



Town of Montgomery - P.O. Box 356

Montgomery Center, VT 05471

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www.montgomeryvt.us

Town Office Conference Room (86 Mountain Road)

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION

Monday November 18th, 2024, 6:30pm

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/2ft8sY92Z5R0RitMM8Y9Tplyx_lagW-veQaVPsANVjAPTy_Z8lAxQUuX3VcZ95l1.amGIkgSJUUx5JQ_Z?startTime=1731972736000

Passcode: 8Mn@57i!

In Attendance: Tosca Smith, Theresa Almy, Chris Pattullo, Doug Kopacz, Scott Ovitt, Bob Gillmore, Charlie Hancock, Emily Kimball, Mark Brouillette, Leanne Barnard

1. Review and make any changes to the agenda
 - a. School Board Appointment discussion, to NMV
 - b. Add ARE Mechanical quote under old business
 - c. Add Amp Electric
2. Review/approve minutes of the November 4th meeting
 - a. Tabled until next meeting due to attendance
3. Public Works

a. Municipal Wastewater Project Updates

- i. Moving toward 90% deliverable target to be able to go to bid
- ii. The easement values are almost complete and ready to share based on the square foot value for each property; this will feed into the final documentation that should go out to people in January

b. Streetscape Project Update

- i. Team is having one on one conversations with landowners to iron out the small details to have the least impact possible on landowners
- ii. There may be an issue at the Rec Center because of the ditching that abuts 118 because the state may consider this a “wetland”

c. General Updates

i. Trout River/Longley Bridge Road bank Stabilization Project Update
(update)

- 1. The Army Corp needed to come out and certify that 90% of the plants were growing. They would not come out during the growing season, pictures were sent but they will not certify it. We are working with VTrans to see if they can certify rather than the Army Corps. If this cannot be done and the project closed out then the contractors cannot be paid until this is done.

ii. Regan Road Power Project – construction of building

- 1. Scott Ovitt reports that the building was ordered and it is ready to go. The building will be moved and put into place tomorrow and then Doug will be able to put the Communications Infrastructure into place. He will put conduit into place tomorrow so that it is in before the ground freezes. Discussion ensued with regard to the solar power that is currently running the water pump.
- 2. Burlington Telecoms will be coming 12/16 in order to install an antenna. Mark will give Doug contact information for Ray Racine in order to make sure that all power needs are met prior to the solar panel being removed.

iii. Grader Repair Status(s)

1. Quote from CAT for repair work. Scott has been trying to chase down other alternatives to fixing the grader through CAT but he hasn't had any luck in getting anyone to follow up on his requests for service.
 - a. To fix the current problem (machine isn't holding oil pressure), has been quoted at \$120,000. There is also concern that there is antifreeze in the oil sample, and there has been concern about the transmission needing to be rebuilt.
 - b. Scott will continue to look for other people who may be able to do the work, Chris Pattullo may have a contact that might be willing give a quote to do the work.

4. Visitors

- a. Theresa asked a question about tax rates and her mortgage going up because her taxes are escrowed into her mortgage
- b. Theresa also questioned the cost of the wastewater system and does not want the system to go into effect

5. Old Business

- a. Town Hall Committee status
 - i. Current status with regard to the committee: there are four interested people that want to be on the committee to fill two vacant seats. The current committee is Tosca, Tara Lumbr, Abe Barnard, Brad Elliott and Shane Mercy. There may be a desire to keep the number at five but they will look into the charter to see what is required.
 - ii. Building Use Policy updates/Fee Schedule (*discussion/potential board action*)
 1. There is not an updated policy at this time. There will not be a policy put into place until the work is done to make the necessary repairs to plumbing and to get the kitchen inspectable.
 2. There is work being done to install a heat pump.

3. Tosca has applied for a grant from Vermont Electric to help offset costs for electric from AMP Electric and ARE Mechanical (see below for cost breakdown)
4. AMP Electric—Mark motioned to use \$1470 from the Town Hall Fund, Leanne seconded. Motion passed 4-0-0.
5. ARE Mechanical—Heat Pump Installation work—Estimate was \$3,119.00. Mark motioned to approve the estimate from ARE Mechanical for \$3,119.00 from the Town Hall fund to cover the Heat Pump Installation. Motion passed 4-0-0.

b. Food Shelf (Heart Full Kitchen) -Draft Lease agreement

- i. What is the status of Heart Full Kitchen? 501c3 unincorporated association. Waiting for the non-profit organization letter from the IRS to begin working with the Food Shelf. This is a separate entity from the Town Hall Committee. They are applying for liability insurance but are waiting for the lease agreement to do this.
 1. 10 hours per week is what it is taking on average to manage the food shelf, with open hours being Tuesdays 2-5 for the winter, and Tuesdays 3-6 for the other seasons. Language about arbitration and right of first refusal will be struck from the lease agreement. Fixed improvements stay with the building.
 2. Tosca thinks that it would be fair to use the building, in proportion to what the building use policy would ask for, approximately \$1200/year.
 3. Tosca has been there more to move the extra clothing from the hurricane relief effort into hands that need them.

c. Town Office/Public Safety Building Reno project

- i. MERP award for \$297,000 that will fund work on this project

d. Evergreen Foundation proposal (*discussion/potential board action*)

- i. Bob has sent a proposal to remove some vegetation on 58 in order to open up some views of the Trout River as well as removing some knotweed.

- ii. Small woody vegetation is keeping the banks stable and may also allow for the knotweed to take over more prolifically.
- iii. There is concern also that opening up more views and space will encourage more parking, which is counter to what the town wants due to safety concerns about traffic.
- iv. Charlie suggests that this will need to be viewed in the spring when the trees leaf out and the scope of work could actually be seen. It is also suggested that the neighboring properties also be looped into this conversation.

6. New Business

- a. NVMUUSD is seeking input from the Selectboard about an opening on the Board. Mary Niles has a few interested parties and she will be back in touch with us before the next meeting so that the board can discuss.
- b. Liquor/Tobacco Licenses (*board action*)
- c. Fleet Permits (*board action*)—none

7. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters

8. Review Action Items for Board Members

9. Adjourn

- a. Mark motioned to adjourn, Leanne seconded. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 7:59pm.