

Town of Mendon

Selectboard

March 28, 2022

Members of Selectboard present: Larry Courcelle, Val Taylor, Bryan Sell

Town Officers and employees present: Sara Tully, Town Administrator & Health Officer, Bill Ellis, Road Commissioner, Teri Corsones, Fred Bagley, Gary Sihler, and Justin Lindholm, Planning Commission members.

Visitors present: Rep. Jim Harrison

The Selectboard Meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM at the Town Office.

Agenda: Motion by L. Courcelle to approve the agenda as presented. Motion seconded by B. Sell. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Announcement

The Town will be conducting a Public Hearing at 6 PM for interested parties to comment on the Town Plan with new Energy Section and the Enhanced Energy Plan.

Legislative Update Representative James Harrison attended the Selectboard Meeting to provide a legislative update and answer any question for the Selectboard. J. Harrison discussed reapportionment, municipal energy bill, ARPA, energy retrofits for municipal buildings, transportation funding for municipal bridges, municipal road assistance is level funded, State Education Tax Rate to decrease due to surplus, status of the rental registry bill, explanation of a new program called IDEAL that will provide education and policies involving equity and inclusion, and a bill that addresses a new local options tax town's can adopt without having to go through the state. The Selectboard expressed concern regarding changes in the state providing dispatching services for about 100 organizations including dispatching the Mendon Constable. J. Harrison stated the legislature appointed a committee to research and come up with a plan that included input from affected organizations. The Selectboard thanked J. Harrison for meeting with the Selectboard.

Administrative Matters

Selectmen's Orders were reviewed.

Motion by L. Courcelle to approve orders for 3/28/22 in the amount of \$44,878.83 and payroll for 3/22/22 for \$17,012.25. Motion seconded by B. Sell. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

2022-2023 Goals and Objectives S. Tully presented the 2022-2023 Goals and Objectives for the

Selectboard to review and prioritized. Lengthy discussion of projects current underway for Spring 2022 and plans for Summer 2022. There remains a list of projects that will not be looked at until Fall 2022.

AOT Annual Financial Plan The Selectboard reviewed the annual financial plan. Motion by L. Courcelle to approve the annual financial plan and sign TA-60 form. Motion seconded by B. Sell. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: L. Courcelle moved to approve the minutes of 3/14/22. Motion seconded by B. Sell. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Public Comment None

Public Hearing of the Town Plan with new Energy Section and the Enhanced Energy Plan

The Chair called the Public Hearing on the Enhanced Energy Plan and Mendon Town Plan with new energy section to order at 6 PM. T. Corsones provided an overview of the adoption of the Town Plan in 2020 and the work that then commenced on the drafting of the Enhanced Energy Plan with the assistance of the Rutland Regional Planning Commission. A key benefit to having an approved Enhanced Energy Plan is the town is afforded substantial deference in applications before the Public Utility Commission. This enhances the Town's chances that we can effectively represent Mendon in accordance with prior planning instruments of the Town Plan and Enhanced Energy Plan. It puts us in the best position we can be in accordance with current statutes. L. Courcelle informed the Selectboard and Planning Commission that the RRPC will review the Enhanced Energy Plan for approval on April 19th at 6 PM. L. Courcelle thanked the Planning Commission for all the hard work on the Town Plan and the Enhanced Energy Plan. The Planning Commission thanked Barbara Noyes-Pulling from RRPC for all her guidance with the Enhanced Energy Plan. The Chair adjourned the Public Hearing.

Appointment of Officers Motion made by L. Courcelle to appoint:

William Ellis, Road Commissioner for a one year term expiring 3/31/23

Sara Hebert Tully, Road Commissioner Admin. for a one year term expiring 3/31/23

Mary Ann Reich, Town Service Officer for a one year term expiring 3/31/23

Dick Howe, Planning Commission for a four year term expiring 3/31/24

Susannah Loffredo, Zoning Administrator for a three year term expiring 3/31/25

Therese Corsones, Zoning Board of Adjustment for a three year term expiring 3/31/25

Mike Curran, Zoning Board of Adjustment for a three year term expiring 3/31/25

Andrew Zak, Zoning Board of Adjustment for a three year term expiring 3/31/25

Lisa Brooks, Town Recreation for a one year term expiring 3/31/23

Val Taylor, Cemetery Commission for a one year term expiring 3/31/23

William Ellis, Cemetery Commission for a one year term expiring 3/31/23

Dennis Charles, Cemetery Commission for a one year term expiring 3/31/23

Larry Courcelle, Rutland Regional Transportation Advisory Council for a three year term expiring 3/31/25

Sara Hebert Tully, Town Health Officer for a three year term expiring 4/30/25

To set a 3 year term for the Otter Creek Communications Union District representative and appoint Larry Courcelle for a three year term expiring 3/31/25

Motion seconded by B. Sell. Discussion about some appointments was conducted. T. Corsones discussed the Planning Commission's recommendation to the Selectboard to appoint Susannah Loffredo as the Zoning Administrator. S. Tully has made contact with S. Loffredo to discuss training with Jesse Bridge Interim Zoning Administrator once appointed to the position. The town looks forward to working with Susannah. No further discussion the Chair called for a vote. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

The Selectboard approved and signed a certification form confirming Larry Courcelle, Rutland Regional Planning Commissioners with a term that expires 3/31/24.

Business

Adoption of the Enhanced Energy Plan and Mendon Town Plan with new Energy Section

Motion by V. Taylor to adopt the Enhanced Energy Plan and the Town Plan with the new Energy Section. Motion seconded by B. Sell. L. Courcelle suggested a typographical correction on the last page of the Enhanced Energy Plan that referenced REDC (Rutland Economic Development Corporation). REDC has now been combined with the Rutland Chamber of Commerce to form the Chamber and Economic Development of the Rutland Region or CEDRR. The change was approved and updated. The motion passed unanimously. Motion by V. Taylor to create a three-member Energy Committee with staggered term expirations and appoint T. Corsones, term expires 3/31/23, J. Lindholm, term expires 3/31/24 and G. Sihler term expires 3/31/25. Motion seconded by B. Sell. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan S. Tully presented two proposals to assist the Town of Mendon with the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. S. Tully provided an evaluation of each proposal along with copies of LHMP updates conducted for other municipalities and references. The cost of the proposal were similar at \$7,200-\$7,928 depending on how many in person meetings were conducted versus virtual meetings. Motion by L. Courcelle to accept the proposal from Rutland regional Planning Commission to provide services to update the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan for \$7,928. Motion seconded by B. Sell. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Paving Bids S. Tully presented the results of sealed paving bids due 3/28/22. Motion by L. Courcelle to accept Fuller sand and Gravel’s bid of:

	Fuller Sand & Gravel
Reclaiming	\$ 1.10
Hot mix asphalt Type II	\$ 74.20
Hot mix asphalt Type IV	\$ 79.84
Shoulder gravel, sweeping and compaction	\$ 10.00

For an estimated total project cost to reclaim and pave Notch Road, Sherwood Drive and Terra Lane and pave the Town Office parking lot of \$607,637.78 to be paid out of the Highway Improvement Fund. Motion seconded by B. Sell. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Recreation Area & RCLL Facility Use Agreement S. Tully presented a Facility Use Agreement for the Rutland County Little League requesting the use of the Mendon Recreation Area. The Selectboard agreed to waive the facility use fee in exchange for a spring clean up and work session to prepare the ball field for play, the placement and payment of a porta potty for the duration of their use of the field, and lining the field for their use. The town will grant access to the storage shed and impose a carry in carry out garbage and recycling policy. The town will mow the field in accordance with a provided game schedule. S. Tully will execute the Facility Use Agreement with these noted requirements.

Woodward Road Dry Hydrant Replacement Project The Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force is providing technical assistance for the relocation and replacement of the Woodward Road Dry Hydrant. The town is submitting a grant application to assist in paying for the

relocation and replacement of the dry hydrant. L. Courcelle agreed to be the Selectboard representative to assist with the planning and execution of the project. The Selectboard authorized L. Courcelle to represent the town with the planning and execution of the project with S. Tully.

V. Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 PM. Motion seconded by L. Courcelle. The Selectboard approved the motion.

Date Approved_____

Larry Courcelle

Sara Tully - Clerk of the Board

Val Taylor

Bryan Sell