

# Town of Mendon

Selectboard

January 9, 2017

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: none

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

*Additions/deletions to the Agenda:* Motion by L. Courcelle to add Lidar Unit, 2016 Rutland County Sheriff Contract, Barstow Emergency Shelter to the agenda. Seconded by G. Wells. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

## Administrative Matters

*Selectmen's Orders* approved and signed.

*FEMA Payroll* On July 25, 2016, the Selectboard moved to pay FEMA payroll expenses out of the Irene Fund. S. Tully presented a cost summary totaling \$10,741.93 which includes regular and overtime hours. This cost summary is not a total of payroll spent on FEMA from 2011 to 2016.

Minutes of Previous Meetings: L. Courcelle moved to approve the minutes of 12/12/16. Motion seconded by R. Wilcox. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

## Business:

*Salt Shed* The Selectboard reviewed a request to approve payment at 75% of the invoiced amount to ClearSpan submitted by N. Gondella. The Selectboard agreed to pay 75% of the contracted price to ClearSpan for payment, withholding 25% until the leaks can be repaired. Motion by L. Courcelle to pay \$94,305.02, 75% of the contract price to ClearSpan retaining \$31,435.01 until repair of the leaks can be performed. Motion seconded by G. Wells. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion. A Change Order for ClearSpan in the amount of \$110.95 for epoxy and anchors for the foundation was presented to the Selectboard by P. Douglas. Motion by L. Courcelle to approve the change order for \$110.95 for epoxy and anchors. Motion seconded by R. Wilcox. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

*McDevitt Buyout* Motion by L. Courcelle to approve the Voluntary Transaction Agreement Buyout CDBG-DR Funds for the McDevitt property at 6196 US Route 4, Mendon, VT for \$75,829. A tentative closing date is February 7, 2017. Motion seconded by G. Wells. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

*Mendon Equalization Study* S. Tully provided an overview of the Mendon Equalization Study for 2016 and explained the CLA (106.68%) and COD (23.57%) as it relates to the State of Vermont mandating

Mendon perform a reappraisal. The town has 35 days to appeal the equalization study. Mendon's COD jumped from 13.79% to 23.57% which is based on three years of sales data. S. Tully will discuss the sales data with Spencer Potter, Tax Assessor to determine grounds for appeal.

*Tax Sale* Chris Corsones requested to make the opening bid on behalf of the town for the tax sale scheduled for February 1, 2017. The Selectboard elected not to make the opening bid for the town and open the tax sale with bids from the public starting at the amount owed.

*Truck Accidents* B. Ellis presented three quotes to repair the plow on truck #1 ranging between \$345 and \$1,796. The Selectboard approved the repairs be made with Earl's Truck repair for \$345. B. Ellis is still waiting for guardrail quotes.

*2017-2018 Budget Discussion* The Selectboard discussed final changes to the budget and reviewed timeline of reserve funds. At the next meeting the budget will be adopted for presentation to the voters at Town Meeting. Currently, the budget reflects a 1.9% increase in the amount to be raised by taxes assuming the appropriation articles will pass.

*Town Report & Town Meeting Warning* The town has not received the 2015-2016 Audit from Angolano & Company for inclusion in the Town report. The warning for Town Meeting will include all the standard articles along with an article to rename the Law Enforcement Fund, the Public Safety Fund. Larry Courcelle is not running for Selectboard and petitions are due 1/30/17. Appropriation petitions are due 1/19/17. The Town Meeting Warning will be signed 1/23/17 and posted on or after 1/26/17.

*Town Office & Mendon Signs* The placement location of the new town office sign meeting the setback from Route 4 was discussed. The Selectboard considered three different areas to place the sign considering visibility of the sign from both directions of travel on Route 4. The Selectboard decided to install a sign with one post and locate it at the end of the guardrail.

*Lidar Unit* The Town of Mendon has a spare Lidar Unit that is not being used. The town purchased this equipment with Governor's Highway Safety Grant Funds and it cannot be sold. P. Douglas requested approval from the Selectboard to donate the unit to the Town of Mount Tabor for their use in law enforcement. The Selectboard approved the transfer of equipment to the Town of Mount Tabor.

*2016 Rutland County Sheriff Report* The Selectboard reviewed the 2016 Rutland County Sheriff Report.

*Barstow Emergency Shelter* Jan Sotirakis requested \$500 be allocated in the 2017-2018 budget for supplies and meetings for the Barstow Emergency Shelter. The Red Cross is eliminating their program

under the Local Disaster Shelter Initiative. This eliminates funding from the Red Cross to run the shelter in an emergency. The towns of Mendon and Chittenden can continue emergency preparedness to open the shelter and in a declared disaster FEMA Public Assistance would be available at a typical 75% reimbursement rate. The Selectboard directed P. Douglas, Director of Public Safety to evaluate the needs of the town and make a recommendation to the Selectboard regarding continued involvement.

*Animal Control & the Rutland County Sheriff Contract* The Selectboard is looking for an outline of services that Rutland County Sheriff will provide under their contract.

There being no further business, L. Courcelle moved to adjourn the Selectboard Meeting at 8:10 PM. Motion seconded by R. Wilcox. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

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

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Larry Courcelle

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Sara Tully, Selectboard Clerk

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Geoff Wells

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Richard Wilcox