

**Town of Mount Desert
Selectboard Special Meeting Minutes**

Monday, April 5, 2021

Location: Zoom Meeting

This Meeting was held via remote access.

Selectboard Members Present: Geoff Wood, Matt Hart, Chair John Macauley, Martha Dudman

Selectboard Member Wendy Littlefield was unable to attend.

Town Officials Present:

Assessor Kyle Avila, Public Works Director Tony Smith, Fire Chief Mike Bender, Ambulance Director Basil Mahaney, Treasurer Kathy Mahar

Members of the public were also in attendance.

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

Chair Macauley called the Meeting to order at 6:32PM.

II. Public Hearing(s)

A. Northeast Lobster Co. LLC d/b/a The Nor' Easter 10 Huntington Rd, Northeast Harbor request for Liquor License and Special Amusement Permit

B. Mandy Fountaine/DBA Abel's Lobster Pound (On The Shore, LLC) Request for Liquor Special Amusement Permit Renewal

Mr. Hart pointed out internet issues were making the meeting difficult to conduct, and likely limiting public access. Because of that, he wondered whether the Board should postpone discussion of Item II.A, in light of concerns voiced by neighbors during previous Public Hearings. Chair Macauley agreed.

MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Mr. Hart seconding to table Item II.A to the next meeting.

Owner of The Nor'Easter, Adam Fraley, noted the license was necessary to open the business. A deadline for licensing is set by the State.

Mr. Hart suggested approving the liquor license and holding off on the Special Amusement Permit until the public was fully able to attend.

Ms. Dudman rescinded her earlier Motion.

III. Post Public Hearing

A. Action as needed.

1 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval of Northeast
2 Lobster Co. LLC d/b/a The Nor' Easter 10 Huntington Rd, Northeast Harbor request for
3 Liquor License.

4 Motion approved 4-0.

5
6 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, approval of Mandy
7 Fountaine/DBA Abel's Lobster Pound (On The Shore, LLC) Request for Liquor Special
8 Amusement Permit Renewal, as presented.

9 Motion approved 4-0.

10
11 **IV. Minutes**

12 *A. Approval of minutes from March 29, 2021 meeting*

13 No Minutes were presented.

14
15 **V. Appointments/Recognitions/Resignations**

16 *A. Appointment of Benjamin Gilley as a part-time (on-call) firefighter to the Mount
17 Desert Fire Department, effective June 5, 2021 at a starting pay of \$14.08 an hour*

18 *B. Request that Margaret Houghton be appointed as a part time (on-call) firefighter to
19 the Mount Desert Fire Department, effective April 6, 2021 at a starting pay of \$14.08
20 an hour*

21
22 Fire Chief Bender reported that changes to the Appointments in Items V.A and B were
23 required.

24
25 Item V.A could be disregarded.

26
27 Item V.B includes the addition of Molly Brown and Kelly Brown.

28
29 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, approval of appointing
30 Margaret Houghton, and Molly Brown and Kelly Brown as part-time (on-call)
31 firefighters to the Mount Desert Fire Department, effective April 6, 2021 at a starting pay
32 of \$14.08 an hour.

33 Motion approved 4-0.

34
35 **VI. Consent Agenda** *(These items are considered routine, and therefore, may be passed by
36 the Selectmen in one blanket motion. Board members may remove any item for
37 discussion by requesting such action prior to consideration of that portion of the
38 agenda.)*

39 *A. Thank you note from the Common Good Soup Kitchen*

40 *B. Mount Desert Island Hiking Trail System letter dated March 23, 2021*

41 *C. Department of Marine Resources, Pretty Marsh Reclassification*

42 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval of the Consent
43 Agenda as presented.

44 Motion approved 4-0.

45
46 **VII. Selectmen's Reports**

1 Chair Macauley referred to Carmen Sanford's request that the venue of the Town
2 Meeting be changed. He wondered if the item should be tabled till the public was better
3 able to attend.
4

5 Ms. Sanford stated the meeting was scheduled for May 4/5, 2021. She did not believe the
6 location was set. She learned the meeting was to be held at the High School parking lot
7 as it was last year. She preferred an indoor venue. Other Towns are planning for indoor
8 Town Meetings. She did not believe the school superintendent refused to allow the
9 meeting to occur at the school.
10

11 Mr. Hart believed the school board offered to revisit the issue in May. The meeting is
12 scheduled to occur in early May. It could be too late to make such a change. He noted
13 that the Town of Bar Harbor is tentatively planning to use Connors/Emerson School.
14 They have a backup plan in place in case using the school is deemed impossible. The
15 Town of Southwest Harbor intends to use the fire station. Social distancing is still
16 required. The drive-in venue at the high school was not ideal, but it went better than
17 expected.
18

19 Ms. Dudman clarified Town Meeting was scheduled for May 3-4.
20

21 Ms. Sanford reiterated she was against using the high school. More people are
22 vaccinated making things safer. She suggested the meeting could be held via Zoom. She
23 stated people couldn't see or hear at the Town Meeting. People weren't comfortable
24 asking questions. Holding it at the high school is a disservice to the Town.
25

26 Mr. Wood noted that discussion and a decision would have to occur very quickly, given
27 the short amount of time till Town Meeting.
28

29 Ms. Sanford suggested using a large tent.
30

31 Jerry Miller asked if there was a deadline for which advertisements in the paper had to go
32 out.
33

34 Chair Macauley reported that he'd heard mostly positive remarks at last year's venue.
35 This was why it was believed using the venue again was not a problem. He cautioned
36 that the pandemic was not over.
37

38 Ms. Sanford wanted to know why residents were not informed of the venue.
39

40 Mr. Wood pointed out an outdoor meeting would prevent any hybrid with Zoom. He
41 reiterated this was very late for such discussions.
42

43 Ms. Sanford wanted the item added to the next Agenda for discussion.
44

45 **VIII. Unfinished Business**

46 *A. Northeast Harbor Main Street Improvements Project: Cost Summary*

1 Public Works Director Tony Smith submitted a memo with recommendations on Page 1
2 and 2. He believed the Board had Manager Lunt's memo as well.

3
4 The Main Street project has exceeded its contingency by \$48,564.00. The shortfall was
5 created due to the work with Versant, and the easement work required. There is
6 additional funding out of the bonded moneys created when the Town went to the East
7 side option. Director Smith recommended the Town move some of the excess bond
8 money to cover the shortfall and also to replenish the contingency fund with another
9 \$50,000.00 moving forward.

10
11 Mr. Hart wondered if excess funds would allow the Town to revisit additional items in
12 the original plan that were removed. Ms. Dudman pointed out the drainage problem in
13 front of the sidewalk is still a problem.

14
15 Director Smith noted the extra items were not deleted, just postponed. In particular, the
16 brick pavers and the southerly pop-out park could be considered. He assured Ms.
17 Dudman the drainage in front of the post office would be addressed.

18
19 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, approval of expenditure of the
20 estimated costs totaling \$195,000.00 to complete the Main Street project, to be charged to
21 the project contingency line, as presented.

22 VOTE:

23 Matt Hart: Aye

24 Geoff Wood: Aye

25 Martha Dudman: Aye

26 Chair John Macauley: Aye

27 Motion approved 4-0.

28
29 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, approval of the transfer of
30 \$48,564.00 from the bond balance of \$713,753.00 to the contingency line leaving a bond
31 balance of \$665,189.00, as presented.

32 VOTE:

33 Geoff Wood: Aye

34 Matt Hart: Aye

35 Martha Dudman: Aye

36 Chair John Macauley: Aye

37 Motion approved 4-0.

38
39 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, approval of the transfer of
40 \$50,000.00 to the contingency line from the remaining bond balance of \$665,189.00,
41 leaving a bond balance of \$615,189.00, as presented.

42 VOTE:

43 Geoff Wood: Aye

44 Matt Hart: Aye

45 Martha Dudman: Aye

46 Chair John Macauley: Aye

1 Motion approved 4-0.

2
3 **IX. New Business**

4 A. *Request for approval and authorization for the Fire Chief to sign and execute a*
5 *Public Safety Training Agreement and Mutual Release for use of a structure in Seal*
6 *Harbor for fire department training.*

7 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval and authorization for
8 the Fire Chief to sign and execute a Public Safety Training Agreement and Mutual
9 Release for use of a structure in Seal Harbor for fire department training, as presented.
10 Motion approved 4-0.

11
12 B. *Public Space Special Event Application – The Mount Desert Island YMCA for Acadia*
13 *70.8 Triathlon; August, 2021, Ponds End, Somesville*

14 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, approval of Public Space
15 Special Event Application – The Mount Desert Island YMCA for Acadia 70.8 Triathlon;
16 August, 2021, Ponds End, Somesville, as presented.

17
18 Mr. Wood asked if a contingency should be added to the Motion in the event the
19 triathlon cannot occur due to Covid. Ms. Dudman noted the YMCA stated they would
20 adhere to Covid rules and regulations.

21
22 Motion approved 4-0.

23
24 **X. Other Business**

25 A. *Such other business as may be legally conducted*
26 There was no Other Business.

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

29 A. *Approve & Sign Treasurer's Warrant AP2156 in the amount of \$290,740.65*

30 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval and signature of
31 Treasurer's Warrant AP2156 in the amount of \$290,740.65, as presented.

32 VOTE:

33 Matt Hart: Aye

34 Martha Dudman: Aye

35 Geoff Wood: Aye

36 Chair John Macauley: Aye

37 Motion approved 4-0.

38
39 B. *Approve Signed Treasurer's Payroll, State Fees, & PR Benefit Warrants AP2153,*
40 *AP2154, PR2122 and PR2123 in the amounts of \$4,378.23, \$7,520.31, and*
41 *\$6,426.20, and \$106,335.35 and \$103,304.15, respectively*

42 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval of signed
43 Treasurer's Payroll, State Fees, & PR Benefit Warrants AP2153, AP2154, PR2122 and
44 PR2123 in the amounts of \$4,378.23, \$7,520.31, and \$6,426.20, and \$106,335.35 and
45 \$103,304.15, respectively, as presented.]

46 VOTE:

1 Matt Hart: Aye
2 Martha Dudman: Aye
3 Geoff Wood: Aye
4 Chair John Macauley: Aye
5 Motion approved 4-0.
6

7 *C. Acknowledge Treasurer's School Board AP/Payroll Warrants 20 in the amount of*
8 *\$167,805.12, respectively*

9 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, acknowledgement of Treasurer's
10 School Board AP/Payroll Warrants 20 in the amount of \$167,805.12, respectively, as
11 presented.

12 VOTE:

13 Matt Hart: Aye
14 Geoff Wood: Aye
15 Martha Dudman: Aye
16 Chair John Macauley: Aye
17 Motion approved 4-0.
18

19 **XII. Adjournment**

20 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, adjournment.
21 Motion approved 4-0.
22

23 The Meeting adjourned at 7:23PM.

24 Respectfully Submitted,
25
26
27
28

29 Wendy Littlefield