

# Town of Mendon

## Selectboard

February 13, 2023

Members of Selectboard present: Larry Courcelle, Val Taylor, Seth Bridge

Town Officers and employees present: Nancy Gondella – Town Clerk/Treasurer

Visitors present: Fred Bagley, Lisa Brooks, Brian Gates, Carol Gates

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

### Agenda

Motion by L. Courcelle to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion seconded by V. Taylor. Motion passed unanimously.

### Announcements

Town Meeting Candidates: Chris Corsones is running unopposed for Moderator. Seth Bridge and Lisa Brooks are running unopposed for two separate Selectboard seats. Write in candidates are accepted for all offices on the ballot.

Part-time opportunity for Zoning Administrator. This is a part time position at 8 hours per week. Please submit resume and letter of interest to Sara Tully at mendonadmin@comcast.net

Volunteer Opportunity for Planning Commission: The Planning Commission is seeking two new members. The Selectboard would like to thank Gary Sihler for serving on the Mendon Planning Commission. Mr. Sihler is not seeking reappointment in March.

### Administrative Matters

*Selectmen's Orders* were reviewed.

Motion by L. Courcelle to approve orders for 2/13/23 in the amount of \$22,316.89, payroll for 1/24/23 in the amount of \$12,018.08, and for 2/7/23 in the amount of \$10,886.62. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. Motion passed unanimously

### Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion by L. Courcelle to approve the minutes of 01/23/2023 as written. Motion seconded by V. Taylor. Motion passed unanimously.

### Public Comment

Brian Gates asked for a status update on the Pasquarello driveway – L. Courcelle stated that Road Commissioner Bill Ellis has stated that the driveway is not damaging Town Roads, so the Town is not getting involved. Discussion followed.

Brian Gates asked that the Selectboard read aloud the entire Conflict of Interest Policy which was adopted in 2019. Larry said the board would not comment on prior Selectboard members. Larry said he looked at the policy and saw nothing worth even commenting on. Carol Gates “calls out the town” on unethical conduct.

### Business

*Government Day Recap* L. Courcelle provided a brief update on the Government Day which he attended at the State House in Montpelier.

*ARPA* The Selectboard reviewed the list of ARPA projects noting the status of decisions already made and funds spent. N. Gondella provided information on the vault upgrades, humidity control for the vault, and cybersecurity. V. Taylor stated she is in favor of approving the updates to the Town Garage water system, as well as to the Vault upgrades. S. Bridge agreed with Val. Lisa Brooks discussed the play structure at the recreation field and will have more information in the near future. Building could begin as soon as June. Discussion followed. Motion by L Courcelle to allocate ARPA funds for vault upgrades in the amount of \$15,000 and to approve the town garage water filtration system in the amount of \$1,400. Motion seconded by V. Taylor. Motion passed unanimously.

*Fireworks and Burn Permit Ordinance* S. Bridge will have more information available at the next meeting. This item was tabled.

*Zoning Administrator - Signs* Zoning Administrator Fred Bagley updated the board on the information he's received from VLCT regarding the removal of signs that are violating current zoning regulations. Discussion followed. Fred will continue to work on this issue and keep the board apprised of the status of these violations.

*Town Meeting Presentations* The board discussed who would do presentations at Town Meeting. L. Courcelle will present the budget. L. Courcelle and N. Gondella will present information on the recently completed town-wide reappraisal. S. Bridge will present information regarding burn permits. V. Taylor will present the town report recognitions.

*Town Report 2022* L. Courcelle asked the board to review the Town Report information sent to them by S. Tully by Wednesday. N. Gondella asked the board to get back to her by Tuesday, as it will take some time to convert the report to pdf format by the time the town mailing goes out.

*Constable Training VLCT Scholarship* L. Courcelle stated that Lema Carter would be attending a law enforcement class and that there is a scholarship available which would help alleviate the strains on the continuing education budget. N. Gondella provided details of the scholarship which S. Tully will apply for on Lema's behalf.

*LHMP Adoption* L. Courcelle stated that the Town is required to update the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan every five years and explained the lengthy process that went into updating the Plan. L. Courcelle made a motion for the chair to sign the certificate of adoption, the resolution adopting the Mendon Vermont 2022 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. Motion passed unanimously.

*Contracts* The Selectboard finds that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body or a person involved at a substantial disadvantage. L. Courcelle made a motion to enter executive session to discuss contracts per T. 1 VSA §313(1)(A) at 6:09 p.m. with himself, V. Taylor, S. Bridge and N. Gondella present. The Selectboard came out of executive session at 6:24 p.m. with no decisions made.

#### Adjournment

L. Courcelle made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. Motion seconded by Val Taylor. Motion passed unanimously.

Date Approved

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Larry Courcelle - Chair

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Nancy Gondella – Acting Clerk

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Val Taylor

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Seth Bridge