Town of Montgomery - P.O. Box 356
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Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SELECTBOARD & WATER COMMISSION
Monday September 15th 2025
6:30pm
Town Office (86 Mountain Road)
View Recording via NWATV:
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLrBf_FpjKbwcSJm_gBqfFSmPGaVWJXBB7

In attendance: Charlie Hancock, Leanne Barnard, Mark Brouillette, Daniel Kahn (board); Roberta Baker, Sarita Kahn, Scott Ovitt (visitors); Larry Letourneau (on zoom)

1. Review and make any changes to the agenda
    a. Added: Longley Bridge Road Project update
    b. Added: New Ford truck purchase – loan packet for board signature
    c. Added: Executive Session per 1 V.S.A. § 313 1(B) labor relations agreements with employees, and/or 3 - the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee; as well as to discuss negotiations re: SOS proposal
    d. Removed – Open Approach

2. Review/approve minutes of the August 18th meeting
    a. Motion to approve as written Leanne; Seconded by Mark; approved 3-0-1 (Daniel Abstains)

3. Public Works
    a. Municipal Wastewater Project Updates (*discussion*)
        i. By the end of September, we anticipate finalizing the stamped Drawings and bid documents for submittal to WID and IDR for WID design approval and so the IDR can issue the draft permit for public comment and project can go to bid in October.
        ii. Easement Status Update
            1. 78 easements executed and received
            2. 10 additional easements pending from landowners (expected soon)
            3. 10 properties expected to head to court action (landowners either a hard no, or have become unresponsive to requests to engage the town in the matter).
            4. Charlie will arrange for presentation from legal counsel on next steps and required board action(s) prior to filing. Discussion ensued.
        iii. STEP III Engineering (construction) submittal has been submitted to WID; comments expected back by early October

b. Streetscape Project Updates (*discussion*)
    i. Charlie met with Engineering team, VTrans, and NRPC (Bethany) earlier this week; still looking to secure funding to get project through right-of-way, which is next step required before additional funding for construction can be applied for through state/federal sources.

c. Water System
    i. System Operation/Operator Proposal(s) (*discussion/potential board action*)
        1. H20 Innovation has formally declined to submit a proposal, leaving SOS the only proposal to be considered by town. ***Board discussion on proposal moved to executive session.***

d. General Updates *(discussion)*
    i. Road Crew Vacancy Hire (*board action*)
        1. Discussion moved to Executive Session
    ii. Longely Bridge Road Project (added) – documentation has been submitted to ACOE w/ concurrence of 90% planting survivability. Working to wrap up final loose ends now, but this should close the book on this project/release final payments and release of deposit.
    iii. Town Garage Repairs (*board action*) - item from Scott – estimate on Snow Guards; Scott solicited bids from multiple companies but has still only received one quote back. This repair/replacement is needed before winter. Moved to approve quote for repair/replacement of snow guards not to exceed $17,000, to be paid for out of the building capital improvement fund; seconded by Daniel. Approved 3-0-1 (Leanne abstains).
    iv. Added: loan paperwork for Ford
        1. Loan will reimburse payment made, previously approved. Motion to authorize and executive the loan paperwork with Community Bank N/A in the amount of $84,773 made by Mark; seconded by Daniel; approved 4-0.

4. Visitors
    a. Roberta – asked for calrifiation on Class IV road policy and past discussion on repairs/material replacement; discussion on vegetative management and ditching status
    b. Sarita – asked about status of wastewater project
    c. Scott – here for public works and road crew hiring discussion
    d. Larry – asked about drought situation and water issues. Town will allow community members to get water from PSB. Individuals should contact town to set up collection; Liz will get word out.

5. Old Business
    a. Town Office Staffing (*discussion/potential board action*) – ***moved to Executive Session***
    b. Town Office/PSB renovation project (*update*)
        i. *Preliminary* Estimates subject to reduction
            1. General Construction: $750,000.00
            2. Vault Door: Rough Estimate from Royal $20,000.00

3. Vault: $95,000.00
4. Plumbing & HVAC $95,000.00
5. Electrical: $70,000.00
6. Addition: $70,000.00 *(*consideration of dropping this)*

ii. Not applied for SoVT construction permit yet – was waiting on cost estimates

iii. Timeline pending as construction costs clarified. Note that Funding in Hand - $4k to cover the work with MillBrook; MERP award - $297,397.60; Town ARPA Reserve Account - $287,183

c. Open Approach Quote for computer system upgrades (*board action*)

i. Removed from Agenda and tabled to a future date

6. New Business

a. Heartful Kitchen Lease renewal (*board action*)

i. Existing Lease runs through November 30th 2025; item will be carried forward to future meeting

b. Opioid Settlement (*board action*)

i. Town has option to join in settlement with Purdue/Sackler Family. Funds would be used for any town efforts to address opioid use. Joining settlement work release any future claims against Purdue/Sackler. Motion to join the settlement by Leanne; seconded by Daniel; approved 4-0.

c. FY25 Budget Status Review follow-up *(discussion)* – outstanding questions from FY25 summary discussed. No actions taken.

d. October Meeting Schedule

i. Board will schedule meeting for October 27th (4th Monday instead of the 3rd) instead of doing the regular schedule on October 20th due to Auditors need the conference room.

e. Liquor/Tobacco Licenses *(board action)*

f. Fleet Permits *(board action)*

7. Executive Session – motion to enter into Executive Session by Mark; seconded by Daniel; approved 4-0.
8. Executive Session – motion to exit Executive Session by Mark; seconded by Leanne; approved 3-0 (note that Daniel had to leave the meeting early at the end of the Executive Session discussion).

a. Motion to appoint Laurie Thompson as Assistant Clerk for 15 hours a week at $20hr made by Mark; seconded by Leanne; approved 3-0

b. Motion to offer the Town road crew position to Kody Deuso at a rate of $28/hr., to be increased to $29/hr, after 60 day probationary period made by Mark; seconded by Leanne; approved 3-0.

9. Open Mail / Sign Orders / Administrative Matters
10. Review Action Items for Board Members
11. Adjourn

a. Motion to adjourn by Mark; seconded by Leanne; approved 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.