

1 **Town of Mount Desert**
2 **Selectboard Meeting Minutes**
3 **Monday, September 20, 2021**
4
5

6 Selectboard Members Present: Chair John Macauley, Martha Dudman, Matt Hart, Geoff
7 Wood, Wendy Littlefield
8

9 Town Officials Present: Town Manager Durlin Lunt, Assessor Kyle Avila, Public Works
10 Director Tony Smith
11

12 Members of the public were also in attendance.
13

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

15 Chair Macauley called the Meeting to order at 6:30PM.
16

17 **II. Public Hearing(s)**

18 *Amendments to the General Assistance Ordinance Appendices A-D*

19 Chair Macauley asked for public comment. MD360 Director Kathy Miller asked whether
20 there were any changes from last year. Manager Lunt reported there was very little change.
21

22 There were no other comments.
23

24 Chair Macauley closed the public hearing.
25

26 **III. Post Public Hearing**

27 *A. Discussion and Approve Amendments to the General Assistance Ordinance*
28 *Appendices A-D.*

29 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, approval of the Amendments to
30 the General Assistance Ordinance Appendices A-D, as presented.

31 Motion approved 5-0.
32

33 **IV. Minutes**

34 *A. Approval of the minutes from September 7, 2021*

35 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, approval of the September 7, 2021
36 Minutes as presented.

37 Motion approved 4-0-1 (Littlefield in Abstention).
38

39 **V. Appointments/Recognitions/Resignations**

40 *A. Appointment of Fred Mason to be appointed as a part time (on-call) firefighter to*
41 *the Mount Desert Fire Department, effective September 21, 2021, at a starting pay*
42 *of \$18.00/\$26.00 an hour.*

43 Manager Lunt explained the \$18.00/hour pay noted is the payment amount for training
44 attendance. The \$26.00/hour pay noted is for filling in shifts.
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1 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, approval of Appointment
2 of Fred Mason as a part time (on-call) firefighter to the Mount Desert Fire Department,
3 effective September 21, 2021, at a starting pay of \$18.00/\$26.00 an hour, as presented and
4 with thanks.

5 Motion approved 5-0.

6
7 *B. Consideration of appointing Michael Vollmer to the vacant Packer Truck Driver*
8 *position contingent on his successful completion of a mandatory DOT*
9 *preemployment physical and drug and alcohol screening at the mandatory six-*
10 *month probationary rate of pay of \$20.54 per hour increasing to the regular rate*
11 *of \$21.62 per hour upon successful completion of his mandatory probationary*
12 *period by which time he is to have obtained his Class B commercial driver's license or*
13 *his employment with the Town shall cease.*

14 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, approval of appointing
15 Michael Vollmer to the vacant Packer Truck Driver position contingent on his successful
16 completion of a mandatory DOT preemployment physical and drug and alcohol screening
17 at the mandatory six-month probationary rate of pay of \$20.54 per hour increasing to the
18 regular rate of \$21.62 per hour upon successful completion of his mandatory probationary
19 period by which time he is to have obtained his Class B commercial driver's license or his
20 employment with the Town shall cease, as presented, and with thanks.

21 Motion approved 5-0.

22 23 **VI. Consent Agenda**

24 *A. Highway Superintendent Monthly Reports for July and August*

25 *B. From Public Works Director Tony Smith Miscellaneous Work Update*

26 *C. Thank you letter from SPCA of Hancock County*

27 *D. Thank you letter from American Red Cross*

28 *E. Thank you letter from Hospice Volunteers for Hancock County*

29 *F. Acadia National Park Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2021*

30 *G. Coastal Resources of Maine and PERC municipal solid waste bypass update*

31 *H. Update on sale of Coastal Resources of Maine facility in Hampden, Maine.*

32 *I. Public Notice: MRC Special Board of Directors Meeting – Tuesday, September 21,*
33 *2021*

34 *J. Annual State Valuation Report*

35 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, acceptance of the Consent
36 Agenda as presented.

37
38 Mr. Hart thanked the Public Works Department for trimming around stop signs and street
39 signs in Town.

40
41 Ms. Littlefield asked about one outstanding easement on Main Street. Public Works
42 Director Tony Smith confirmed the easement presented to Versant was not accepted. Work
43 continues creating an acceptable easement. He hopes the issue can be resolved by October
44 12, 2021 so work can resume.

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46 Motion approved 5-0.

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VII. Selectmen’s Reports

Ms. Dudman asked the Board to consider making a statement in opposition of the American Aquafarms proposal. There’s evidence in Town of opposition to the project. It’s not beneficial to the fishermen. In speaking with Representative Lynne Williams, Ms. Dudman was told the more voices speaking up the better. Ms. Dudman proposed directing Manager Lunt to compose a letter. She inquired whether a Public Hearing would be required for such action.

Mr. Hart agreed there will be a detrimental impact to fishing around Mount Desert Island. Despite the project occurring in another Town, the impact makes it the Town of Mount Desert’s business as well. Chair Macauley concurred.

Mr. Wood agreed as well. The risks are high to the community and the benefits low.

MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, to direct Town Manager Lunt to craft a letter in opposition of the American Aquafarms project and send it to the authorities.

It was agreed to bring the letter back to the Board for a chance for public comment.

Motion approved 5-0.

VIII. Unfinished Business

A. Funding for Climate Action Plan

Manager Lunt reported he was successful in finding the funding for the Climate Action Plan. Funds can be pulled from accounts such as General Technical Services, Contingency for the Board, Highway Technical Services, Wastewater Technical Services, Town Manager Expense, Sustainability Committee training and research. The funds will cover the price of Planning Services for the Climate Action Plan.

MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, acceptance of the funding plan and the project.

Ms. Hart asked how, once the plan provides a list of actions the Town can take, will action be budgeted into the CIP and line items. Sustainability Committee Chair Phil Lichtenstein believed it needed to be a transparent process. Items would not be separated out but included within department budgets. Director Smith noted the plan will be a living document, to be amended and changed as necessary moving forward. Ms. Dudman hoped for a plan that’s clear and concise. Mr. Lichtenstein agreed.

Motion approved 5-0.

IX. New Business

A. Public Space Special Event Application – Seal Harbor Library Fair – July 31, 2022, Seal Harbor Village Green

1 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval of Public Space
2 Special Event Application – Seal Harbor Library Fair – July 31, 2022, Seal Harbor Village
3 Green, as presented.
4 Motion approved 5-0.

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6 *B. Public Space Private Placement Application- Friendship Bench, Pond's End*

7 Ms. Dudman believed the placement of such a memorial is a lovely sentiment and she
8 understands the family's desire to place a memorial of this type. There are a lot of benches
9 in Town and only so much capacity. The area where the bench is proposed is congested.
10 Her concern is that the habit of memorializing people with items like benches or trees has
11 grown, and there is no plan for the growing number of memorials being added to public
12 space.

13
14 Mr. Hart noted that the suggestion of memorial plaques placed on existing benches has
15 come up in past discussions. Mr. Wood suggested that memorials could be planned and
16 tagged as part of a long-term plan with a menu of items for people to sponsor. A landscape
17 architect could be directed to identify some discreet items that could be improved on or
18 named in memory of someone. It was noted the funding has been found to allow the
19 marina landscape plans to move forward. Ms. Dudman wondered if the Garden Club
20 would be willing to look at other green spaces in Town for the future.

21
22 Chair Macauley suggested extending such a plan to include all visual items offered to the
23 Town such as flags on Main Street. Perhaps thought can be given to ensuring visual
24 proposals are in keeping with the aesthetic spirit of the Town.

25
26 Director Smith noted a memorial plaque was affixed to a boulder in Suminsby Park. It is
27 discreet and serves the family's needs.

28
29 Mr. Wood wondered if anything can be done in the interim. Ms. Dudman suggested the
30 request be kept in mind until the Town has a plan for how they'd like to proceed. It is
31 difficult to refuse such an offer, even temporarily. There are no benches currently in the
32 area. Mr. Wood wondered if there was a way to decide now whether benches should be in
33 that area, and how many, before installing this first bench.

34
35 Mr. Hart suggested a plaque installed on a bench, with the understanding that if in the
36 future the plan for the area changes, the plaque can be placed on something else.

37
38 Ms. Dudman agreed - it's difficult to refuse such a request. However, the requests will
39 continue. The Town needs a better plan than acquiescing to every request for a bench or
40 memorial item. Mr. Wood suggested not rejecting the request, but taking the time to
41 review the area, determine if benches are appropriate and then offer the family a choice of
42 benches chosen as appropriate for the area, or alternatively another memorial option if
43 benches are deemed not a good fit with the area.
44

1 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, to defer approval of action on
2 Ms. Warholak's Public Space Private Placement Application - Friendship Bench, Pond's
3 End until such time as the Town can develop a workable plan for the space.

4
5 Resident Ellen Kappes opposed the idea of a bench. Those who visit the area sit on the
6 grass or bring their own chairs.

7
8 Family member Mark Warholak appreciated the time the Board took to consider the
9 request. He noted the memorial did not have to be a bench. The family was open to any
10 proposal the Board might suggest. The Board thanked Mr. Warholak for his
11 understanding.

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13 Motion approved 5-0.

14
15 *C. Memorandum of Agreement with the Town of Tremont to Lease Code Enforcement*
16 *Officer*

17 Manager Lunt noted this agreement was an attempt to try to help a fellow town over the
18 next couple of months. The time CEO Keene spends on Tremont matters would be as
19 needed, but not expected to be more than eight hours a week, and often it will likely be
20 less. Currently the Tremont Town Manager is serving as the CEO. CEO Keene was happy
21 to assist the Town of Tremont.

22
23 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, approval of the
24 Memorandum of Agreement with the Town of Tremont to Lease Code Enforcement
25 Officer, as presented.

26
27 It was noted that CEO Keene would not be spending the same day every week in Tremont.
28 Mr. Hart was concerned the position is likely already understaffed for the Town of Mount
29 Desert. Did Tremont ask other communities? Manager Lunt noted that Tremont is familiar
30 with CEO Keene's work and therefore asked Mount Desert specifically. Mr. Wood
31 cautioned about the public perception involving the CEO being potentially unavailable for
32 Mount Desert residents.

33
34 Mr. Hart noted it was a two-month agreement, but these types of arrangements can go
35 longer. He suggested getting a report at the end of two months on how it's going, and
36 whether changes are needed, or more time is necessary.

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38 Motion approved 5-0.

39
40 **X. Other Business**

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

42 Ms. Dudman inquired about a vote on the landscape mapping. Manager Lunt noted it is
43 part of the landscaping line item and a vote is not needed.

44
45 **XI. Treasurer's Warrants**

46 *A. Approve & Sign Treasurer's Warrant as shown below:*

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<i>Town Invoices</i>	<i>AP2215</i>	<i>09/21/2021</i>	<i>\$530,784.03</i>
	<i>AP2180</i>	<i>09/21/2021</i>	<i>\$5,598.48</i>
	<i>AP2181</i>	<i>09/21/2021</i>	<i>\$35,930.00</i>
<i>Total</i>			<i>\$572,312.51</i>

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2 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, Approval of Treasurer's Warrant
3 as shown above.
4 Motion approved 5-0.

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6 *B. Approve Signed Treasurer's Payroll, State Fees, & PR Benefit Warrants as shown*
7 *below:*

<i>State Fees & PR Benefits</i>	<i>AP2213</i>	<i>09/09/2021</i>	<i>\$11,493.04</i>
	<i>AP2214</i>	<i>09/15/2021</i>	<i>\$32,838.16</i>
<i>Town Payroll</i>	<i>PR2207</i>	<i>09/03/2021</i>	<i>\$122,396.52</i>
<i>Total</i>			<i>\$166,727.72</i>

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9 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, approval of signed Treasurer's
10 Payroll, State Fees, & PR Benefit Warrants as shown above.
11 Motion approved 4-0-1 (Littlefield in Abstention).

12
13 *C. Acknowledge Treasurer's School Board AP/Payroll Warrants as shown below:*

<i>School Invoices</i>	<i>#6</i>	<i>09/17/2021</i>	<i>\$178,758.20</i>
<i>Total</i>			<i>\$178,758.20</i>

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<i>Grand Total</i>			<i>\$917,798.43</i>
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16 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, acknowledgement of
17 Treasurer's School Board AP/Payroll Warrants as shown above.
18 Motion approved 5-0.

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20 **XII. Adjournment**

21 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, adjournment.
22 Motion approved 5-0.

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24 The Meeting adjourned at 7:08PM.

25
26 Respectfully Submitted,

27
28 Wendy Littlefield

