

1

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46

**Town of Mount Desert
SelectBoard Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 7, 2020
Location: Zoom Meeting**

This Meeting was held via remote access.

SelectBoard Members Present:

Chair John Macauley, Martha Dudman, Matt Hart, Wendy Littlefield, Geoff Wood

Public Officials Present:

Public Works Director Tony Smith, Town Manager Durlin Lunt, Treasurer Kathy Mahar

Members of the public were also in attendance.

I. Call to order at 4:00 p.m.

Chair Macauley called the Meeting to order.

II. Minutes

A. Approval of minutes from November 16, 2020 meeting

MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval of the November 16, 2020 Minutes as presented.

Motion approved 5-0.

III. Appointments/Recognitions/Resignations

A. Consider appointment of John March to the Zoning Board of Appeals

MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, appointment of John March to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Motion approved 5-0.

B. Acknowledgment for Lisa Young who has completed her Associates of Accounting Degree from Husson University

The Board congratulated Ms. Young on her accomplishment.

MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, acknowledgement for Lisa Young who has completed her Associates of Accounting Degree from Husson University.

Motion approved 5-0.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Proposed Limited-Purpose Aquaculture (LPA) licenses for renewal by the Department of Marine Resources accepting written comments until December 18, 2020 flora.m.drury@maine.gov

B. Thank you letters from Hospice Volunteers of Hancock County

C. Letter to Clerks from the Honorable Janet T. Mills, Governor of Maine

1 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, acceptance of the Consent
2 Agenda as presented.
3 Motion approved 5-0.
4

5 **V. Selectmen's Reports**

6 Ms. Littlefield inquired whether SelectBoard Meetings would remain at 4:00PM. Some
7 members of the community have noted they are unable to attend at such an early time of
8 day due to work schedules. Ms. Dudman noted that it has been mentioned before but no
9 objections were heard at that time. However, it is perhaps becoming a problem for some
10 now. Ms. Littlefield noted the people that have spoken to her have been Warrant
11 Committee members who work until after 4PM.
12

13 Public Works Director Smith stated there have been no complaints up till now.
14

15 Mr. Hart felt that particularly with joint budget presentations it would be important to
16 facilitate participation. Currently there are only a few Warrant Committee members
17 participating as it is. A time needs to be chosen that works for all and enables better
18 attendance.
19

20 Ms. Dudman wondered what a preferable time would be. 5:00PM was suggested as a
21 possible compromise.
22

23 Town Manager Lunt noted that the next meeting would be the first round of budgets. If
24 the time were going to change, it will need to be advertised so the public is aware.
25

26 Ms. Littlefield wondered if Warrant Committee member Phil Lichtenstein would be
27 willing to reach out to other Warrant Committee members to see what their thoughts are.
28 Mr. Lichtenstein noted a Warrant Committee member approached him regarding meeting
29 times. He intends to start Warrant Committee meetings just after the New Year. Their
30 first meeting will be at 6PM, as they've always been. He noted the 6PM meeting
31 schedule was due to committee members' work schedules. He'd note he'd go with the
32 consensus of the committee's preference regarding meeting time.
33

34 Warrant Committee Member Katrina Carter noted that most other committees in Town
35 seem to be meeting at their pre-Covid regularly scheduled time. While residents may not
36 have voiced their inability to attend the SelectBoard meetings at the earlier time, the lack
37 of participation from the community is telling. She hoped the SelectBoard would return
38 to their regular 6:00PM meeting time, as opposed to moving to various times such as
39 trying 5:00PM. Ms. Carter felt 6:00PM was key to getting participation from the
40 community.
41

42 Mr. Hart pointed out that there was often very little participation at 6:00PM. Mr. Hart
43 would be surprised to see a time change result in more participation.
44

45 Public Works Director Smith agreed with Mr. Hart.
46

1 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, resuming meetings at
2 6:00PM, starting with the next meeting.

3
4 Mr. Wood understood the workday issue. However, if the Town is continuing in the
5 remote venue, then so are many residents. He would prefer the time to remain at
6 4:00PM, or 5:00PM at the latest. He pointed out that the Town Manager has reported no
7 complaints regarding the earlier time. Nevertheless, he would agree to whatever was
8 deemed best for the Town.

9
10 Ms. Littlefield felt those residents looking for the Agenda and seeing an issue they are
11 interested in will try to make the meeting. Ms. Littlefield added that she herself works till
12 4:00PM and has had to rearrange her work schedule to attend the SelectBoard Meetings.
13 Ms. Littlefield agreed she would also do what was deemed best for the Town.

14
15 Ms. Dudman agreed she liked the 4:00PM meetings. However, it was not up to the
16 SelectBoard to do what they themselves preferred. They need to do what's best for the
17 community. She would hate to have anyone feel excluded because the meetings are too
18 early. Even at 5:00PM people are still working, some remotely, some not. She felt it was
19 best to move to a time easier and more accessible to the community.

20
21 Ms. Carter voiced concern that as the Town goes into the Warrant part of the year, there
22 are a number of Warrant Committee members who will not be able to attend an earlier
23 meeting. She hoped that if the meeting couldn't be moved back to the original meeting
24 time, that some compromise could be made.

25
26 It was noted the regular pre-Covid SelectBoard meeting time was 6:30PM.

27
28 Public Works Director Smith pointed out that Mr. Lichtenstein stated he would poll his
29 members with regard to meeting time. Ms. Dudman did not feel the time should be
30 limited to the Warrant Committee members' availability. She hoped to facilitate
31 attendance for anyone interested.

32
33 Chair Macauley noted that the SelectBoard's meeting time as always been 6:30PM, and
34 would likely return to that time at some point. He felt that moving the time to 6:00PM
35 for the sake of inclusion should be acceptable. Mr. Wood noted that while he doesn't
36 want it to move, if it's inevitable the meeting time will return to 6:30PM, then he
37 suggested that moving the time to 6:30PM now was preferable to moving the time then
38 moving it again.

39
40 Mr. Hart recalled very few regular meetings during his tenure where a larger number of
41 attendees showed up. He felt the argument could be made that the meetings being
42 available online and on Zoom makes attendance easier, and yet even now people aren't
43 participating. He agreed it was important to work with the Warrant Committee, and it
44 sounded as if Mr. Lichtenstein would gauge their availability. However, that is a special
45 circumstance. The 4:00PM meeting time has been working through this difficult time.
46

1 Mr. Wood noted the Motion on the floor for rescheduling the meetings to 6:00PM. His
2 preference would be to return the time to 6:30, rather than the earlier time.

3
4 Mr. Lichtenstein clarified that his first Warrant Committee meeting will be at 6:00PM.
5 At that time he will poll members to gauge whether a better time for Warrant Committee
6 meetings could be found. The SelectBoard must do as they see fit.

7
8 Chair Macauley's feeling was that the meeting time should return to 6:30PM.

9
10 Ms. Dudman noted the Motion on the floor is for 6:00PM.

11
12 VOTE:

13 Motion rejected 1-4 (Wood, Hart, Littlefield, Macauley against)

14
15 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding returning the
16 SelectBoard meeting to its original time of 6:30PM.

17 Motion approved 4-1 (Hart against)

18
19 There were no further SelectBoard Member's Reports

20
21 **VI. Unfinished Business**

22 *A. Northeast Harbor Main Street Construction Update – Construction Changes*
23 *Summary*

24 Public Works Director provided a brief summary of changes to the Main Street
25 construction project.

26
27 Ms. Dudman was disappointed that the landscaping around the Great Harbor Museum
28 eliminated some trees in the area.

29
30 Mr. Wood noted that it appeared a lot of careful attention has been paid to the issue of
31 drainage. He appreciated the care, knowing many residents had been concerned.
32 Director Smith promised that the puddle area near the post office remains on the list of
33 improvements to be made.

34
35 Mr. Hart noted there had been a lot of favorable comment on the green areas created in
36 Town. He agreed with Ms. Dudman – he hated to see some of the shrubs and trees
37 removed from the plans. He believed once the project was done residents will wonder
38 why more greenery hadn't been incorporated.

39
40 Mr. Hart added that he noticed a sizable puddle in front of what will eventually be Main
41 Street Mercantile. Director Smith reported the issue was on the list to be addressed.

42
43 *B. Consideration of PW Director Tony Smiths recommendations made in his 12-3-2020*
44 *memo to Durlin Lunt, Jr., Town Manager, of retaining the services of RF Jordan and*
45 *Sons, Inc. at a cost of \$116,012.50 and GF Johnston & Associates at a cost of*
46 *\$25,540 to provide construction and engineering services, respectively, and to*

1 *approve project contingency funding of \$21,230 for a total of \$162,782.50 to be*
2 *drawn from Account 3000054, all related to the completion of the reconstruction of a*
3 *section of Route 198 postponed from last year to this year.*

4 Director Smith noted the costs represent 50% of the total cost of the work. He reminded
5 the Board of the 50% municipal partnership initiative program with the DOT. He felt it
6 was a good price.

7
8 It was clarified this was a continuance of last year's project in the area, and therefore the
9 formal bid process was not necessary.

10
11 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, approval of Public Works
12 Director Tony Smith's recommendations made in his 12-3-2020 memo to Durlin Lunt,
13 Jr., Town Manager, of retaining the services of RF Jordan and Sons, Inc. at a cost of
14 \$116,012.50 and GF Johnston & Associates at a cost of \$25,540 to provide construction
15 and engineering services, respectively, and to approve project contingency funding of
16 \$21,230 for a total of \$162,782.50 to be drawn from Account 3000054, all related to the
17 completion of the reconstruction of a section of Route 198 postponed from last year to
18 this year, as presented.

19 VOTE: Motion approved 5-0.

20

21 **VII. New Business**

22 *A. Request from Suzanne Lawrence for Rural Wastewater Grant*

23 It was noted Ms. Lawrence was present for the discussion.

24

25 CEO Keene reported that Ms. Lawrence contacted her to inquire about the rebate
26 program. CEO Keene informed her that she did not qualify for the program this year, as
27 she did not have her tank pumped. Ms. Lawrence apparently did have her tank pumped
28 but failed to contact CEO Keene for the required inspection. CEO Keene sent two letters
29 to Ms. Lawrence in the past year, however Ms. Lawrence states she did not receive either
30 letter. Later Ms. Lawrence was later able to confirm she found one of the letters. Ms.
31 Lawrence reported to CEO Keene some extenuating circumstances in her life that
32 resulted in overlooking the inspection.

33

34 Ms. Lawrence reported the inspection had been forgotten due to stress and problems in
35 her family including several deaths. She was also in the process of moving during part of
36 the year. She believed she'd had the septic pumped in August. Due to her upset state of
37 mind she forgot to request the CEO conduct the inspection. She had heard of no
38 problems from the company that pumped the septic. The money is important to her due
39 to the problems she's experienced. CEO Keene suggested she write a letter to the Town
40 Manager explaining the situation.

41

42 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, to make the Rural Wastewater
43 Grant funding due to Ms. Lawrence available to her.

44

45 Manager Lunt noted the Board has the authority to approve granting the funds.

46

1 Mr. Hart thanked the CEO for assisting with rectifying the situation.

2
3 Mr. Wood inquired if the CEO was comfortable with the septic disposal company having
4 found no problems upon their inspection of the system. CEO Keene was not aware
5 whether the septic company would have inspected parts of the system such as the baffles.
6 Ms. Lawrence stated the septic company confirmed they did see the baffles.

7
8 VOTE:

9 Motion approved 5-0.

10
11 *B. Approval for Corporate Resolution to move funds at First National Bank*

12 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, Approval for Corporate
13 Resolution to move funds at First National Bank, as presented.

14 VOTE:

15 Motion approved 4-0-1 (Dudman in Abstention).

16
17 Treasurer Kathy Mahar requested the Board come to the Town Office to sign the papers.

18
19 *C. Authorize Small Animal Clinic Contract for 2021*

20 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, authorizing the Small
21 Animal Clinic Contract for 2021 as presented.

22 VOTE: Motion approved 5-0.

23
24 **VIII. Other Business**

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

26 There was no Other Business.

27
28 **IX. Treasurer's Warrants**

29 *A. Approve & Sign Treasurer's Warrant AP2131 in the amount of \$437,070.47*

30 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, Approval and Signature
31 of Treasurer's Warrant AP2131 in the amount of \$437,070.47, as presented.

32 VOTE:

33 Martha Dudman: Aye

34 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

35 Matt Hart: Aye

36 Geoff Wood: Aye

37 Chair John Macauley: Aye

38 Motion approved 5-0.

39
40 *B. Approve Signed Treasurer's Payroll, State Fees, & PR Benefit Warrants AP2128,*
41 *A2129P, AP2130 and PR2112 in the amounts of \$5,186.71, \$3,986.19, \$68,066.55,*
42 *and \$102,476.92, respectively*

43 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval of Signed
44 Treasurer's Payroll, State Fees, & PR Benefit Warrants AP2128, A2129P, AP2130 and
45 PR2112 in the amounts of \$5,186.71, \$3,986.19, \$68,066.55, and \$102,476.92,
46 respectively, as presented.

7

1 VOTE:
2 Martha Dudman: Aye
3 Matt Hart: Aye
4 Wendy Littlefield: Abstains
5 Geoff Wood: Aye
6 Chair John Macauley: Aye
7 Motion approved 4-0-1 (Littlefield in Abstention)

8

9 *C. Acknowledge Treasurer's School Board AP/Payroll Warrants 06, and 11, and 12 in*
10 *the amounts of \$109,320.06, \$186,539.26, and \$85,406.38, respectively*

11 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Mr. Hart seconding acknowledgement of Treasurer's
12 School Board AP/Payroll Warrants 06, and 11, and 12 in the amounts of \$109,320.06,
13 \$186,539.26, and \$85,406.38, respectively, as presented.

14 VOTE:

15 Geoff Wood: Aye
16 Matt Hart: Aye
17 Martha Dudman: Aye
18 Wendy Littlefield: Abstains
19 Chair John Macauley: Aye
20 Motion approved 4-0-1 (Littlefield in Abstention)

21

22 **X. Adjournment**

23 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Mr. Wood seconding adjournment.

24 VOTE:

25 Motion approved 5-0.

26

27 The Meeting adjourned at 4:33PM.

28

29

30 Respectfully Submitted,

31

32

33

34

Wendy Littlefield

