

Town of Mendon

Special Selectboard Meeting

March 26, 2021

Members of Selectboard present: Richard Wilcox, Larry Courcelle, Val Taylor

Town Officers and employees present: Sara Tully, Town Administrator

Visitors present: Doug Norton, VT State Police, Gordon Stake, Elizabeth Swett, Douglas Earle

The Selectboard Meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM with all present participating remotely.

In response to COVID-19, the Selectboard strongly encourages the public to participate in this meeting by video or teleconferencing. The public can follow the directions on the agenda and posted publicly on the Mendon website at www.mendonvt.org.

As Chair of the Town of Mendon Selectboard I find that, due to the State of Emergency declared by Governor Scott as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and pursuant to Addendum 6 to Executive Order 01-20 and Act 92, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

In accordance with Act 92, there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting. However, in accordance with the temporary amendments to the Open Meeting Law, I confirm that we are:

Providing public access to the meeting by video with additional access offered through telephone. We are using Gotomeeting.com for this remote meeting. All members of the Selectboard have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if desired, participate in this meeting by **joining the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**

- a) Providing public notice of instructions for accessing the meeting. We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing this meeting, including how to access the meeting using telephone and video in our posted meeting agenda. Instructions have also been provided on the town website at: www.mendonvt.org.
- b) Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access. If anybody has a problem, please *e-mail mendonclerk@comcast.net* and
- c) Continuing the meeting if necessary. In the event the public is unable to access this meeting, it will be continued to a time and place certain.

Special Selectboard Meeting
Fri, Mar 26, 2021 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (EDT)

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Please note that all votes taken during this meeting that are not unanimous will be done by roll call vote, in accordance with the law.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance of all members participating in the meeting.

Roll call: Richard Wilcox, Larry Courcelle, Val Taylor

The purpose of the meeting is to meet with the State Police to discuss law enforcement response in Mendon, state statutes regarding the discharge of firearms, the proposed Mendon Firearm Discharge Ordinance and Civil Actions or prosecutions by the State.

Business

The Selectboard discussed with Doug Norton, State Police general law enforcement in Mendon and statutes regulating discharging firearms. Some towns have adopted Firearm Discharge Ordinance, but they are limited. The State Police do not respond to calls of discharging firearms more in towns without ordinances rather than ones that do. In general, they do not respond to a large number of complaints regarding discharging firearms.

The Selectboard discussed enforcement regarding the proposed Mendon Firearm Discharge Ordinance. Depending on how it is worded the State Police could issue a municipal ticket, but the town would primarily be the enforcing agency.

Motion by R. Wilcox to enter Executive Session at 1:15 PM for the purpose of discussion under T.1 VSA 313 (1) with the Selectboard, S. Tully and Doug Norton present. The motion was seconded by L. Courcelle. The motion passed unanimously. The Chair declared the Board out of Executive Session at 2:17 PM.

No action taken.

S. Tully will set up meetings with the Rutland County Sheriff and Game Warden to have similar conversations regarding the proposed Mendon Firearm Discharge Ordinance and enforcement of

local ordinances.

There being no further business, R. Wilcox moved to adjourn at 2:18 PM. Motion seconded by L. Courcelle. The Selectboard approved the motion.

Date Approved _____

Richard Wilcox

Sara Tully - Clerk of the Board

Larry Courcelle

Val Taylor