

Town of Mendon

Selectboard

December 11, 2023

Members of Selectboard present: Val Taylor, Lisa Brooks, Seth Bridge

Town Officers and employees present: Sara Tully, Town Administrator & Health Officer

Visitors present: Brian and Carol Gates

V. Taylor called to order at 5:30 PM at the Town Office.

The pledge of allegiance.

Agenda:

Motion by V. Taylor to approve the agenda with tabling the approval of the 11/13/23 minutes.

Motion seconded by L. Brooks. The motion passed.

Administrative Matters

Selectmen's Orders were reviewed.

Motion by V. Taylor to approve orders for 11/23/23 for \$34,177.89 and payroll for \$9579.01 and orders for 12/11/23 for \$75,962.83 and payroll for \$11,226.53. Motion seconded by L. Brooks.

The motion passed.

Motion by V. Taylor to approve 10/23/23 minutes. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The motion passed.

Announcements: The next Selectboard Meeting is on 12/18/23 at 5:30 PM.

Public Comment: Carol Gates made public comment regarding appeals being forwarded to the Zoning Board of Adjustment without payment for the appeals. Ms. Gates considered this an unlawful hearing. Mr. Gates questioned why it took 90 Days. They questioned whether there was a public hearing on October 19 or November 15th from the Zoning Board of Adjustment. B. Gates said they were sneaking around looking at their property. Mr. and Mrs. Gates submitted a request of the video of the meeting on October 4th. They want to know why the hearing for the Coopers is not posted. Mr. and Mrs. Gates continued to speak over each other and has repeatedly been asked allow the Selectboard to talk. The town informed Mr. and Mrs. Gates that Jack Kennelly is the Chair of the Zoning Board of Adjustment and public information requests

should go to him. S. Bridge indicated that Jesse Bridge stated that the Town has provided all the information the Town has.

Business

Rutland Regional Emergency Management Committee Re-appointment S. Tully reported that Val Taylor and Lema Carter were appointed to the regional Emergency Management Committee in March. The REMC reappointment form was submitted by November 30th.

FY24 Budget V. Taylor reported that she is working with S. Tully on budget requests and receipt of Department Head input.

US Route 4 Speed Limit and Safety The Selectboard discussed the safety of Route 4. V. Taylor proposed drafting a letter to Secretary Joe Flynn requesting additional signage, flashing lights in appropriate areas and any additional ideas the town has regarding the safety of Route 4. Mendon has reached out to the towns of Rutland and Killington to discuss their concerns and work together.

Highway Staff The Town wishes to welcome the new members of the highway staff, Chris Baird and Thane Beatti. C. Baird has been hired as the new Road Commissioner and will be working with T. Beatti as a member of our highway Road Crew. The town is excited to have them on board.

Town Office Safety Improvements V. Taylor stated the Mendon Selectboard learned that an appointed public official received a serious threat directed towards the employees and officials in Mendon. The threat is currently under investigation.

The safety of the employees and town officials is a priority and will not be compromised. The Selectboard has taken immediate steps to ensure the safety of our municipal government while continuing to serve the public in accordance with Vermont statutes. Essential municipal operations continue remotely and under the supervision of the Rutland County Sheriff. The public can reach town staff via telephone and email during normal Town Office business hours of Monday-Thursday 9 AM-4 PM. All Board and Commission meetings will be held remotely. The agenda and links to the meetings can be found on www.mendonvt.gov.

The Selectboard requests understanding and patience during this difficult time. We wish to demonstrate unwavering support to our dedicated staff and our public officials, most of whom are volunteers serving their community.

Mendon continues to be an amazing and safe community to live, work and visit. The municipality is committed to being open and welcoming to all.

V. Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:51 PM. Motion seconded by L. Brooks. The motion passed.

Date Approved _____

Val Taylor

Sara Tully - Clerk of the Board

Seth Bridge

Lisa Brooks