



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

Monday, April 15th 2024
6:30pm

Town Office Conference Room (86 Mountain Road)

In Attendance: Suzanne Dollois, Charlie Hancock, Emily Kimball, Mark Brouillette

On Zoom: Roberta Baker, Merle Van Guiesen, MaryAnn Doyle, Diane Sherman, Jackie Kauffman

1. Review and make any changes to the agenda
 - a. Additions under Public Works
2. Review/approve minutes of the April 1st meeting
 - a. Mark motioned to approve the minutes, Suzanne seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-1
3. Public Works
 - a. Updates (*discussion*)
 - i. Working to begin grading all of the roads, Dave will operate during the day and Scott will put in some extra hours to get the roads back in shape.
 - ii. New hire is working well
 - iii. The 550 is in the shop getting warranty work completed
 - b. Impacts of Sugaring activities on Town roads
 - i. Town members are asking for this to be discussed and the board has received emails regarding impacts of sugaring.
 - ii. The email received requests a public meeting to discuss the issues at hand, this could be a warned meeting
 - iii. The town has been keeping track of what it is costing to repair each road
 - iv. Mark feels that there are roads in town that need to be brought to the attention of the sugar makers and the townspeople because there is undue damage to the roads because of the sugaring, in other towns sugar makers are contributing to the efforts to maintain the roads with materials, labor, trucking, etc.
 - v. Emily asserts that other roads in town are suffering the brunt of deferred maintenance and damage to vehicles due to that wear and tear because all of the attention is being put on maintaining other roads to be passable
 - vi. Charlie discusses the legality of permitting because it is an agricultural product
 - vii. Mark reports that trucks that are over 60,000lbs can be fined by DOT
 - viii. Charlie will look to schedule a meeting in early/mid May to problem solve the issues at hand
 1. Charlie will reach out to the state to get a list of all of the sugar makers in town

- c. Future Strategic Planning
 - i. Pertains to all roads in the community, currently we are working to get through the last phase of mud season and then we will target and address roads in town of highest priority. There are no specific action steps tonight, but this topic will carry forward.
 - d. Grants and Aid Letter of Intent
 - i. SFY 25 Grants and Aid Program for Municipal Roads, this is a letter of intent to participate in the program. We will work with Bethany to identify roads to work on. Mark motions to sign the letter of intent, Suzanne seconded.
 - e. Annual Financial Plan-Town Highways
 - i. \$32,000 for class two roads and \$63,000 for class three roads will be provided for maintenance from the state.
 - ii. Discussions to be had around Route 58 and the cost of maintenance to this road, how can we get more dollars from the state to support the costs of this road due to increased traffic.
 - 1. Charlie will reach out to VTrans to learn more about assistance from the state
 - iii. Suzanne motioned to sign the annual financial plan letter, Mark seconded. Motion passed 4-0-0.
4. Visitors
- a. Roberta Baker is asking that Billy Baker be able to use the grader from Whitcomb to grade Hill West Road. She is reporting that the road is in really bad shape.
 - i. Mark reports that Dave should be up with the grader in the next couple of days.
 - ii. Emily questions what the liability to the town would be
 - iii. Suzanne asked about liability of the town if something were to happen to borrowed grader while working on the town road.
 - iv. Charlie will look into the liability issues that have arisen, for now we will not proceed with the offer, we may circle back at the end of the week.
 - b. Jackie wants to thank the selectboard for the work and thanks Roberta for the offer. Jackie asks for the notes from the visit from VTrans representative. There are not written notes from the VTrans meeting, the takeaways will be represented in the preliminary planning.
 - c. Merle reports that the roads are in poor shape. Merle would like to see the grader running more often.
 - i. Mark reports that the grader is running every day and will continue to do so as the weather is finally allowing.
5. Old Business
- a. Municipal Wastewater Update (*discussion*)
 - i. MTAP SoW for Wastewater Project
 - 1. Charlie has been working with Bethany to apply for \$20,000 to hire a project manager to help manage the project to stay on track and on budget, this would be from April of 2024-2025.
 - 2. Emily motioned to submit this application to the MTAP, Mark seconded. Motion passed 4-0-0.

- b. Streetscape Project Update (*discussion*)
 - i. NEPA has to review the project before it moves forward. This process takes about 6 months. We are in a bit of a time crunch with NBRC to access their funding. Charlie and Bethany are working to get an extension to the “notice to proceed” from NBRC.
 - ii. Update on parking spaces: parking area at the rec center will add 17 spaces and the design for the 98 Main Street space would be 28 parking spaces.
 - 1. Charlie would like to sit with Mark and the road crew to go over the design and how this will impact maintenance and snow removal.
- 6. New Business
 - a. Liquor/Tobacco Licenses (*board action*) – none
 - b. Fleet Permits (*board action*)
 - i. Wrights Excavating Inc
 - ii. Harrison Concrete Construction Inc/Harrison Redi-Mix Corp
 - iii. Vaillancourt Transport
 - 1. Mark motions to approve the slate, Suzanne seconded. Motion passed 4-0-0.
 - c. Meeting in Enosburg
 - i. 4/18, the Enosburg is organizing a meeting to discuss police services. Mark is planning to attend this meeting. Mark will respond to the email that he will attend.
- 7. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters
- 8. Review Action Items for Board Members
- 9. Adjourn
 - a. Suzanne motions to adjourn, Mark seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0-0, meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.