

Town of Mendon

Selectboard

August 26, 2024

Members of Selectboard present: Val Taylor, Megan Smith, Seth Bridge

Town Officers and employees present: Sara Tully, Town Administrator & Health Officer, Chris Baird, Road Commissioner, Liam Fracht-Monroe, Recreation Committee Chair

Rutland County Sheriff Deputy is present.

Visitors present: Brian and Carol Gates

V. Taylor called to order at 5:34 PM at the Town Office.

Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda:

Motion by V. Taylor to approve the agenda with deletion of the Deisel Tank Cover project and additions of Route 4 Scoping Study and the Playground Project to the agenda. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Administrative Matters

Selectmen's Orders were reviewed.

Motion by V. Taylor to approve the minutes for 7/22/24 as amended to add wording that the tax rate will be amended at the next meeting. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Motion by V. Taylor to approve orders for \$36,598.60 and \$11,550.03. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Motion by V. Taylor to approve payroll for \$11,563.63 and \$11,462.94. Motion seconded by M. Smith. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Motion by V. Taylor to execute the FY25 Grants in Aid Agreement for \$7,000. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Announcements: None

Public Comment:

Brian Gates questioned what is going on with his neighbor's driveway and that S. Bridge said a violation was being issued. S. Bridge responded that C. Baird, Road Commissioner met with Joe

Trego to determine the work to be completed. C. Baird explained the detail of work to be completed with the driveway with a timeframe of 30 days to complete the work. B. Gates stated that he is supposed to correct his driveway within 7 days of a zoning violation. S. Tully informed the Board that this is not a violation of zoning, it is a regulation in the Highway Specification Ordinance and requires a permit to construct within the Town's right of way. Zoning violations are not issued by the Selectboard, but go through Steve Ellerin, Zoning Administrator. C. Gates interrupted the Selectboard demanding the Town Administrator stop shaking her head. S. Bridge was trying to explain that the Road Commissioner is working with his neighbor to fix the driveway. B. Gates said he doesn't understand why a letter can't be sent with a timeline; it's been 3.5 years.

Business

Amend the 2024-2025 Tax Rate Motion by V. Taylor to amend the 2024-2025 Tax Rates based on a corrected Grand List calculation. The Municipal Rate amended to be \$.4321, Homestead Rate amended to be 1.9060, and the Non-Residential Rate amended to be \$1.9826. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

2024/2025 Tax Rate:

AMENDED

Homestead = \$1.9060

Non-Residential = \$1.9826

(\$.4321+\$1.4729+\$.0010)

(\$.4321+\$1.5495+\$.0010)

Municipal Tax Rate: \$.4321

2024-2025 Amount to be raised by taxes \$1,168,609 (cash forward \$28,691)

2024-2025 Municipal Grand List \$2,428,207

Education Tax Rate:

Homestead = \$1.4729

Non-Residential = \$1.5495

Local Agreement Tax: \$.0010

2024-2025 Summary:

Municipal Tax Rate= \$.0007 decrease or .2% decrease

Education Tax Rate:

Homestead = \$.2724 increase or 22.7% increase

Non-Residential = \$.1691 increase or 12.3% increase

Total Homestead = \$.0219 increase or 16.6% increase

Total Non-Residential = \$.1686 increase or 9.3% increase

Health Officer Appointment S. Tully expressed to the Selectboard she would like to step down from the Health Officer. Trish Molloy has agreed to fulfill this role. The Health Officer appointment is made by the Commissioner of the VT Department of Health after a

recommendation from the town. Motion by M. Smith to appoint Trish Molloy, Health Officer for the Town of Mendon. Motion seconded by V. Taylor. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion. S. Tully will pre[pare the paperwork for submission to the Health Department.

1% Local Option Tax M. Smith explained the local option tax is a 1% sales tax that would need voter approval to implement. M. Smith recommended the funds be retained to be used for matching grant funds when opportunities arise that a grant application can be submitted for various projects. The Local Option Tax will be further discussed during the budget process and preparation for Town Meeting in March 2025.

Journeys End Bid Opening C. Baird reported there were no bids submitted for the Journeys End Project. The project will go out to bid again.

Route 4 Scoping Study The Route 4 Scoping Study is complete and is posted at www.mendonvt.gov. The Selectboard signed off on the acceptance of the study which will allow the town to close out the Transportation Alternative Grant.

Playground Project L. Fracht[Monroe addressed the Selectboard to discuss the final expenses for the playground project. He provided an overview and requested an additional \$10,000 in ARPA Funds to complete the project. Motion by V. Taylor to approve an additional \$10,000 in ARPA Funds to complete the playground project increasing the ARPA Funds for this project from \$50,000 to \$60,000. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

V. Taylor moved to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 6:07 PM. Motion seconded by M. Smith. The motion passed.

Date Approved_____

Val Taylor

Sara Tully - Clerk of the Board

Seth Bridge

Megan Smith