

# Town of Mendon

Selectboard

December 12, 2016

Members of the Selectboard present: Larry Courcelle, Geoff Wells, Richard Wilcox

Town Officers and employees present: Sara Tully, Town Administrator, Bill Ellis, Road Commissioner, Phil Douglas, Constable

Residents and Visitors present: Fred Bagley

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM at the Town Office.

*Additions/deletions to the Agenda:* Motion by L. Courcelle to approve the agenda adding Change Order Approval LaFaso Electrical Contract, Replacement of Constable Vehicle, Truck Accident and Sheriff Contract Update to the agenda. Seconded by R. Wilcox. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

## Administrative Matters

*Selectmen's Orders* approved and signed.

Minutes of Previous Meetings: L. Courcelle moved to approve the minutes of 11/28/16. Motion seconded by G. Wells. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

## Announcements

Old Turnpike Legal Trail into Chittenden was blazed by Justin Lindholm and Geoff Wells

Aitken State Forest Planning for the Future, December 13, 2016, Larry Courcelle will attend this meeting.

## Business:

*FEMA Buy-out of 6196 US 4* The Selectboard reviewed a letter from Robert Faley, VTRANS indicating they will accept the transfer of the property after the buyout can be completed. Susan Schreiber will continue to administratively represent the town of Mendon. Motion by L. Courcelle to approve the CDBG-DR1 Flood Damaged Property Subgrant Agreement between Mendon and Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission to undertake the buyout of 6196 US Route 4 in Mendon. Motion seconded by G. Wells. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion and the agreement was signed by Larry Courcelle.

*Double electrical poles on Route 4* F. Bagley expressed concern over the great number of old unused utility poles along Route 4 through the Village and Conservation Districts. There are 49 old style poles in a three mile stretch that appear to redundant or duplicate. Three poles have no wires attached, 17 have a single remaining wire and 29 have two wires and stand a few feet from newer, larger poles. F. Bagley requested the Selectboard contact the Vermont Public Service

Board requesting their assistance in determining what options are available to remove the redundant poles. The Selectboard will review the letter to the Vermont Service Board and discuss its submission at their next meeting.

*Presentations at Town Meeting* The Selectboard discussed the presentations for Town meeting which will include Budget, Public Safety and the Sand and Salt Shed Project.

*Past Due Bridge Payment to State of Vermont for Bridge 14 & 20* The State of Vermont offered a five year payment schedule for the Town of Mendon to pay off the balance of two bridges upgraded in 2001. The town was unable to locate documentation that the past due invoice was ever paid. Motion by L. Courcelle to authorize the past due payment of \$45,863.75 for bridges 14 & 20 in a five year payment schedule. Motion seconded by G. Wells. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

*Rutland City Fire Department* Rutland City is considering a budget proposal that will eliminate 3 firefighters and increase the administrative staff of the department. The Selectboard discussed inquiring how the proposed budget would affect service to Mendon.

*Municipal Planning Grant* Mendon did not receive a Municipal Planning Grant to rewrite the Mendon Town Plan. S. Tully will follow up with Rutland Regional Planning Commission to review the application.

*Emergency Response Trailer for Sale \$4,500* S. Tully has advertised the sale of the trailer and reported the town has received one written offer. P. Douglas also stated he had previously made an offer. In light of the multiple offers, the Selectboard decided to accept written offers until the next meeting 12-19-16.

*Unemployment Claim* The Town is paying an unemployment claim on a previous employee as unemployment looks back at 18 months of employment history.

*Signs- Town Office and Entry Signs* The Selectboard discussed the need to replace all three 'Town of Mendon' signs as they are approximately 20 years old. The Selectboard discussed the timing that the Town Office sign was a priority and reviewed a quote for its replacement. S. Tully will obtain a quote for each sign to be replaced.

*2017-2018 Budget Discussion* The Selectboard reviewed the budget in detail. S. Tully will include the changes for further discussion at the next meeting.

*Animal Control* – The new Rutland County Sheriff contract includes services for animal control. The Town of Mendon has an Animal Control Ordinance and an appointed officer. Services will need to be coordinated. P. Douglas will get a detail of services provided by the Rutland County Sheriff.

*Change Order Approval LaFaso Electrical Contract* S. Tully submitted change order #1 to be approved by the Selectboard which changes the LaFaso Contract from \$10,932.40 to \$10,804.55. Motion by L. Courcelle to approve Change Order #1 to the LaFaso Electric-Mendon Contract totaling \$10,804.55 from the original price of \$10,932.40. G. Wells seconded the motion and the Selectboard approved the motion unanimously.

*Replacement of Constable Vehicle* P. Douglas requested the purchase of a new vehicle to replace the 2008 Silverado Pick Up driven by the Constable. He requested to purchase a vehicle from MHQ, a Massachusetts company stating they have the lowest price by 5-10% less than Vermont contract prices. The Selectboard requested three quotes for comparison. It was also requested by P. Douglas and B. Ellis the 2008 Silverado be transferred to the Highway Department to inspect roads.

*Sheriff Contract Update* P. Douglas provided an update on the current contract.

*Truck Accidents* S. Tully reported two truck accidents involving truck #2 driven by Newt Jones.

Motion by L. Courcelle to enter Executive Session at 8:24 PM to discuss personnel with the Selectboard, B. Ellis and S. Tully present. Motion seconded by R. Wilcox. The motion passed unanimously. The Chair declared the Board out of Executive Session at 8:50 PM

No action taken.

There being no further business, G. Wells moved to adjourn the Selectboard Meeting at 8:55 PM. Motion seconded by R. Wilcox. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Date approved \_\_\_\_\_

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Larry Courcelle

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Susan Schreiber, Acting Selectboard Clerk

Geoff Wells

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Richard Wilcox