Town of Montgomery - P.O. Box 356
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REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION
Monday, November 6th 2023
6:30pm
Town Office Conference Room (86 Mountain Road)
Join Zoom Meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/nXHnS8PsNLGnlaA0baAqH0CWFOcSQznsm3LmnUjNlccIhM0ssxLfVyN5dLOgh2oS.9g_9JxMTHbFsPV6p
Passcode: 6i%1#FC!

In Attendance: Charlie Hancock, Emily Kimball, Mark Brouillette, Leanne Barnard, Suzanne Dollois, Scott Ovitt
On Zoom: Larry Letorneau, Dean Pierce

Meeting called to order at 6:33pm

1. Review and make any changes to the agenda
    a. No changes to the agenda

2. Review/approve minutes of the 10/16 meeting minutes
    a. Motion to approve the minutes made by Mark, seconded by Leanne. Motion passed, 4-0-1 (Emily)
3. Public Works - Updates *(discussion)*
    a. Longley Bridge Road/Trout River work update (*discussion*)
        i. Dean Pierce is here to give an update and quick summary of current status. There is a request before the board to approve a change order. The contractor has been on site and done the work that can be done this fall. They understand that they will need to come back and that the plants that were planted will survive. The change order represents material that was needed in addition to what was planned for due to continued erosion. The change order request is for $58,000.
        ii. Larry spoke to this request that it is particularly unusual and that the town should not be accountable to this after the fact.
        iii. Dean reports on the maximum construction budget, due in part to grant funding. That would be $485,000, as of a few months ago the contract with D&K was $385,233.
        iv. If the change order is approved we are still under the maximum allocated funds. While it is still over the expectation, it is under the $485,000.
            1. Charlie and Dean will connect with JTC to express discontent with this and find out how to deal with this as the Board does not feel responsible to take on this overage as there was so much oversight on this project. Charlie will circulate a scheduling email to try to get this call arranged.

b. Truck Purchase (*discussion, board action*)
    i. Truck #1 has a massive anti-freeze leak. It cannot be repaired at this point. Parts are not available. There is no warranty on this truck.
    ii. The town of Jay has a truck for sale, 65,000 miles on the truck. It has everything that we need in order for us to get through the winter. They are asking $20,000 or best offer, Scott thinks that they will take $18k.
        1. In the machinery replacement fund there is $66,000.
        2. Motion to authorize Scott to purchase a new truck, up to $20,000. Emily made the motion, Suzanne seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.
            a. Scott will call tomorrow.
    iii. Getting a new truck is about 30 months of lead time.

c. Agreement for Municipal Assistance NRPC (*board action*)
    i. Motion to enter into an agreement with NRPC to serve as Municipal Project Manager, with a cost of $1,000. Mark made this motion, Suzanne seconded. Motion passed 5-0-0.

d. Scott reports that we have significant flooding on Vincent Bridge Road and Longley Bridge due to beavers. They have had to call in St. Onge with an excavator numerous times to clear culverts and have had to contact the game wardens. The wardens told Scott that the animals had to be trapped. Scott has since called in a trapper.

4. Visitors (scheduled for 7pm)
    a. Larry reports stopping multiple times at the Longley Bridge project and asking for the engineer and there was not one on site.
    b. Larry asks about the power station on Regan Road and where we are with that project. We are waiting for easements. Mark will follow up on this again to see if we can move forward.
    c. Question about listers, how many there are: Currently Merle and Jamie. Larry notes that the lister cards are out of date and that there is significant work that needs to be done to keep current.
    d. Larry asked about the abandoned properties and if the Health Officer is still involved. We are working to fill positions in the Health Officer and Abandoned Building Ordinance.

5. Old Business
    a. Streetscape Project update (*discussion)*
        i. Follow-up from 10/16 Public Meeting and next steps
            1. Need to get back to the engineers on what scope we want to proceed with. This then needs to go to VTrans for final feedback.
                a. Lots of positive feedback about increased parking at the Rec Center.
                b. Significant support to tear down 98 Main and have additional parking.
                    i. Can there still be an ATM kiosk?
                    ii. Charlie will connect with the Post Office about other possible locations in town to return to.
                c. Raised curbs?
                d. Stop sign on 118, heading into town?
    b. Wastewater Project update *(discussion)*

i. Pre-vetting Survey
    1. 143 sent out, 73 were returned (approximately 50%). Approximately half of those that were returned did not have a name on them though that was requested information. A few trends were noted from these surveys. These questions have been forwarded to the engineers for review.

ii. Property Purchase status
    1. We have been trying to purchase a property in the village to build the disposal field. In August the town made an offer to the landowner. About 4 weeks ago it became apparent that another interested party on the property. This other interested party has made an offer and that was accepted by the landowner. The town was not given an opportunity to rebut the offering price from the other interested party.
    2. Charlie met with the engineers on Friday. There are 20 properties that have been looked at. Without redesigning the entire system, which would cost significantly more, the system cannot be built in the village.
    3. The municipal attorney has been involved in the conversation at this point because the state has invested so much money in this project and there is concern that the state would condemn the property in order to take the property for the project.
    4. Charlie is meeting with the state tomorrow to determine what the next steps for the project are, what the state's interest could be in this project and how this could play out, and what funding stacks we have accessed as far as grants and loans.
        a. Mark asks if the Center project can go forward without the village as far as having enough of a user base to support the project.
        b. Charlie will follow up with what the state partners give for feedback.

iii. Indirect Discharge Permit Status
    1. Paused for the Village at this point.

iv. ARPA agreement and CWSRF loan/subsidy documents (*potential board action*)
    1. This may change given the changes occurring based on the loss of the potential property. Charlie will have more information about this tomorrow.

6. New Business
    a. Liquor/Tobacco Licenses (*board action)*
        i. n/a
    b. Fleet Permits (*board action*)
        i. n/a

7. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters

8. Review Action Items for Board Members

9. Adjourn

Suzanne made a motion to adjourn, Leanne seconded. Motion passed at, meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.