

**Town of Mount Desert
SelectBoard Meeting Minutes
Meeting Room, Town Hall
6:00 PM, October 21, 2019**

SelectBoard Members Present: Chair John Macauley, Rick Mooers, Matt Hart, Martha Dudman, and Wendy Littlefield

I. Call to order at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Macauley.

II. Minutes

A. Approval of minutes from October 7, 2019 meeting

MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, approval of the October 7, 2019 Minutes as presented. Motion approved 5-0.

III. Appointments/Recognitions/Resignations

A. Accept resignation of Ernest Coombs from the Zoning Board of Appeals effective October 18, 2019

MOTION: Mr. Mooers moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, acceptance with regret the resignation of Ernest Coombs from the Zoning Board of Appeals effective October 18, 2019, as presented.

Chair Macauley thanked Mr. Coombs for his years of volunteer work.

Motion approved 5-0.

IV. Consent Agenda *(These items are considered routine, and therefore, may be passed by the Selectmen in one blanket motion. Board members may remove any item for discussion by requesting such action prior to consideration of that portion of the agenda.)*

A. Letter from Maine Historic Preservation Commission advising the Town that the Sound School House has been entered in the National Register of Historic Places on September 30, 2019

B. League of Towns meeting minutes from September 24, 2019

MOTION: Mr. Mooers moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, acceptance of the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion approved 5-0.

V. SelectBoard Reports

Mr. Hart reported that the Economic Development Committee met the week before. The Committee requested the Broadband Committee convene. The Economic Development Committee would like to pose some questions for local business owners on their internet usage and service. The questions would be distributed through the Chamber of Commerce this fall.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Approve the use of \$250.00 from the Selectman Contingency Fund Account #1220001-59350 to pay for the MDIHS Year-book full page ad approved at the October 7, 2019 meeting

MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval of the use of \$250.00 from the SelectBoard Contingency Fund Account #1220001-59350 to pay for the MDIHS Year-

book full-page ad approved at the October 7, 2019 meeting, as presented. Motion approved 5-0.

B. Approve and sign Annual Policy on Disbursement of Municipal Education Costs

MOTION: Mr. Mooers moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval and signature of the Annual Policy on Disbursement of Municipal Education Costs, as presented.

It was noted the costs are payroll and accounts payable (AP). Treasurer Mahar explained the electronic signatures used on the payroll and AP costs required an extra step be added to the process for the Town to accept them.

Motion approved 5-0.

VII. New Business

A. Request the Board of Selectmen accept the 129th Legislature, First Regular Session law changes as written for processing Motor Vehicle Registrations and administering Fees associated with laws passed on September 19, 2019, as presented in the memo dated September 16, 2019 from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles

Deputy Tax Assessor Elizabeth Yeo reported several changes to Sections VII.A. and VII.B. of the Agenda. Those changes are:

VII.A – to strike the word *passed* and change it to *effective*.

VII.B – to strike the word *retro* and change it to *retroactive*.
To strike the word *passed* and change it to *effective*.

MOTION: Ms. Mooers moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, acceptance of the 129th Legislature, First Regular Session law changes as written for processing Motor Vehicle Registrations and administering Fees associated with laws ~~passed~~ *effective* on September 19, 2019, as presented in the memo dated September 16, 2019 from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles As amended.

It was confirmed the fees noted will stay with the Municipality.

Motion approved 5-0.

B. Request the Board of Selectmen accept the 129th Legislature, First Regular Session law changes as written for processing Motor Vehicle Registrations and administering Fees associated with laws passed be made retro to the passage date of September 19, 2019

MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, acceptance of the 129th Legislature, First Regular Session law changes as written for processing Motor Vehicle Registrations and administering Fees associated with laws passed be made ~~retro~~ *retroactive* to the ~~passage~~ *effective* date of September 19, 2019, as amended. Motion approved 5-0.

C. Request the Board of Selectmen approve a non-resident agent fee (i.e., island vehicles) increase to \$6.00 for new and renewals for processing Motor Vehicle Registrations, as allowed by the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles for all non-resident transactions, regardless if a new or renewing registration

1 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, approval of a non-resident agent
2 fee (i.e., island vehicles) increase to \$6.00 for new and renewals for processing Motor Vehicle
3 Registrations, as allowed by the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles for all non-resident
4 transactions, regardless if a new or renewing registration, as presented. Motion approved 5-0.
5

6 *D. Citizen request for discussion of the town making improvements to the roadway shoulders*
7 *along the Indian Point Road and Bartlett's Landing Road for general safety reasons, including*
8 *pedestrians*

9 Clarissa Vendetelli, representing a committee of residents from the Indian Point Road/Bartlett's
10 Landing Road area, reported on the state of the road shoulders along Indian Point Road and
11 Bartlett's Landing Road. Ms. Vendetelli has worked with Public Works Director Smith
12 brainstorming ideas to improve the shoulders.
13

14 Ms. Vendetelli brought pictures of the shoulders in the Pretty Marsh area. There are no
15 sidewalks. Pedestrians are forced to step back from the road, or enter the ditch when cars drive
16 past. Ms. Vendetelli noted that she's discussed with Director Smith the possibility of getting an
17 engineering study done to find some solutions. Ms. Vendetelli commended the Public Works
18 Department on their attention to the area in the past year and providing feedback for the
19 concerns area residents have.
20

21 Pretty Marsh resident Rick Barter reiterated Ms. Vendetelli's concerns. The ditching makes the
22 roads especially dangerous for pedestrians. There is nowhere for a pedestrian to go to avoid
23 traffic. It gets worse in the winter. Mr. Barter hoped the Town would consider lowering the
24 speed limit to 35 mph in the area as well. He noted the stop sign at the intersection of Indian
25 Point Road and Bartlett's Landing Road is often ignored as well.
26

27 Police Chief Jim Willis stated the Town does not control speed limits. State DOT controls speed
28 limits using a strict formula for making determinations. It often takes years for the State DOT to
29 react to such requests.
30

31 Mr. Barter asked if a speed limit sign showing a vehicle's speed could be put up. Chief Willis
32 agreed one could be employed. He suggested Mr. Barter call the police department to talk
33 further about it.
34

35 Chair Macauley asked if there was money in the budget to cover the engineering costs for a
36 review of the roads. Director Smith felt there was. The work would consist of creating a
37 concept plan for the area that the Town can then review in order to estimate cost. Mr. Smith
38 would bring that estimated cost back to the Board for discussion.
39

40 Pretty Marsh resident Ralph Erickson echoed the sentiments of Ms. Vendetelli and Mr. Barter.
41 While Mr. Erickson understands the necessity of the ditching, some ditches seem excessive. He
42 worried about road erosion in some places due to steep ditches.
43

44 Gray Farm Road resident Michael Panko noted similar issues on his road. Ditching is causing
45 road erosion on his road.
46

47 Chair Macauley assured the committee that the issue would be taken up at a later date.
48

E. Public Space Special Event Application – Dianna McKeage Wedding; May 30, 2019, Suminsby Park

The date on the Agenda was pointed out as incorrect.

MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, approval of Public Space Special Event Application – Dianna McKeage Wedding; May 30, 2020, Suminsby Park, as amended.

It appeared that Suminsby Park allows microphone usage, as requested in the application.

Town Clerk Claire Woolfolk noted that the letter sent to Ms. McKeage will state the space is public and cannot be closed to others using it during the wedding.

Motion approved 5-0.

F. Request authorization for the purchase of a 2020 Ford Police Interceptor Utility AWD for \$36,617.00 with a trade in of a 2017 Ford SUV for \$5,000.00 for a net purchase price of \$31,617.00 to be funded through the Police Equipment-Vehicle line #14400110-57200 which has a current balance of \$37,000.00

Police Chief Willis reported the purchase price has changed. He originally decided on the second lowest bid, due to some extra vehicle lighting included with the purchase. When it became clear the lighting was not compatible with the Town's system, Chief Willis accepted the lowest bid. This changed the price to \$35,254.00 less a \$5,000.00 trade-in, resulting in a price of \$30,254.00 for the vehicle.

MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, authorization for the purchase of a 2020 Ford Police Interceptor Utility AWD for \$35,254.00 with a trade-in of a 2017 Ford SUV for \$5,000.00 for a net purchase price of \$30,254.00 to be funded through the Police Equipment-Vehicle line #14400110-57200 which has a current balance of \$37,000.00, as amended. Motion approved 5-0.

G. Consideration of PW Director Tony Smith's request for authorization to solicit competitive bids in accordance with Town purchasing policy for a new service truck for Public Works-Highway Division

Director Smith noted that he intended to purchase this truck for the mechanics. The truck the mechanics currently use will be transferred for use with Buildings and Grounds. The mechanics truck is relatively new, and no work is required on it. The current Buildings and Grounds truck is in bad condition and should be replaced.

MOTION: Mr. Mooers moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, approval of Public Works Director Tony Smith's request for authorization to solicit competitive bids in accordance with Town purchasing policy for a new service truck for Public Works-Highway Division, as presented. Motion approved 5-0.

H. Review and consideration of Town recycling options prepared by PW Director Tony Smith
Director Smith referred to his report on several options presented for recycling.

1 1 – Status quo – recycling is taken to the Sargent Drive site and in turn taken to Ellsworth for
2 processing.

3 2 – Single Source with EMR in Southwest Harbor. Mount Desert residents would have to bring
4 their recycling to Southwest Harbor.

5 3 – Single Sort with Coastal Resources in Hampden.

6 4 – One Bin/All In. All garbage and recycling can be thrown in one bag which is taken to
7 Southwest Harbor, to be transferred to Coastal Resources in Hampden.

8
9 Coastal Resources pull the materials they want from the garbage delivered and process it in a
10 variety of ways.

11
12 Director Smith noted Mount Desert's recycling rate has been 11% to 12%. The State aims for
13 50% recycling rate.

14
15 Director Smith's recommendation is Option 4 – One Bin/All in. It's the least expensive of the
16 four options. The highest rate among the options was approximately \$38,000. Option 4 was
17 \$15,400.00. Environmentally, Option 4 will double or triple Mount Desert's recycling rate. This
18 option recycles regardless of whether the recyclable item is dirty or contaminated.

19
20 The recycling center at the highway garage would no longer be necessary, however, Director
21 Smith would plan to keep the recycling attendant on hand to keep the site clean and monitor
22 waste not accepted by the Town.

23
24 Director Smith hoped the change, if approved, could take place later in January rather than the
25 January 1 start date noted. This would allow for public re-education on the new process.

26
27 Director Smith gave a quick summary of the recycling done in Hampden, and the creation of
28 biofuel there.

29
30 Sustainability Committee Member Phil Lichtenstein agreed it was the best option for the town.
31 Mr. Lichtenstein noted that if this Option doesn't work, the Town can always revisit the issue.

32
33 The Town already has a contract with Coastal Resources for trash. The only change would be to
34 have recyclables added to the trash already taken.

35
36 MOTION: Mr. Mooers moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, acceptance of Option Four, named
37 "One Bin/All In", as described and recommended by Director Tony Smith, to be adopted as the
38 Town's recycling program, as presented. Motion approved 5-0.

39
40 I. *Consideration of authorization of a not-to-exceed amount of \$15,000 to fund the removal of*
41 *unsuitable materials and replacing it with new compacted gravel and for construction of a*
42 *section of underdrain to be placed in front of the truck bay doors as part of the Somesville*
43 *fire station parking lot improvements project. These funds will be drawn from account*
44 *#4040300-24470 Fire Dept Building Reserve which has a current balance of \$75,391.11*

45 Director Smith reported that during the work being done at the Somesville Fire Station, two
46 areas in the parking lot were found to be nothing but sawdust and woodwaste. While the
47 ground under the asphalt is exposed the sawdust and woodwaste should be replaced with

1 better materials. The areas affected are outside the truck bays and also out near the Pretty
2 Marsh Road.

3
4 MOTION: Mr. Mooers moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval of a not-to-exceed
5 amount of \$15,000 to fund the removal of unsuitable materials and replacing it with new
6 compacted gravel and for construction of a section of underdrain to be placed in front of the
7 truck bay doors as part of the Somesville fire station parking lot improvements project. These
8 funds will be drawn from account #4040300-24470 Fire Dept Building Reserve which has a
9 current balance of \$75,391.11, as presented. Motion approved 5-0.

10
11 **VIII. Other Business**

12 *A. Such other business as may be legally conducted*

13 There was no other business.

14
15 **IX. Treasurer's Warrants**

16 *A. Approve & Sign Treasurer's Warrant Accounts Payable (AP) AP2024 in the amount of*
17 *\$464,974.11*

18 MOTION: Mr. Mooers moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, approval and signature of
19 Treasurer's Warrant Accounts Payable (AP) AP2024 in the amount of \$464,974.11, as presented.
20 Motion approved 5-0.

21
22 *B. Approve Signed Treasurer's Payroll (PR), State Fees, & PR Benefit Warrants AP2022, AP2023,*
23 *and PR2008 in the amounts of \$6,878.30, \$2,870.73, and \$106,144.56, respectively*

24 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, approval of signed Treasurer's Payroll
25 (PR), State Fees, & PR Benefit Warrants AP2022, AP2023, and PR2008 in the amounts of
26 \$6,878.30, \$2,870.73, and \$106,144.56, respectively, as presented. Motion approved 4-0-1
27 (Littlefield in Abstention).

28
29 *C. Acknowledge Treasurer's School Board AP/PR Warrants PR08 in the amount of \$82,793.72*

30 MOTION: Mr. Mooers moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, acknowledgement of Treasurer's
31 School Board AP/PR Warrants PR08 in the amount of \$82,793.72, as presented. Motion
32 approved 5-0.

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34 **X. Adjournment**

35 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, adjourning. Motion approved 5-
36 0.

37
38 Meeting was adjourned at 7:03PM.

39
40 Respectfully Submitted,

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43
44 Wendy Littlefield, Secretary
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