

TOWN OF MONSON

A Town Where Friendliness is More than Just a Word

June 14, 2018 - Select Board Meeting

Present were: Select board – Eric Vainio, Brita Cronkite, Buddy Martin, and Town Manager, Daniel Swain.

Town – some townfolk in attendance: Bobbie Crockett, Brian Turner, Jim Greenleaf, Joanne Adkins, Tracey Adkins, Glenn Poole Bob Jarvis and Roberta Jarvis.

- 1) The meeting began at 7:00 pm – Jim Greenleaf commented on a corrected spelling needed for the Daigle family regarding the Gully Brook paragraph from the previous meeting.
- 2) Selectboard reviews and signs off all necessary warrants and the review of unapproved meeting minutes.
- 3) At 7:10 pm, Buddy Martin officially opens the meeting to **Public Comment**.
- 4) **Public Comment:** Jim Greenleaf remarked that it was Hardwood Products that donated the woodchips to the playground and not the Woods family as previously (mis)understood.

Glenn Poole brought up the water problem in the basement of the Historical Museum which was measured to have water flowing through there at the rate of a gallon per minute since the basement is actually below the water level. The museum contracted TC Haffords who guaranteed to fix the problem using a honeycomb method. A bulkhead will also be added in order to ease access to the basement and to remove items that must be out before the water problem can be addressed.

Brian Turner added that the DEP will also have to be involved because the building is close to the brook. Much of the discussion revolved around these subjects. Brian mentioned that it would be best to include an engineer in the configuring if there isn't one already.

Glenn also asked if the town would consider repairs or changes to the chain link fence at the canal head, as it does not appear to be in safe shape. The pipes – couplings seem to be falling apart. Some discussion was regarding who actually owned the fence since it is actually on/in the sidewalk.

Roberta Jarvis wanted to share the good news that a couple came into her shop and had nothing but praise for the town and the people living here.

Bob Jarvis asked about Spring St., and the area where spring creek is regarding the road repairs and whether or not the other half of the road was to be shut down. Some chat was about the gravel being dumped there to discourage through traffic, but had since been shoveled down. Daniel remarked that the culvert seemed OK but they had not as of yet successfully shut down the road. Daniel also suggested that a sign that reads “Dead End” (or, “Not a Through Way”) might help. Buddy Martin suggested moving boulders into the road as well, in order to block it.

A. Committee Reports:

- B. Gym Committee: rep Jim Greenleaf described some of the work done on the gym in the last couple of weeks. As stated before, the framing, partitions and the mold issue was addressed, so now they are waiting on a Plumber and Electrician to do what they need to do. He also stated that they could guarantee the bulk of the work will be done by the time we hold the annual Alumni Banquet. There were some Q and A as Jim went on to describe some duct work and some of the remodel.
- C. Recreation Committee and Festival Committee: The Rec/com will hold a kickball game after the town fixes the baseball field. No further discussion to turn the field into anything else. Some brief discussion regarding the dumpster in the back of the gym...
- D. The Festival committee is on schedule and will also have a speaker named Paul Dion at the Arts Center.
- E. Bicentennial Committee: Daniel sent letters out to the previous members of the Bi/com to ask them if they had a desire to be on this committee again. Cindy Ranta was the only response. Daniel will soon open the offer to any and all who may want to be a part.

Bob Jarvis brought up the Nosin' 'Round Monson event that was extremely successful for much of the businesses in Monson. Glenn remarked about all the people that he had encountered who were from Monson but visiting the Monson

business sector for the first time. The event was targeted for the locals to enjoy and experience, and we seemed to accomplish just that as a town. There was much positive discussion following.

1) **Old Business:**

- a) Some in attendance were again reporting the issue of the dirty streets in town and how much we needed a street sweeper. Daniel said he had already contacted TGH Enterprises (out of Carmel) who were planning to come into Monson to clean the streets.

2) **New Business:**

- a) Library space in the town hall was discussed again and it had been decided that the space would indeed be used between the Fire Department and the Town Hall employees.
- b) Winter Salt/Sanding bids were publicized and the lowest bid was from Morton Salt at \$61.38 pr ton. Daniel ordered 200 ton of salt/sand mix (anti cake). Buddy Martin made a motion that we accept their bid from Morton Salt at \$61.38 pr ton, and Brita Cronkite seconded it. Daniel read and described the bid requirement of 2000 yards of sand needed. Brian Turner said that only 1700 yards will fit in the shed, and the remainder will have to be stored outside the shed. He also suggested to go back to what we used to do by keeping a record of sand usage so that we can be sure we are not getting sand stolen from us. In the meantime Daniel will advertise for bids online and through the paper etc.
- c) Another idea for waterfront beautification was brought up regarding the property over by the Quarry restaurant. (Formerly Pete's Place). To create a docking area with many spaces for boaters and to include the possibility of having a kayak rental area. Some discussion regarding a retaining wall, looking into an easement, and the practicality of a kayak rental was mentioned. This subject launched a lot of cross-talk and ideas that could not be deciphered for note taking.

3) **Items Not on the Agenda:**

Eric Vainio brought up Homer Hill and the new property development. The culvert is still not working properly and contributes to much erosion of the road because it was originally installed incorrectly. Again, the town will provide another culvert, but it is up to the property owner to properly install the new culvert. He is also responsible for ditching the road in and around his own property. Chris Latter has finished ditching for the town on Homer Hill. As for the culvert and the ditching required by the property owner on upper Homer Hill, Daniel and Brian will investigate the matter further.

Bob Jarvis asks about the blinking yellow light that is there in place but is not working.

Eric Vainio also brought up the many complaints he has learned of regarding poor parking in Monson, and also a new issue; the handicap ramp that Libra is building in front of Betts old building.

Brita Cronkite asks Daniel to bring a calendar of Events to the next meeting so they can see an overview of events.

With no more agenda, Buddy called to end the meeting promptly at 8:00 pm.

The next meeting is slated for June 28th.