

## Town of Mendon

### Selectboard

February 26, 2024

Members of Selectboard present: Val Taylor, Seth Bridge

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

Visitors present: Fred Bagley, Rich Carlson, Dennis Charles, Mark Fiore, Brian and Carol Gates, Patti Lancaster, Justin Lindholm, Jonathon Reynolds

V. Taylor called to order at 5:41 PM.

The pledge of allegiance.

#### Agenda:

Motion by V. Taylor to approve the agenda with adding the Municipal Planning Grant Contract with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission and Payroll approval for 2/20/24 for \$13,032.30. The agenda will table the approval of 2/12/24 minutes. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The motion passed.

#### Administrative Matters

*Selectmen's Orders* were reviewed.

Motion by V. Taylor to approve orders for 2/26/24 for \$24,185.07 and payroll for 2/20/24 for \$13,032.30. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The motion passed.

Motion by V. Taylor to approve 1/22/24 and 2/6/24 minutes. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The motion passed.

#### Announcements:

Town Meeting March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6 PM at the VTRANS Building 61 Valley View, Mendon VT, polls open at the Town Office March 5<sup>th</sup> 8 AM to 7 PM

Public Comment: Justin Lindholm addressed the Selectboard about safety at the Town Office and that threats and harassment are a violation of T.13 VSA §1026. Rich Carlson addressed the Selectboard with concerns that the Eastridge Acres Homeowners Association needed to hire security for use of the Town Office for the Eastridge Acres Homeowners Association Meeting. He also inquired about the town's support of his grant fund application to the VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force as it relates to the private ponds in Eastridge Acres. He was unhappy that S. Tully did not email him after the last Selectboard Meeting when it was discussed. Brian Gates asked the Selectboard when they are going to stop false accusations about threats and when are people going to go back to work.

## Business

### *Route 4 Scoping Study Preferred Alternatives Recommendation by the Local Steering Committee*

The Town of Mendon is working with VHB to develop a comprehensive vision and thoughtful recommendations for improvements to enhance safety for all users along and across the US Route 4 corridor, while enhancing access and aesthetics to the Village District and recreational resources. The need for this scoping study is driven by the deficiencies in the current transportation infrastructure and a need for comprehensive corridor planning. In October 2023, VHB presented a range of alternatives for the Town's consideration. The project's Local Steering Committee will present their recommendation for selection of a preferred alternative. VHB will then proceed to complete the scoping report, which will include development of a cost estimate for planning, design, construction, and maintenance of the selected alternative. The project will conclude with a final public meeting to present the draft scoping report followed by submission of the final report.

Motion by V. Taylor to accept the Local Steering Committees recommendation for the preferred alternative:

In Phase 1, Segment 1 (from Rutland Town to Meadow Lake Drive): Alternative 1 (on-road bike/ped access via travel lane reduction with widened shoulder) with access management, climbing lane reductions, pedestrian crossing signage, gateway and public transit improvements.

In Phase 1, Segment 2 (from Meadow Lake Drive to Medway Road): Alternative 1 with access management and gateway improvements.

In Phase 1, Segment 3 (from Medway Road to Killington): access management and pedestrian crossing signage at the Appalachian/Long Trail crossing.

In Phase 2, Segment 3 (from Medway Road to Killington): Alternative 1 (on-road bike/ped access via travel lane reduction with widened shoulder) with climbing lane reductions, additional pedestrian/snowmobile crossing signage, and public transit improvements.

In Phase 3, Segment 1 (from Rutland Town to Meadow Lake Drive): Alternative 3 (off-road bike/ped access via 8” wide shared use path) on the north side of Route 4.

Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The motion passed.

*Town Meeting Preparation & Presentations* Town meeting and the presentations were discussed.

*Goals and Objectives 2023-2024 Review* S. Tully provided an overview of the progress towards the Goals and Objectives of the Selectboard for FY24.

*Rutland Free Library Letter of Support* S. Tully read a letter of support for the Rutland Free Library to use as part of a grant application for building improvements funded by the U.S. Treasury Capital Projects Fund for Libraries. Motion by V. Taylor to approve a letter of support for the Rutland Free Library. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The motion passed.

*Municipal Planning Grant Rutland Regional Planning Commission Contract* The town has received a Municipal Planning Grant to update the Mendon Zoning Bylaws. The grant amount is \$9,027 with \$1,003 to be paid for by the town. The RRPC submitted a contract for services to assist the Mendon Planning Commission. Motion by V. Taylor to accept and sign the contract with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission to provide services for the Mendon Zoning Bylaw Update in the amount of \$10,030. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The motion passed.

V. Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 PM. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The motion passed.

Date Approved\_\_\_\_\_

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Val Taylor

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Sara Tully - Clerk of the Board

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Seth Bridge