

Selectboard

Town of Mendon

December 16, 2024

Members of Selectboard present: Megan Smith, Seth Bridge, Sarah Buxton

Town Officers and employees present: Sara Tully, Town Administrator

Rutland County Sheriff Deputy is present.

Visitors present: Fred and Jennifer Bagley, Dennis Charles, Justin Lindholm

M. Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM at the Town Office.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda: Motion by M. Smith to add approval of the F600 truck purchase and introduction of Sarah Buxton. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

M. Smith introduced Sarah Buxton stating she currently serves on the Mendon Planning Commission. S. Buxton is an attorney, and she has experience working with municipal issues which will be valued knowledge on the Selectboard.

Administrative Matters

Selectmen's Orders were reviewed.

Motion by M. Smith to approve orders for \$2,867.09 and \$1,282,169.04 which includes a payment to the Barstow Unified Union District. Motion seconded by S. Buxton. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion. M. Smith moved to spend the \$2,867.09 out of the Equipment Replacement Fund to repair the York Rake. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

M. Smith moved to approve the minutes for 12/9/24. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The motion passed by M. Smith and S. Bridge.

FY24 Audit – M. Smith reported the FY24 audit is completed. The audit is available to review. Motion by M. Smith to accept the completed FY24 audit. Motion seconded by S. Buxton. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Motion by M. Smith to approve the purchase of the F600 from Formula Ford and Dump Body from Viking. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Announcements: None

Public Comment: None

Business:

2025-2026 Budget Discussion M. Smith summarized the draft budget indicating that the Town is still working on the Public Safety portion of the budget. The draft budget currently reflects a 1.1% increase. Health Insurance rates increased by 12%, but due to the employee's selection of plans and taking buyouts, the health insurance budget decreased by \$45K. The Town has budgeted \$22K for cybersecurity and an additional \$26K for vehicle maintenance. The budget increased by \$500 for safety equipment for the Fire Warden. The Rutland Free Library requested a 3% increase. S. Buxton questioned the appropriation requests. S. Tully stated the Town can expect to receive \$10K-\$15K in appropriation requests. The Mendon Historical Society has requested an additional \$2,500 for a bronze plaque to honor veterans. The Mendon Historical Society will also be seeking private donations for this project. S. Tully informed the Selectboard there will be updates in the Rutland County Tax that has not been received yet.

2025 Town Meeting M. Smith explained the Town is looking into whether the new National Forest Supervisor’s building would be available for use by the Town for Town Meeting. The Town is also looking to return to the VTRANS building.

FY25 Goals & Objectives Review & Update M. Smith discussed the goals and objectives that keeps track of and prioritizes projects. Each Selectboard member has strengths to accomplish these projects. S. Buxton will be looking at the Fee schedules for public information requests, a video surveillance policy, and records policy of destruction and retention. S. Bridge has experience with road construction, which is the largest portion of the budget. M. Smith stated she has been out recruiting new people that will fill the holes in our volunteer positions in town.

M. Smith moved to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 5:53 PM. Motion seconded by S. Bridge. The motion passed unanimously.

Date Approved _____

Megan Smith

Sara Tully - Clerk of the Board

Seth Bridge

Sarah Buxton