



MONTGOMERY
FOUNDED 1788

**Town of Montgomery - P.O. Box 356
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REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION
Monday, April 19th 2021
6:30pm

Full recording of the meeting can be found here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/N5aCC010U4nFnQSB3Ikw7rG9fbAilYGUv2SoZXI1XV3h9EnFESpRbckpLvShpjBb.0zsnmsh-U0Dn-pvQ> Passcode: Y*uQBxf3

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

Charlie called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

1. Review and make any changes to the agenda

Mark added Annual Financial Plan - Town Highways for VTRANS and Town and Road Bridge Standards.

2. Review/approve minutes of the April 5th meeting (*board action*)

Mark made a motion to approve the minutes of April 5th, Leanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

3. Appointments

a. Community Garden Board vacancy nomination (*board action*)

Mark made a motion to nominate Parma Jewett for a 1-year term, ending in 2022, to the Community Garden Board. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

b. Northwest Vermont Communications Union District (*board action*)

Charlie nominated Everett McGinley as Montgomery's primary representative and Ian Scott and Roger Lichti as alternates to the Northwest Vermont Communications Union District board. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

4. Public Works

a. Roads and Bridges

- i. Update on Road Condition (*discussion*)
Mark said that everything is starting to improve, and the road crew is working on Hazen's Notch now as that appears to be the main trouble spot, smoothing up other roads as needed.
- ii. Road Crew Vacancies and Interviews (*potential Executive Session discussion*); potential Hiring Decision (*board action*)
Mark explained we have received a number of applications, and that a couple of people have been interviewed. Charlie gave some context on the history of these positions, from a high-level view, and opened up the floor to other Board members to discuss the process. Suzanne asked about division of duties for the Road Foreman/Director of Public Works position. Emily suggested that it could be beneficial to clarify the managerial position before hiring. Discussion ensued. Mark reported that he hired Avery Stanley to sweep the streets.
- iii. Grant updates - none at this time
- iv. Annual Financial Plan - Town Highways (VTRANS)
Mark explained that this is an annual document and that the State gives the Town money per mile of road. The Town must send this document in so that the money can be received from the State.
- v. Town Road and Bridge Standards
Mark explained that this is another annual document, which must be submitted for us to receive FEMA money. Charlie said we also must submit this document to receive ERAF funding.
Mark made a motion to provisionally approve the Annual Financial Plan for Town Highways and the Town Road and Bridge Standards, Leanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed. The formal ratification will take place at the next warned meeting.

Charlie said that we are working on a mailing list for the amended Class IV Road Policy to send out to relevant landowners and that a mailing should be out within 1-2 weeks.

b. Buildings and Grounds

- i. 98 Main Street (*update*) - no update at this time
- ii. PSB/Town Office Renovation/RFP (*continued discussion/updates*)
Charlie suggested that a committee be formed to look at this project; the Board concurred.
- iii. Town Hall/Grange
 - 1. Furnace/Chimney (*update*) - Mark said that John Mercy is almost done.
 - 2. Lift Assist/Elevator (*update, potential board action on quote*)
Charlie explained that we received a quote from Access Mobility LLC. They are trying to figure out where the bad electrical short/strike is and gave a quote of \$1,700 for repairs. Charlie made a motion that the Board approve an expenditure to fix the lift assist elevator at the Town Hall in the amount not to exceed \$1700 to Access Mobility LLC, Mark seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

iv. Mowing/Flower Beds RFP response review (*discussion/potential board action*)
Charlie reported that we received only 2 mowing proposals, from Avery's and Guilmette Landworks. He met with Erin to go over the proposals and compare with past costs for this work. Discussion ensued. Based on discussion, Mark recommended the town go with Avery's, as he is a local tax-payer and has helped the Town out consistently. Charlie will reach back out to Avery to have him redraft the proposal so that the numbers can be compared with past budget numbers more clearly. Charlie spoke with Tiffany Salyards about her offer to maintain the Town garden beds, and it works with the budget. Charlie moved that we hire Tiffany Salyards in the amount not to exceed \$2,500 for the 2021 season to maintain the beds at the Grange Hall, 98 Main St., the PSB, and the Village Green, Suzanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

c. FEMA (*update*)

We need to have the final meeting with the State and FEMA, which should happen in the next month or two.

5. Visitors

Merle asked if the Town receives aid if we keep the culvert inventory updated; Mark responded yes. Larry reminded Mark about the very large hole on the Regan Road. Howard is happy to hear there is a mailing going out about the Class 4 Roads.

6. Water Commission Issues

a. Snowshoe Lodge and Pub water bill/meter issues (*discussion*)

Charlie said that the Snowshoe account shows that they used 327,000 gallons of water during the last billing cycle. It's about a 3 times the increase from their typical usage. Mark suggested that the Town bill them for a typical amount, test the meter to see its functionality, and then reconcile with them if needed. Charlie moved that the Town assess the Snowshoe a bill based on a 2020 quarterly average and test the meter to determine any further responsibility for the bill, Mark seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

Charlie said that Ross noticed a discrepancy between overall well production numbers and billed numbers. Mark said the discrepancy has to do with the Regan Road tank and its battery, and the tank ran over. Mark would like to get an estimate to run power to this tank, as the batteries fail consistently enough and are expensive enough that he feels this is warranted.

Mark reported that the Black Lantern should be installing their fire line soon, and the Town expects an application for the building at Cota's nursery shortly.

7. Old Business

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

i. ARPA Appropriations, Planning (*update*)

Charlie said that the Federal government is supposed to give guidance to the State, but we don't have specific guidance yet for the criteria or the use of the funds.

- ii. Local "reopening" plan/guidance for public meetings

Charlie presented the draft. Discussion ensued. This item will be carried over to be finalized later this week at a special Board meeting.

- b. Wastewater and Streetscape Projects (*updates*)

- i. Status updates

- 1. STAG Community Project Request submittal (*update*)

- Between now and April 30, we should hear back whether we received the funding via Welch's office as requested.

- ii. Timeline—Action Items/Next Steps

- We are going to try to line up some digging of test pits on properties. We intend to start survey work in the Center and Village in July to give more definitive information on spacing as it informs practical design features. We will then re-engage the public meeting process in late summer to hammer out final proposed design. Additionally, we are keeping our eyes on the RAISE federal infrastructure funding pending congressional action.

- Mark asked about the paving of the PSB lot. He will reach out for some additional quotes.

- c. Recreation Committee request re: PSB lot (*discussion/potential board action*)

- Charlie reminded everyone that the Recreation Board had asked about a potential bocce ball court and skate park. The Fire Department has nixed the idea, as the PSB lot and lawn is a helicopter landing zone, so having more people congregate in the area is not a great idea.

8. New Business

- a. Warning for May 24th Reconsideration Vote (*board action*)

- Suzanne made a motion to approve the warning for the May 24th Reconsideration Vote, Mark seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

- b. Enosburg Ambulance (*discussion*)

- There is a meeting on June 7th at 6pm to discuss the future of the Enosburg Ambulance.

- c. Overweight Truck Permits (*board action*)

- i. Beacon Sales
 - ii. Fred's Energy
 - iii. Kings Hill Trucking
 - iv. Jeff Lawyer

Mark made a motion to approve the Overweight Truck Permits for Beacon Sales, Fred's Energy, Kings Hill Trucking, and Jeff Lawyer; Suzanne seconded. Vote: 4-0, Aye. Motion passed.

- d. Liquor/Tobacco Licenses

- 9. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters

- 10. Review Action Items for Board Members

- 11. Adjourn

Mark made a motion to adjourn, Leanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Genevieve Lodal-Guild