

Town of Mendon

Selectboard

November 14, 2016

Members of the Selectboard present: Larry Courcelle, Geoff Wells, Richard Wilcox

Town Officers and employees present: Susan Schreibman, Interim Town Administrator, Bill Ellis, Road Commissioner, Phil Douglas, Constable,

Residents and Visitors present: Todd Fillmore, Signs of Distinction

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

Additions/deletions to the Agenda: Motion by G. Wells to approve the agenda. Seconded by R. Wilcox. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Announcements

L. Courcelle reported that the dedication of the Ripley monument was well attended. R. Wilcox suggested that a thank you note be sent to the Historical Society and Sugar and Spice.

L. Courcelle said that Mendon has not been approached by REDC regarding the Killington Valley marketing campaign. S. Schreibman spoke about a Better Connections grant from VTrans and ACCD which could address land use and transportation, including marketing of the US 4 corridor.

L. Courcelle is pursuing a Selectboard replacement.

There is a Universal Recycling and Organics meeting in Brandon on 11/15.

Administrative Matters

Selectmen's Orders approved and signed.

Minutes of Previous Meetings: L. Courcelle moved to approve the minutes of 10/24/16. Motion seconded by G. Wells. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Business:

Town of Mendon Signs: Todd Fillmore from Signs of Distinction reviewed the proposal submitted to refurbish all 3 signs- 2 at the entries to Mendon and the town office sign. He discussed the various options with different posts, caving the text and logo. G. Wells asked him for his timeframe and he said it would take 3-5 weeks once he received notice to proceed. He suggested relocating the town office sign closer to the driveway. For the cost of less than 3 signs, it was suggested to just divide the total in thirds. The Selectboard said that they will discuss this later.

Law Enforcement: The discussion of how to proceed with the Sheriff's Department or hiring a Special Officer focused on cost, including the health insurance. P. Douglas spoke about the limited number of inquiries and that we have had 2 hires and 2 vacancies over 2 years. He favors

a Sheriff's contract. He discussed the revenue from tickets and that the % received by the town outside the village is the same as the village. He sent this information to the Sheriff. R. Wilcox spoke about the budgeted amount of \$70k, getting rid of the car and hiring the Sheriff's Department for 40 hours/week coverage. He referred to P. Douglas' preference and P. Douglas is confident with the Sheriff's Department and noted the easier reporting. He added that an Animal Control Officer is included. L. Courcelle brought up the budget deficit of \$9k and that it must be put in the budget and approved by the voters. R. Wilcox said that it fits in the budget and the discussion continued on to the number of coverage hours. R. Wilcox made a motion to hire the Sheriff's Department starting December 5 for 40 hours/week until June 30, 2016 and sell them the Impala for \$5500. G. Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed with L. Courcelle voting no.

Purchasing Policy: L. Courcelle discussed how this would help with FEMA that has its own set of rules. The quote sheet will be amended to include where and the date the project/request for quotes was advertised. L. Courcelle made a motion to approve the purchasing policy with the changes and G. Wells seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

False Alarm Ordinance: There was a discussion about whether the alarms in town meet the current code and what if they do not. No one knew how many alarm systems are installed in town and the members concluded that more information and input from those with alarms is needed before proceeding with adopting the ordinance. There is a \$750 charge to the town but the proposed ordinance only charges \$50 for false alarms of registered systems. L. Courcelle suggested that making a presentation on this at town meeting would be helpful for all. He explained the procedure for adopting an ordinance. This was tabled as more information is needed.

Bridges #14 & #20: It was suggested that an amount for settlement be included. Proposed wording was discussed and S. Schreiber will edit the letter and send it out for review.

Budget Prep: Members reviewed the budget spreadsheet. G. Wells had some food for thought – bridge, funds, painting the office, a new grinder for the septic system, treasurer, hours for the town office and increasing the Selectboard to \$7k. It was noted that health insurance will decrease because we are contracting with the Sheriff's Department. G. Wells said that the State is asking Mendon to reappraise the town. R. Wilcox said that decisions need to be made about salary changes and asked about the forward cash balance. The next meeting will start with deciding health insurance costs. G. Wells asked if the office painting was included in the \$3200 office expenses. There was a question about the amount in the law enforcement reserve fund.

6196 US4: Concern was raised about not having a firm commitment from VTrans that the town could transfer the property to them, once the buyout and clean up occurs. It was decided that a meeting with the Executive Staff be set up to confirm this and S. Schreibman will pursue this and let the Selectboard know and warn it as a special meeting.

Highway Department Equipment: B. Ellis ordered equipment from Mountain View and L. Courcelle ratified the recent purchases. It was seconded by G. Wells and passes unanimously.

Town Garage Lighting Quotes: S. Schreibman explained the quotes received with base bids and the rebate from Efficiency Vermont. G. Wells made a motion to hire LaFaso to do the electrical work at the Highway Department. R. Wilcox seconded the motion that passed unanimously. S. Schreibman will draft a contract with a penalty clause of \$100/day for every day beyond the end date of 12/15/16 which was a provision in the request for quotes.

CAI Technologies: A proposal on digitizing the tax maps as well as a mapping program with the town's parcel map information was presented. G. Wells asked from which budget line the funding would come and how much we currently spend on mapping. This was tabled to discuss at a future meeting.

Town Signs: This was tabled and a cost for a simple redo of the signs will be solicited.

There being no further business, G. Wells moved to adjourn the Selectboard Meeting at 9:01 PM. Motion seconded by R. Wilcox. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Date approved _____

Larry Courcelle

Susan Schreibman, Interim Selectboard Clerk

Geoff Wells

Richard Wilcox