

TOWN OF MONSON

"A town where friendliness is more than just a word"

April 13, 2023 – Select Board Meeting

Present –Tyler Adkins, Sandra Hardy, Sue Chase, Marti Gagnon, Bill MacDonald, Steve Gomes,
Larry Daggett, Mickey Knowles

- 1) Meeting opened at 6:00 PM
- 2) Selectboard approves prior meeting minutes and signs warrants

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

NEW BUSINESS

Contract with Abbot Explorers ATV Club: Larry Daggett presented a previous 5 year contract between the Town and the ATV Club. He explained that the Club is seeking a new contract for ATV use on the Barrows Fall Road, from where the road turns to dirt on the Abbot end to just past the Barrow Falls bridge, a distance of approximately 1.25 miles. There are no dwellings on that section of road. The club will post directions and beginning/end access signs. The Selectboard voted 3 – 0 to extend the contract for an additional year. There will be an upcoming public meeting regarding ATV access and the contract may be modified after the meeting.

SELECTBOARD REPORTS

Sandra asked about the cell tower and website updates. Tyler stated there is nothing new to report about the cell tower. Bill stated that Jade has been keeping the website updated.

Sue asked about no thru trucks on North Guilford Rd and for an update on the WiFi node placement. Bill had no update on the no thru trucks and he has reached out to Kim at Axiom to help determine which pole will be best for the node.

Tyler asked if there has been any progress made on the GIS updates. Bill stated there has been no recent progress, but he will work on getting the updated information to Spatial Alternatives.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Bill noted that a lot of time has been spent working on the budget and trying to figure out what can be decreased and what expenses may be expected in the near future.

The NRCM grant for community solar was denied. A \$3,000 grant was submitted to MMA for Fire Department Safety. 2021 audit info has been submitted.

CEO REPORT: Bill presented the Code Enforcement report to the Selectboard. Sue requested that dates and timelines be added to the reports so the board will be better prepared to answer questions from residents.

BUDGET YTD: Bill explained that certain public works items such as sand, culverts and cold patch will be pre ordered for next year using left over money in this year's budget. The salt budget will be cut in half next year because the sand shed is still half full. The major increases affecting this year's budget are the school, plow contract and county tax. Bill then proceeded to go through other changes to the budget and answered questions. There is a budget meeting scheduled for April 20 at 5:00 pm. A special Selectboard meeting was tentatively scheduled for April 27 at 5:00 pm to finalize the warrant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: The committee has leftover merchandise they intend to sell to the Historical Society for cost. The Historical Society may then re-sell the merchandise.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE: Town Clean-Up/Free Dump Day will be on April 29 from 9:00 – Noon. The annual plant sale will be held on May 28.

NEW BUSINESS

Vote to Sign County Assessment: The Selectboard read and signed the county assessment. Vote: 3 – 0. The assessment was increased 24.33% from last year.

Town Meeting Warrant Article Regarding Admin. Equipment Reserve Fund: The Selectboard VOTED 3 - 0 to draft a warrant article to authorize a transfer from the Administration Equipment Reserve Fund to purchase a new server for the Town Office.

Town Meeting Warrant Article to Authorize the Selectboard to Authorize Transfers from Reserve Funds: The Selectboard voted 3 – 0 to draft a warrant article to authorize the Selectboard to authorize the transfer of funds from reserve accounts for purchases, up to a certain dollar amount. The amount is yet to be determined.

Public Meeting for ATV Access on public roads: It was decided that a meeting is not needed right away but should be held before Memorial Day. Bill will reach out to the local ATV clubs and other key people to arrange a meeting date.

Lakeshore House Special Liquor License: The Lakeshore House submitted an application for a special liquor license for a Monson Collaborative event at the gym on May 6. The Selectboard signed the application.

Tyler Adkins motioned to move to Executive Session for 1 MRSA ss 405 (6) (A)- Personnel Matters, seconded by Sandra Hardy, at 8:30 pm.

Meeting moved out of Executive Session at 9:11 pm. Tyler Adkins moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sandra Hardy. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.