

Town of Mendon

Selectboard

September 12, 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, Nancy Gondella, Bookkeeper/Office Manager

Residents and Visitors present: Justin Lindholm

The meeting was called to order at 5:29 PM at the Town Office.

Justin Lindholm spoke about marking trails with blazes for foot travel. He has surveys of most of the trails and shared a state blaze, suggesting that similar blazes be used, designated "Town of Mendon Trail." G. Wells stated that we could have a fall tour of the trails and mark them, and made a motion to mark the legal trails with blazes with "Town of Mendon Legal Trail" and the town logo. R. Wilcox seconded the motion that passed unanimously. Bill Ellis will get quotes for 200 blazes.

Announcements: On November 11, 2016 the historical marker dedication honoring General Ripley will be installed on Sugar and Spice's property.

Korinne Rodrique sent a thank you note for allowing her to introduce herself at the August 22, 2106 Selectboard meeting.

L. Courcelle said that at the next Selectboard meeting he will announce whether he will run for Selectboard again or not.

L. Courcelle signed a letter to VTrans asking them to remove the concrete spring box that is in the US4 right-of-way that Fred Bagley brought to the Town's attention.

Additions/deletions to the Agenda: A motion to amend the agenda to include the Public Safety Officer was made by Larry Courcelle, seconded by Richard Wilcox. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Administrative Matters

Selectmen's Orders approved and signed. There was discussion about the declining number of dog licenses issued.

Minutes of Previous Meetings: L. Courcelle moved to approve the minutes of 08/22/16. Motion seconded by G. Wells. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Public Comment: None present

Business:

Culvert 07-47 Replacement Project: Susan Schreiber and Bill Ellis explained that revised quotes were sought and quotes from 3 firms for cement and stone headwalls were presented. Bill Ellis recommended that a stone headwall be used and L. Courcelle made a motion to contract with Mendon Trucking for \$14,700 to replace culvert 07-47 using a stone headwall. R. Wilcox seconded the motion that passed unanimously.

Culvert 07-48 Replacement Project: L. Courcelle reported that he visited the site and there was a discussion of how the culvert would function, given the elevation of the inlet and the rip rap underneath it. Bill Ellis added that the road location became a choke point and guardrails narrowed it even more. Additional work was required so L. Courcelle made a motion to sign change orders from Richard Reed and Son for \$1721 to increase the road width and \$1500 for bank reinforcement. Motion seconded by G. Wells and passed unanimously.

Message Board: Nancy Gondella explained that there was an additional expense for unloading the board. It was ordered 8/23/16 and takes 4-6 weeks to arrive. L. Courcelle made a motion to spend an additional \$50 from the Town Office Maintenance Fund and G. Wells seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Town Office Maintenance: Painting Quotes: Nancy Gondella received 3 quotes and the 4th firm did not respond. There is a need for more information on whether these painting contractors carry workman's compensation and the timeframe for painting, so the issue was tabled.

Town Garage / Salt Shed: Phil Douglas explained that the driveway paving area was expanded and L. Courcelle made a motion to spend an additional \$87 from the Highway Improvement Fund. It was seconded by R. Wilcox. It passed unanimously. Phil Douglas explained that a gate in the new salt shed is not needed since there is a gate at the entry to the area. Clearspan has been delayed for 2 weeks; the building will arrive next week and their crew will install it 9/26 or 9/27. An expense table was presented and \$71,935 has been spent to-date, plus \$124,740 for the Clearspan contract, which totals \$196,675. Lighting is estimated at \$2500 and the bollards will be eliminated as they are no longer needed. The salt shed cost and garage repairs are estimated below the bond amount. Nancy Gondella explained that you do not need to withdraw the funds from the bond if you do not need them.

Report on Chittenden Emergency Management Route via Wildcat Road: Phil Douglas reported on working on emergency management with the Town of Chittenden and the Forest Service, using Wildcat Road. There is a MOU with the Forest Service to allow Mendon and Chittenden to use trails.

Pursuit of False Fire Alarm Non-responsiveness (Liens Against Property): Phil Douglas asked about the possibility of liens on property for those who do not respond to letters, if an attorney should be sending these for the Town and if legal expenses are reimbursable? Nancy Gondella said that fines with municipal tickets for not registering dogs is permissible. Discussion continued about the need for the Town to know which homeowners have a fire alarm. Susan Schreibman will research how other towns handle this.

Bridge #1443028: Nancy Gondella explained that this project began in 1995 and finished in 1997. The State has been billing the Town \$45,000 for the balance on this bridge and is now threatening legal action. Nancy Gondella will draft a letter telling them that the Town is researching it and try to find out more information from Town records.

FEMA Update: Nancy Gondella reported that they are nearly finished. Sara has drafted the narratives. They are getting closer to completion.

Engineering Firm Designation: Nancy Gondella reported that the Town can designate an engineering firm for services needed. Phil Douglas added that a few firms can be prequalified. No action was taken by the Selectboard.

Relay for Life: No Selectboard members are available that day to participate.

Holiday Party: There was discussion about trying to keep it in town and the limited number of restaurants. Three quotes will be sought and it will be on the next agenda.

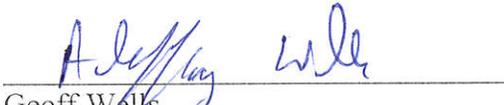
Public Safety Officer: Phil Douglas reported that Damon Angelo resigned and his letter was very complimentary. Susan Schreibman will draft a letter to him to thank him for his service. Phil Douglas stated that Chris Stevenson from the Sheriff's Dept. did a great job. L. Courcelle said that we need to stay within budget so he will work with Nancy Gondella to see how many hours we can afford and he made a motion to ask Phil to reestablish working with the Sheriff's Department for 20 hours per week effective immediately. G. Wells seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Phil Douglas added that Damon agreed to go to court for the Town issued tickets and he will get paid for those hours.

There being no further business, G. Wells moved to adjourn the Selectboard Meeting at 7:48 PM. Motion seconded by R. Wilcox. The Selectboard unanimously approved the motion.

Date approved _____


Larry Courcelle


Susan Schreiberman, Interim Town Administrator


Geoff Welks


Richard Wilcox