



MONTGOMERY
FOUNDED 1789

**Town of Montgomery - P.O. Box 356
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Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION
Monday, April 4th 2022

6:30pm

Town Office Conference Room (86 Mountain Road)

View Recording:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/YQjmlsH7_ZdQ1Mg1-jTA9Kj7Fp8QTOL-b7iRRpFE-xPkeiuuaxAOa6LaH3hJ4m-n.4EvMqMDG3KYKxjEs Passcode: ^KcfA1#f

In attendance: Charlie Hancock, Emily Kimball, Leanne Barnard, Mark Brouillette, Suzanne Dollois (via zoom) ; Visitors: Carissa Stein, Suzanne Wilson, NWATV; on Zoom—Mary Beth Dolye, Jackie Doyle, Merle Van Gieson

Called to at 6:38pm

1. Review and make any changes to the agenda
 - a. No changes to be made
2. Review/approve minutes of the 3/21 board meeting (*board action*)
 - a. Motion to approve minutes as written by Emily; seconded Leanne; 5-0
3. Public Works
 - a. Roads and Bridges (*updates*)
 - i. Road/Mud Season Updates
 1. Mark provided update on the work; last years repairs holding up well, continuing to scrap material back to establish base of 3” stone during repairs, then gravel back on top as the material dries out. Today (Monday) Regan Road/Mercy Hill, Saturday (4/2) spent on West Hill (30 loads stone); Leech does not have the material/stone we need to forced to truck from St. Albans (reloading before application for weight concerns); Billy is grading as conditions allow; Rt. 58 and Amidon on deck for Tuesday (4/5), then will rotate back to Black Falls later in the week
 2. Still pending FEMA determination; we’re tracking for submission; Montgomery is worst in Franklin County; state is seeing other issues in southern VT

3. Opened to Visitors: Mary Beth Doyle inquired re: culvert cleaning; second question re: emergency access; Jackie Doyle joined the conversation; discussion ensued regarding maintenance, emergency preparedness plans, and future alternatives.
- ii. Grant/Project Updates
 1. Status of additional paving quotes—table until 4/18 meeting (still only have from Hungerford)
- b. Buildings and Grounds
 - i. 98 Main Street (*update*)
 1. Charlie provided update on conversation with USPS re: their intent to remain at that location; exploring options for old town office space; exploring potential sale of the property
 - ii. PSB/Town Office Renovation Committee (*update*)
 1. Survey Costs (*potential board action*); Survey will be required for renovations/expansion plan with PSB/Library; currently have \$5k quote and will be seeing second quote; table until 4/18 meeting
 - c. Water Commission (*update*)
 - i. Debt Refinancing via Vermont Bond Bank (*discussion/potential board action*)
 1. Charlie presented the proposal to refinance USDA water system debt through Vermont Bond Bank. Currently have three loans:

Loan 1 - \$67,500 – 3.5% 40 years – matures 2041
 Loan 2 - \$392,500 – 4.5% 40 years – matures 2041
 Loan 3 - \$340,000 – 4.125% 40 years – matures 2047

Proposal: To refinance all three into one loan with the Vermont Bond Bank with a 3.34% interest rate, maturing in 2041. Yearly spend would be reduced slightly. It would provide total savings of \$145,933.
 2. Motion to refinance all three into one loan with the Vermont Bond Bank with 3.34% interest rate, maturing in 2041 by Emily, seconded by Leanne; 4-0-1
 - d. Longley Bridge TAP (*update*)
 - i. Right-of-Way purchase (*board action*)
 1. Motion to authorize an expenditure not exceed \$1,200 for the purchase of the right-of-way easement made by Emily; seconded by Mark; 4-0-1 (Leanne abstaining). Funds will come from TAP grant supporting the project.
 - e. Driveway Permits—remove/pass over (no permits to review)
 - f. Performance Review/Contract Negotiations* (*item tabled until the end of the meeting*)
 - i. Motion to enter into executive session by Leanne *per 1 VSA 313 1(A), (3)*; seconded by Emily; 5-0

- ii. Motion to exit executive session by Emily; seconded by Leanne; 5-0
 - iii. Charlie moved that the Board make the planned raise for Scott Ovitt in the FY23 budget to take effective April 1st; seconded by Leanne; 3-0-2 (Mark and Emily abstaining)
- 4. Visitors
 - a. See above re: roads
 - b. Merle Van Gieson re: roads discussion; also inquired about replacement of wreaths with snowflakes
- 5. Old Business
 - a. Municipal Appointments (*board action*)
 - i. Library Board
 - 1. Charlie nominated Jennifer Wirth for a 3-year term expiring 2024; appointed 5-0
 - ii. Animal Control Officer
 - 1. Board discussed vacancy and discussion with Tracy Ovitt; asking \$250/mo. stipend; board discussed revisiting licensure rates/fine structure to better support petition; Charlie will reach out to Tracy to discuss monthly fee structure
 - b. Municipal Website Updates (*discussion, potential board action*)—tabled until 4/18 meeting
 - c. Municipal Wastewater and Streetscape Projects (*update*)— tabled until 4/18 meeting
 - d. Municipal Purchasing Policy (*re-visited, potential board action*)— tabled until 4/18 meeting
 - e. Main Street Snowflake Quote (*pending action from 3/21 meeting*)
 - i. Charlie moved to adopt Sue Wilson proposal for wooden snowflakes for light pole (with material list and cost estimate of \$40 each for \$960 total) to replace the wreaths, with expenditure not to exceed \$1,000; seconded by Emily; 5-0
 - f. Building Use Policy (*discussion, potential board action*)—table
- 6. New Business
 - a. Health Officer re: Rt. 58 property (*discussion, potential board action*)
 - i. Board discussed letter from Sue Wilson. Proposed writing letter to Manosh giving him 45 days to remedy property issue. Vehicles and boats need to be handled via zoning. Proposed Ellen Fox also send letter re: zoning reqs. Anita is

aware of unpaid taxes and is addressing tax sale question. Alternative is a “health order” which involves attorneys, etc., this would be first step to remedy.

1. Charlie moved to authorize Sue Wilson to draft correspondence to Mr. Manosh offering 45 days to remedy the situation before Health Order, coordinating with Ellen Fox and Anita Woodward, send by certified mail; seconded by Leanne; 5-0

- b. Local Emergency Management Plan/REMC appointments (*board action*)
 - i. Mark nominates Greg Lucas for EMD; appointed 5-0
 - ii. Leanne nominates Brent for EMS rep; appointed 5-0
- c. Town Land Lease Expiration (*discussion, lease expires 5/5/22*)
 - i. Carissa Stein presented an assessment of the site (available to view on zoom recording) and alternatives the community could pursue. Discussion ensued.
- d. 3rd quarter budget status review (*discussion*)—reviewed by board; pending update at 4/18 meeting to include mud season expenditures
- e. Overweight Truck Permits (*board action*)
 - i. SD Ireland
 - ii. Camp Precast Concrete
 - iii. Wind River Environmental LLC
 - iv. Endless Tracks LLC
 - v. Amerigas
 - vi. Kings Hill Trucking & Excavating

Mark moved to approve the slate as presented; seconded by Leanne; 5-0

- f. Liquor/Tobacco Licenses (*board action*)
 - i. Jolly Associates
 - ii. Bernies
 - iii. The Belfry

Emily moved to approved the slate as presented; seconded by Leanne; 5-0

7. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters

8. Review Action Items for Board Members

9. Adjourn

- a. Leanne moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:52pm; seconded by Emily; 5-0