furnace issues at the PSB, and John Mercy will be fixing it shortly.
- iii. Town Hall/Grange furnace/chimney quotes (*update-board action*)
The Board has still not received a quote from Rondeau's yet, so we are going to go with Mercy's, given their history and work reputation. Charlie moved that the Board accept Mercy's Heating quote to replace the Grange Hall furnace in the amount not to exceed \$18,000, Mark seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

c. FEMA (*update*)

Charlie reported that we are continuing to receive money from FEMA. All of our workbooks have been submitted, checked, and signed off on, so the last step is to receive payment. We have about 80-90% of the reimbursements in.

6. Visitors

Larry asked for clarification on some budget line items around Highway Payroll as well as the State Highway Reimbursement. He also suggested that it would be helpful to have a quarterly newsletter distributed to help inform citizens on issues around town.

7. Water Commission Issues

Charlie said that our contract with Simon Operations Systems (SOS) will be expiring this fall. Mark is setting up a meeting with SOS to go over the contract, and he will also investigate another company now offering these services to see if we can reduce costs.

8. Old Business

a. COVID-19 and Municipal/Local Response (*updates/discussion*)

b. Wastewater and Streetscape Projects (*updates*)

i. Status updates

Charlie mentioned that there has been some movement at the state level around federal funding for municipal projects, so he is in the process of finding out more.

ii. Timeline—Action Items/Next Steps

Mark asked if any progress had been made about lowering the \$.06 tax increase to bring the issue back to the voters. Charlie responded that the framework that looks at all the options is still set up, which can help with projections and changes in funding options. The next determiner of direction will be around any petition to call the vote again.

c. Communications Union District Update (*update*)

The CUD is looking for letters of support from local businesses, in particular those businesses that are located in the underserved areas of the community.

9. New Business

a. Town Meeting Recap, next steps/actions

The majority of the recap was discussed at the last Selectboard meeting. Charlie opened up the floor for any other discussion. He reminded everyone that we are in the reconsideration period, which will close at the end of March.

b. Recreation Committee request re: PSB lot

The Recreation Committee has asked if the Board would be open to using part of the PSB grass lot for some recreation activities, specifically a bocce ball court and a skate park. Mark expressed concern about maintenance if the area is over the PSB septic system. Leanne and Suzanne said it was a great idea and questioned insurance implications. Emily asked about parking, particularly around emergency services. Charlie will ask the Recreation Department to bring a more defined proposal back to the Board.

c. Driveway Permit – Tracy and Michelle Jollie

Mark explained that Michael met with the owners at Regan Road, and Paul Sylvester will be installing the driveway. It does not require a culvert and will be installed in June. Mark approves of the permit. Charlie made a motion to approve the Driveway Permit for Tracy and Michelle Jollie on Regan Road, Leanne seconded. Vote: 4-0, Aye. 1 abstain.

d. Overweight Truck Permit

- i. Cardinal
- ii. Chevalier
- iii. Jack F. Course
- iv. John French
- v. Kennedy Excavation
- vi. Kilbourn Transport
- vii. NA Manosh
- viii. NEQS
- ix. Newton Dubois
- x. On Site Septic
- xi. Structural Wood

Mark made a motion to approve the overweight truck permits for Cardinal, Chevalier, Jack F. Course, John French, Kennedy Excavation, Kilbourn Transport, NA Manosh, NEQS, Newton Dubois, On Site Septic, and Structural Wood, Leanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Permits approved.

e. Liquor/Tobacco Licenses

- i. Black Lantern Inn
- ii. Snowshoe Pub

Leanne made a motion to renew the licenses for the Black Lantern Inn and the Snowshoe Pub, Suzanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Licenses approved.

10. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters

11. Review Action Items for Board Members

12. Adjourn

Suzanne made a motion to adjourn, Leanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Genevieve Lodal-Guild, Clerk