

Town of Mendon

Selectboard

November 23, 2015

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

Town Officers and employees present: Nancy Gondella, Bookkeeper/Office Manager, Phil Douglas, Constable/Planning Commission

Residents and visitors present: Rutland County Sheriff Steve Benard, State Representative Job Tate

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

Add/Delete Items to the agenda

Wheelerville Culvert was added to the agenda as Item H.

Announcements

L Courcelle attended a shelter training at Barstow on 11/11/15. The next training will be sometime in January.

L. Courcelle let the board know that the State of Vermont is looking for a quit claim deed from the Manney's to either the Town or the State near the proposed town green. He was not quite sure what this would mean as the state's concerns would remain unchanged regarding the green.

Administrative Matters

Selectmen's Orders were reviewed and signed.

L. Courcelle moved to approve the minutes of 11/09/2015. Seconded by R. Wilcox. The motion passed unanimously.

Business

Bond Vote Warning Requirements N. Gondella distributed information to the Selectboard regarding warning requirements for bond votes.

Rutland County Sheriff – Steve Benard Sheriff Benard was present at the request of the Selectboard to discuss what services the Sheriff's department had to offer the Town of Mendon in the absence of a Special Officer.

S. Benard would like to present a year- long 40 hour per week contract that would cover law enforcement basics & ticketing revenue as well as coming up with a way to put P. Douglas on the Sheriff's staff in order to be eligible to use some of the current software. Sheriff Benard will sit down with P. Douglas and look at numbers. Together, they will come up with two plans to present a one year

contract to the board, one with the sheriff using the town cruiser, the other using a sheriff's cruiser marked up to show. As with all contracts, there will be a 30 day out clause.

Sheriff Benard asked the Selectboard to approve the contract for current coverage being provided to the Town of Mendon.

L. Courcelle made a motion to approve the 20 hour per week contract with the Rutland County Sheriff's Department at the rate of \$36.00 per hour. The motion was seconded by R. Wilcox and passed unanimously.

Job Tate, State Representative Rep. Tate told the Selectboard that he was eager to hear their thoughts and concerns regarding the upcoming Legislative Session. L. Courcelle shared his concerns regarding Act 46 (Clean Water Act) and its impact on municipalities. Rep. Tate agrees this is a huge concern which is why he voted against it. He believes that there are many hidden costs that municipalities will have to absorb. The Rutland County delegates will try to diminish the effects on municipalities but, beginning in 2016, Towns will need to begin setting benchmarks.

Rep Tate also spoke about Act 46 (School District Unification) saying that he voted against Act 46 because he believes it begins to take away local control. In some instances, towns are losing school choice. He stated however, that Barstow will merge as a side by side district with Rutland Northeast, preserving high school choice for Mendon and Chittenden students. G. Wells believes that high school choice remains a must for Mendon and Chittenden, as property values will hold better than those of towns who may not retain school choice.

Salt Shed P. Douglas reported that he is waiting for additional information from B. Ellis regarding the additional work needed for the Town Garage project. Bill will have more information at the next meeting.

Holiday Appreciation Dinner The volunteer appreciation dinner will be held at the Vermont Inn on Wednesday, December 09 at 6:00 p.m. at the Vermont Inn.

Planning Commission Appointment L. Courcelle reported that he had spoken with Nicole Kesselring regarding the open Planning Commission seat. She was honored to be asked about the position and will speak with Teri Corsones. She will let the Town know if she is interested in filling the vacancy.

2016-2017 Budget The board reviewed the current draft of the budget. Cell phone line items for both Public Safety and Fire Warden were reduced to \$0. Both P. Douglas and G. Wells prefer to use their own cell phones rather than carry two phones.

Wheelerville Culvert Project N Gondella presented the results of an engineering bid for Wheelerville culvert #0748. B. Ellis obtained three bids which were reviewed by P. Douglas. B. Ellis recommended the board hire Enman Engineering as they had submitted the lowest bid.

L. Courcelle made a motion to hire Enman Engineering for a contract amount of \$8125.00 to engineer Wheelerville Culvert 0748. R. Wilcox seconded the motion which then passed unanimously.

There being no further business, L. Courcelle moved to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Motion carried

L. Courcelle made a motion to convene the Liquor Control Board at 8:20p.m. The motion was seconded by G. Wells and passed unanimously.

L. Courcelle made a motion to approve the Liquor Licenses for Ski Mendon Management LLC d/b/a Mendon Mountainview Lodge. The motion was seconded by G. Wells and passed unanimously

There being no further business, L. Courcelle moved to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried

Date Approved _____

Larry Courcelle

Nancy Gondella – Acting Clerk of the Board

Geoff Wells

Richard Wilcox