



MONTGOMERY
FOUNDED 1788

**Town of Montgomery - P.O. Box 356
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**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION**

Monday, April 5th 2021
6:30pm

Full recording of the meeting can be found here: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-NjH8Ac3D5TLsiCXd5eu9UolKOn3lv8ti4A7bEs2K4N_0flTpSy6d-e8RqkzLfM.1eoGWseEH7TIIvO3
Passcode: Q43GC61=

Attendees: Charlie Hancock, Leanne Barnard, Suzanne Dollois, Emily Kimball, Mark Brouillette
Clerk: Genevieve Lodal-Guild

Visitors: Howard Kalter, Larry Letourneau, Merle Van Gieson, Anita Woodward, Sue Wilson, NWATV
(recording meeting), Barry Kade

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

1. Review and make any changes to the agenda

2. Review/approve minutes of the March 15th meeting (*board action*)

Suzanne made a motion to approve the minutes of March 15th, Mark seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye.
Motion passed.

3. Appointments

a. DRB Alternate vacancy nomination (*board action*)

The Development Review Board put forth the name of John Kuryloski to fill out the remainder of a 4-year term, expiring in 2022. Mark nominated John Kuryloski. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

4. Board Organization

a. Conflict of Interest Statement (*board action*)

Charlie explained that this is a carry-over item from the last meeting. Suzanne made a motion to adopt the Conflict of Interest Policy, Leanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

5. Public Works

a. Roads and Bridges

i. Update on Emergency Response (*discussion*)
Mark reported that Michael Snider resigned as Road Foreman a week ago Monday. There have been a number of roads that were impassable due to conditions precipitated by weather and traffic conditions, creating the worst mud season in living memory. Mark hired Billy Baker, Sr. and Bobby Baker on a temporary basis to help work on the roads. A host of others came out to assist over the course of the week, including Hurtubise Farm and St. Onge with their equipment. As of Friday the 2nd, all roads were passable, and the goal is to keep them in shape through the remainder mud season. Billy has agreed to stay on in an interim basis.

ii. Road Crew Vacancies, Future Composition (*discussion*)
Charlie explained that with Michael's departure, and the pre-existing vacancy, it might be time to reevaluate the whole structure of the crew and the Public Works Director position. Additionally, the Board will need to look at the budget, given the additional trucking/materials to fix the roads. Charlie reported that we do anticipate receiving more FEMA money than expected, which may help offset the expenses

Emily asked about a letter the Town sent to the House and Senate Transportation Committees last year and re-sent to Felisha Leffler this year for her to send along to committee members. Charlie responded that he is hopeful that the letter will help state leadership move more money to helping communities maintain roads that experience increasing use by heavier commercial vehicles, specifically addressing the increase in sap truck traffic during the spring. Neighboring communities are also reaching out to the state.

Mark reported that on Longley Bridge Road has experienced more soil and bank loss along the Trout last week, bringing the top of bank into the town's right of way. The road is now down to one lane to all traffic. We are hoping the bank can remain stable until we are able to get materials in there, which is tricky at the moment due to the covered bridge limitations and condition of the road on the Enosburg side (making the trucking of ledge impossible until conditions improve). We have been in contact with the various parties involved with the TAP project to update them.

iii. Grant updates - no updates at this time

b. Buildings and Grounds

i. 98 Main Street (*update*) - no updates at this time

ii. PSB/Town Office Renovation/RFP (*continued discussion/updates*) - carryover

iii. Town Hall/Grange

1. Furnace/Chimney quotes (*update-board action*)

Mark reported that John Mercy started working today and needs to have an electrician work with him. He will have all of April to work on the furnace.

2. Lift Assist/Elevator (*update*)

Access Mobility came in to inspect the elevator last week, and it is not functioning optimally. They will send us a full report with various options for redressing the situation.

iv. Mowing/Flower Beds RFP (*discussion/potential board action*)

Suzanne reported that she pulled together various pieces for the Town to have one landscaping company to take care of the mowing at the 12 properties. We currently have 4 contractors working for us, and we are looking to potentially consolidate to optimize town funding. Charlie asked the Board if they thought there should be a division between mowing and garden bed maintenance. Tiffany Salyards has been hired by the Library to weed the beds at the PSB, and the Board will ask for a quote from her for the maintenance of the other beds. The deadline for returning a proposal will be April 16th so that the Board can vote on it at the next meeting.

c. FEMA (*update*)

We are very close to receiving 100% of the money. We have one final step to circle back with the State folks to finalize this process.

6. Visitors

Howard requested that the Class IV Road policy be mailed to all landowners who live on a Class IV road so they are informed of the changed policy. Merle asked about having phone numbers available on the website for public officials. He also expressed concern over the nature of Board appointments and the experience of those appointed, as in his opinion they lack the level of experience he holds, and as such he believes he should have been appointed in their place. Barry and Sue said that email addresses should be made public on the website but not necessarily phone numbers. Barry asked if the Board could consider meeting in person soon. Charlie responded that we are waiting for new guidance from the state as re-opening plans develop. Larry gave kudos to the people who helped get the roads back in shape. He asked about his previous query of the line item discrepancy in the Town Report/FY22 budget regarding the Road Crew. Sue reported that the wreaths are coming down this week. She said that there is a group of people who are interested in putting up flags on the poles for Montgomery and asked if the SB could help fund it. Charlie asked Sue to come back with more specifics as well as a quote.

7. Water Commission Issues - no update

8. Old Business

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

i. American Recovery Plan Act Appropriations, Planning

Charlie reported that the ARPA money that goes to local municipalities should be received by June 9th. There are essentially 3 buckets (state, town, county), and we expect to see about \$120,000 for Montgomery, based on our population. County money may be divided up between towns as well (as we have no formal county government), but that is not clear. Charlie asked for Board members to start thinking about how to prioritize the use of these funds as will forward guidance as soon as it is available.

- b. Wastewater and Streetscape Projects (*updates*)
 - i. Status updates
 - 1. STAG Request submittal (*update*)

We receive a note from Rep. Welch’s office about an opportunity through STAG. His office will nominate 10 projects he wants to see receive funding. We submitted an ask for the funds equivalent to would have raised over the 30 year term if Article 6 at TMD had passed (~\$3million). Charlie also met with the Northeast lead from EDA (Economic Development Authority), who provided some additional thoughts on additional funding opportunities.
 - 2. Financing Framework USDA/CWSRF (*update*)

Charlie reminded the board that the USDA package is a grant and loan combo, and now that the underwriting is fixed, any outside money received would go against the grant funding, not the loan, limiting our ability to reduce the projected debt service by bringing in additional outside funds. Last week, the State Clean Water Revolving Fund okayed a plan whereby the town could close on the USDA loan halfway through the project and refinance through the state, allowing the removal of prior conditions re: additional funds. This means the community would still have access to the full UDSA grant amount, without the strings.
 - ii. Timeline—Action Items/Next Steps
 - c. Communications Union District Update (*update*) - carryover
 - d. Recreation Committee request re: PSB lot (*discussion/potential board action*) - carryover
9. New Business

- a. Petitions for Reconsideration

We received two petitions for reconsideration of Articles 6 and 9 from Town Meeting.

 - i. ATV Ordinance (Article 9)
 - ii. Town-wide Assessment for Wastewater Project (Article 6)
 - iii. Review/Set Date for Special Election (*board action*)

We have between today and May 31st to hold the election. Liz, as the Town’s Election Official, would like to hold it on a Monday, potentially May 24th.

Charlie moved that we hold a special election for reconsideration of Articles 6 and 9 on Monday, May 24th, Leanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

- b. Overweight Truck Permits (*board action*)
 - i. Pike Industries
 - ii. GW Tatro
 - iii. Wind River Environmental
 - iv. Endless Tracks, LLC
 - v. Beacon Sales - Pass until the Board has more information
 - vi. Kris Bullock
 - vii. Harrison Concrete
 - viii. Andre and Nancy Leduc
 - ix. SD Ireland
 - x. Vaillancourt Transport
 - xi. Camp Precast Concrete Products, Inc.

Mark made a motion to approve the overweight truck permits for Pike Industries, GW Tatro, Wind River Environmental, Endless Tracks LLC, Kris Bullock, Harrison Concrete, Andre and Nancy Leduc, SD Ireland, Vaillancourt Transport, and Camp Precast Concrete Products, Inc., Leanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, aye. Motion passed.

- c. Liquor/Tobacco Licenses (*board action*)
 - i. Sylvester's Market – Second Class/Tobacco License
 - ii. Thompson-Himes Enterprises LLC (dba The Belfry) – Outside Consumption/Third Class/First Class

Mark made a motion to approve the 2nd Class Liquor and Tobacco Licenses for Sylvester's Market as well as the Outside Consumption, 3rd Class, and 1st Class Liquor Licenses for Thompson-Himes Enterprises LLC, Suzanne seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.

10. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters

11. Review Action Items for Board Members

12. Adjourn

Suzanne made a motion to adjourn, Emily seconded. Vote: 5-0, Aye. Motion passed.
Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.