

**Town of Mount Desert
Selectboard Meeting Minutes**
Monday, March 1, 2021
Location: Zoom Meeting

This Meeting was held via remote access.

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

Town Officials Present: Town Manager Durlin Lunt, Tax Assessor Kyle Avila, Fire Chief Mike Bender, Police Chief Jim Willis, Harbormaster John Lemoine, Town Clerk Claire Woolfolk, Tax Collector Lisa Young

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 6:30PM.

II. Minutes

A. Approval of minutes from February 8, 2021 meeting

MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval of the February 8, 2021 Minutes as presented.
Motion approved 5-0.

III. Appointments/Recognitions/Resignations

None presented.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Department Reports: Highway, Buildings and Grounds

B. Thank you note from Mount Desert Nursing Association (MDNA)

C. Grant funding to be used towards the replacement of the two culverts on the Beech Hill Cross Road with a StreamSmart road crossing

MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, approval of the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion approved 5-0.

V. Selectmen's Reports

None Presented.

VI. Unfinished Business

A. Traffic Committee

Police Chief Willis reported that the Traffic Committee hasn't met for five years or more. He requested direction from the Board regarding the Traffic Committee's purpose and objectives.

1 For context, Chief Willis shared that the Town of Bar Harbor struggled to staff their
2 Traffic Committee. Many of the tasks delegated to the Traffic Committee ended up
3 performed by Bar Harbor staff. This is essentially what is happening in Mount Desert.
4 As an example, the crosswalks and flashing speed limit sign installation have fallen to
5 Public Works. Chief Willis wondered, in light of staff performing necessary functions,
6 whether a Traffic Committee is truly needed. Perhaps a policy can be created to better
7 define the needs and procedures for accomplishing them.

8
9 Chair Macauley wondered if traffic issues were something the Selectboard could address.
10 Chief Willis speculated that the current discussions are occurring because of issues like
11 the COA building proposed for Main Street. If that is the case, it would be wise to
12 perhaps wait and see what occurs before trying to resolve potential problems.

13
14 MD365 Director Kathy Miller felt the issue was more than just concern over the proposed
15 COA building. The new building on Firehouse Lane was proposed to have three
16 apartments and more office space. Parking concerns forced the plans to be scaled back.
17 Ms. Miller has heard from those renting apartments in town who do not have access to
18 off-street parking. Open parking lots in Town allow no overnight parking in the winter.
19 The Town's Comprehensive Plan states that bringing back a year-round population is a
20 goal. Attaining this goal is limited due to parking limitations. Parking issues should be
21 addressed.

22
23 Chief Willis felt this was an example of the direction a Traffic Committee requires in
24 order to be effective.

25
26 Katrina Carter noted that her experience as a member of the Traffic Committee included
27 working with the DOT on speed limits and signage throughout Town and partnering with
28 the Police Department in conversations with the State. She felt it was a bigger job than it
29 appears to be on the surface.

30
31 Mr. Wood reminded the Board of the recent issues with crosswalks. More active
32 involvement in these types of issues would be beneficial.

33
34 Chief Willis pointed out that changes to speed limits and crosswalks are beyond the
35 Town's authority. If the Town resurrects the Traffic Committee, he hoped it would be
36 given a definition, role, and purpose.

37
38 Ms. Dudman added that the Town is having trouble populating their existing committees.
39 Finding members for the Traffic Committee might prove difficult. Manager Lunt
40 believed there were a few Traffic Committee members interested in becoming an active
41 group. Perhaps the Town could try to repopulate the group before any definitive
42 decisions are made.

43
44 Mr. Hart recalled residents bringing their concerns to the Board. The Board hasn't always
45 been able to give them the answers they want, but the action the Board was able to take
46 was done in a timely manner. Mr. Hart recalled learning from Public Works and Public

1 Safety that speed limits are the DOT's jurisdiction. It can take years for the DOT to
2 undertake the traffic study required for any change. Mr. Hart agreed with Chair
3 Macauley that streamlining issues by letting the Board handle them might be a viable
4 option. Parking might be better addressed as part of the Comprehensive Plan, along with
5 year-round housing. If committees are difficult to staff and needs are being addressed via
6 the Selectboard, then, perhaps the Town is okay for the moment.
7

8 Ms. Littlefield agreed. It would be better to see how the current concerns pan out over the
9 next few weeks and months. Forming a committee when so many issues are outside the
10 Town's jurisdiction doesn't seem practical. If over time the Town is unable to keep up
11 with the concerns and issues, the question of a Traffic Committee can be revisited.
12

13 Manager Lunt clarified that there is an active Traffic Committee. Reactivating it would
14 consist of finding a few more members. Manager Lunt advised looking at the issues
15 before making a decision.
16

17 Jerry Miller pointed out there appeared to be two issues; parking in Northeast Harbor and
18 traffic flow throughout the Town.
19

20 Mr. Hart has heard concerns about winter parking. Perhaps the Board can direct the
21 Police Department to review parking for realistic options. Chief Willis explained that the
22 parking bans are in place in the winter so snow removal can occur effectively. There are
23 likely options to consider; Police and Public Works would need direction from the Town.
24 Chair Macauley agreed the Town needs to know what the circumstances are first before
25 the need of a Traffic Committee can be determined.
26

27 Ms. Littlefield suggested waiting to see what the situation is once the Town gets busier
28 and the Main Street project finishes.
29

30 Ms. Miller recalled that Noel Musson presented at a recent Planning Board meeting and
31 was asked to look into parking as a future project for the Town. Chief Willis agreed to
32 discuss it with Mr. Musson.
33

34 Manager Lunt asked if the Board would like the Town to attempt to recruit more
35 committee members, for the Traffic Committee and any other committees that are
36 understaffed. Chair Macauley felt keeping committees populated should be an ongoing
37 effort. Ms. Dudman believed that sometimes the best way is for committee members to
38 directly ask others in the community they feel would be a benefit to the committee.
39

40 Ms. Littlefield suggested reaching out to the existing Traffic Committee members to
41 gauge their interest in continuing.
42

43 Harbor Committee member Donna Reis noted that parking is an important issue to the
44 Harbor Committee as well. She agreed to let members know the Traffic Committee is
45 looking for members.
46

1 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, to direct Manager Lunt
2 to reach out to potential volunteers to fill current committee positions before establishing
3 new committees.

4 Motion approved 5-0.

5
6 *B. Service Groups/3rd Party Budget 2021-2022 Requests*

7 **Community Health and Counseling Services:** No representatives were present.

8
9 **Health Equity Alliance (formerly Down East AIDS Network):** Health Equity Alliance
10 serves people living with HIV/AIDS, the LGBTQ+ community, and people struggling
11 with drug addiction. They offer case management and support groups, a syringe
12 exchange, Narcan training, HIV testing, and a food pantry. They organize events like the
13 Bangor Pride.

14
15 **Northern Light Home Care & Hospice:** Northern Light Home Care & Hospice covers
16 all of Hancock County and provided thousands of visits to patients in 2020. 11 patients in
17 the Home Health Care Program were from Mount Desert. Patients are visited regardless
18 of ability to pay. A percentage of their costs are reimbursed by MaineCare and Medicare.
19 A Covid vaccine clinic is being offered to the residents of Stonington and other
20 communities, and Covid testing has been ongoing in communities.

21
22 Mr. Hart asked if there was a connection between Northern Light Home Care and Hospice
23 and Hospice Volunteers of Hancock County. Director of Philanthropy and Community
24 Relations Jackie Welsh reported that Northern Light contracts with Hospice Volunteers.
25 Hospice Volunteers of Hancock County are not Medicare-certified hospice providers.

26
27 Ms. Welsh added that the organization offers remote vaccine clinics to towns that request
28 it. If Mount Desert was interested in such a thing, she encouraged the Town to contact
29 them.

30
31 **Seal Harbor VIS:** VIS Board Member Alex Stevens noted the VIS has three full-time
32 employees. They provide beautification and maintenance of the Seal Harbor Beach and
33 the Village Green, around the monuments and on the trails. The VIS needs to raise
34 approximately \$130,000.00 each year, much of it through private donations.

35
36 Mr. Wood asked for clarification on why this work is contracted out for care from another
37 organization. Mr. Stevens noted that from his research the work appears to be
38 supplemental to the work the Town does elsewhere. There have been other Village
39 Improvement Societies in island villages and towns. The VIS handles details of
40 maintenance beyond the ability of the Town to cover. The work is necessary to the Town.

41
42 It was clarified that Mr. Wood's question is why the Town is supporting to such an extent
43 work that may be a municipal function. There are a number of VIS groups within Mount
44 Desert doing what is considered above and beyond what Public Works can take care of.
45 Funding for the Seal Harbor VIS far exceeds that of any other VIS request. The Seal

1 Harbor VIS is the only group that includes in their request payroll and insurance benefits
2 for employees who are not Town employees.

3
4 Mr. Miller believed Public Works Director Smith has mentioned in the past that the work
5 the Seal Harbor VIS does is cost effective, compared to the Town doing the work.

6
7 Ms. Dudman felt this was a tradition in place for many years. In the case of Seal Harbor,
8 the job is a large one and they do it well. The system seems to work for them and works
9 for the Town. It was noted the beach is difficult to maintain. Mr. Stevens agreed. He
10 was not sure if in the summer the Town has the manpower or hours to attend to the beach.

11
12 Mr. Wood believed that just because something has always been done a certain way is not
13 good justification for continuing doing it in that way. If the Town is unable to do the
14 work Mr. Wood would be interested in knowing why. It doesn't make sense to him that
15 the Town funds the VIS to pay health benefits for someone to care for Town property.

16
17 Mr. Hart noted this is a conversation that comes up every year at this time. At some point
18 a tipping point will come where it must be asked whether the current arrangement
19 continues to work for both parties. Mr. Hart felt Mr. Wood raised good questions.
20 Additionally, there are nuances to the job that should be considered, like beach
21 maintenance occurring prior to beachgoers arriving. Mr. Hart likened the situation to the
22 Ambulance Service. He would hate to see a problem come up which necessitated some
23 quick changes to the situation as it now stands. It's important for the Town to have open
24 dialogue on the situation, not just with regard to the Seal Harbor VIS but to the other VIS
25 organizations in Town as well. There should be a contingency plan in place should it ever
26 be needed.

27
28 Ms. Reis asked how many volunteers were in the VIS. Mr. Stevens noted that only the 26
29 VIS Board members were volunteers. The work is primarily done by paid employees.

30
31 **WIC Nutrition Program:** There was a slight decrease in WIC participation last year,
32 resulting in a slight decrease in this year's request. The Covid pandemic has meant more
33 drivetime for WIC personnel.

34
35 *C. DRAFT Warrant Review*

36 Manager Lunt reported there were a number of Articles ready to be voted on and
37 explained the Warrant formatting. A number of the Warrants are routine and others are
38 Department funding already reviewed by the Board and the Warrant Committee.

39
40 Mr. Wood inquired about those with missing elements. Some Articles refer to appendices
41 that are not included and Articles are not all titled.

42
43 Manager Lunt noted some of the untitled Articles are placeholders in case they were
44 needed. The content of the Article is what is being voted on. The numbers may change
45 as the Warrant develops.

46

1 Discussion ensued regarding the voting format.

2
3 **Article 4. Shall an ordinance dated May 4, 2021 and entitled “Town of Mount Desert**
4 **Alewife Ordinance” be enacted?**

5 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for
6 approval an Ordinance dated May 4, 2021 and entitled “Town of Mount Desert Alewife
7 Ordinance”, as presented.

8 VOTE:

9 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

10 Martha Dudman: Aye

11 Geoff Wood: Aye

12 Matt Hart: Aye

13 Chair John Macauley: Aye

14 Motion approved 5-0.

15
16 **Article 5. Shall an ordinance dated May 4, 2021 and entitled “Public Right-of-Way”**
17 **be enacted?**

18 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, recommendation for
19 approval an Ordinance dated May 4, 2021 and entitled “Public Right-of-Way”, as
20 presented.

21 VOTE:

22 Geoff Wood: Aye

23 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

24 Martha Dudman: Aye

25 Matt Hart: Aye

26 Chair John Macauley: Aye

27 Motion approved 5-0.

28
29 **Article 9. To see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
30 **authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept Conditional Gifts (MRSA 30-A, §5654),**
31 **Unconditional Gifts (MRSA 30-A §5655)**

32 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for
33 approval an Article to see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to
34 authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept Conditional Gifts (MRSA 30-A, §5654),
35 Unconditional Gifts (MRSA 30-A §5655), as presented.

36 VOTE:

37 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

38 Martha Dudman: Aye

39 Geoff Wood: Aye

40 Matt Hart: Aye

41 Chair John Macauley: Aye

42 Motion approved 5-0.

43
44 **Article 10. To see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
45 **authorize the Board of Selectmen to lease a portion of the so-called Visitor Center at**
46 **the Northeast Harbor Marina to the Ticket Booth operators for a term of one (1)**

1 **year beginning July 1, 2021 under such terms and conditions as the Board of**
2 **Selectmen, in its sole discretion, deems to be in the best interests of the Town.**

3 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for approval
4 an Article to see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to authorize the
5 Board of Selectmen to lease a portion of the so-called Visitor Center at the Northeast
6 Harbor Marina to the Ticket Booth operators for a term of one (1) year beginning July 1,
7 2021 under such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen, in its sole discretion,
8 deems to be in the best interests of the Town, as presented.

9 VOTE:

10 Matt Hart: Aye

11 Martha Dudman: Aye

12 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

13 Geoff Wood: Aye

14 Chair John Macauley: Aye

15 Motion approved 5-0.

16
17 **Article 11. To see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
18 **authorize the Board of Selectmen, to lease a portion of the so-called Visitor Center at**
19 **the Northeast Harbor Marina to the Mount Desert Chamber of Commerce for a**
20 **term of one (1) year beginning July 1, 2021 under such terms and conditions as the**
21 **Board of Selectmen, in its sole discretion, deems to be in the best interests of the**
22 **Town.**

23 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, recommendation for approval
24 an Article to see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to authorize the
25 Board of Selectmen, to lease a portion of the so-called Visitor Center at the Northeast
26 Harbor Marina to the Mount Desert Chamber of Commerce for a term of one (1) year
27 beginning July 1, 2021 under such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen, in its
28 sole discretion, deems to be in the best interests of the Town, as presented.

29 VOTE:

30 Matt Hart: Aye

31 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

32 Martha Dudman: Aye

33 Geoff Wood: Aye

34 Chair John Macauley: Aye

35 Motion approved 5-0.

36
37 **Article 12. To see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will authorize the**
38 **Board of Selectmen, to negotiate and enter into an agreement with the Neighborhood**
39 **House Club, Inc. for management and maintenance of the municipal swimming pool,**
40 **under such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen, in its sole discretion,**
41 **deems to be in the best interests of the Town.**

42 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, recommendation for
43 approval an Article to see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will authorize
44 the Board of Selectmen, to negotiate and enter into an agreement with the Neighborhood
45 House Club, Inc. for management and maintenance of the municipal swimming pool,

1 under such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen, in its sole discretion, deems
2 to be in the best interests of the Town, as presented.

3 VOTE:

4 Geoff Wood: Aye

5 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

6 Martha Dudman: Aye

7 Matt Hart: Abstains

8 Chair John Macauley: Aye

9 Motion approved 4-0-1 (Hart in Abstention).

10
11 **Article 13. To see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
12 **approve July 1, each year, as the date on which all taxes shall be due and payable**
13 **providing that all unpaid taxes on September 1, of each year, shall be charged**
14 **interest at an annual rate of 6% (percent) per year. (Tax Club members are exempt**
15 **within the terms and conditions of the Town's Tax Club Agreement.)**

16 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, recommendation for
17 approval an Article to see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to
18 approve July 1, each year, as the date on which all taxes shall be due and payable
19 providing that all unpaid taxes on September 1, of each year, shall be charged interest at
20 an annual rate of 6% (percent) per year. (Tax Club members are exempt within the terms
21 and conditions of the Town's Tax Club Agreement.), as presented.

22 VOTE:

23 Geoff Wood: Aye

24 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

25 Martha Dudman: Aye

26 Matt Hart: Aye

27 Chair John Macauley: Aye

28 Motion approved 5-0.

29
30 **Article 14. To see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
31 **authorize the Tax Collector to enter into a standard "tax club" agreement with**
32 **taxpayers whereby: (1) the taxpayer agrees to pay specified monthly payments to the**
33 **Town (2) the Town agrees to waive interest on timely payments; (3) the Town**
34 **authorizes the Tax Collector to accept payment of taxes prior to commitment of**
35 **taxes; (4) the agreement automatically terminates if two consecutive payments are**
36 **missed and the taxpayer thereupon becomes subject to the same due date and**
37 **interest rate as other, nonparticipating taxpayers; (5) only taxpayers who are paid in**
38 **full on their property tax obligations may participate; and (6) interested taxpayers**
39 **shall apply annually for participation by the date shown on the application, date and**
40 **application format to be determined by the Tax Collector.**

41 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, recommendation for approval
42 an Article to see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to authorize the
43 Tax Collector to enter into a standard "tax club" agreement with taxpayers whereby: (1)
44 the taxpayer agrees to pay specified monthly payments to the Town (2) the Town agrees
45 to waive interest on timely payments; (3) the Town authorizes the Tax Collector to accept
46 payment of taxes prior to commitment of taxes; (4) the agreement automatically

1 terminates if two consecutive payments are missed and the taxpayer thereupon becomes
2 subject to the same due date and interest rate as other, nonparticipating taxpayers; (5) only
3 taxpayers who are paid in full on their property tax obligations may participate; and (6)
4 interested taxpayers shall apply annually for participation by the date shown on the
5 application, date and application format to be determined by the Tax Collector, as
6 presented.

7 VOTE:

8 Martha Dudman: Aye

9 Geoff Wood: Aye

10 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

11 Matt Hart: Aye

12 Chair John Macauley: Aye

13 Motion approved 5-0.

14
15 **Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept pre-**
16 **payment of property taxes not yet committed, not to exceed the estimated amount to**
17 **be committed in 2021, with no interest to be paid on same.**

18 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for
19 approval an Article to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept
20 pre-payment of property taxes not yet committed, not to exceed the estimated amount to
21 be committed in 2021, with no interest to be paid on same, as presented.

22 VOTE:

23 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

24 Martha Dudman: Aye

25 Geoff Wood: Aye

26 Matt Hart: Aye

27 Chair John Macauley: Aye

28 Motion approved 5-0.

29
30 **Article 16. To see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to set the**
31 **interest rate to be paid by the Town for abated taxes that have been paid at the rate**
32 **of 3% (percent) per year.**

33 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, recommendation for
34 approval of an Article to see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to
35 set the interest rate to be paid by the Town for abated taxes that have been paid at the rate
36 of 3% (percent) per year, as presented.

37 VOTE:

38 Martha Dudman: Aye

39 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

40 Geoff Wood: Aye

41 Matt Hart: Aye

42 Chair John Macauley: Aye

43 Motion approved 5-0.

44
45 **Article 17. To see if the inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
46 **authorize expenditures to pay any tax abatements granted by the Assessor, Board of**

1 **Assessment Review, or Board of Selectmen together with any interest due thereon**
2 **from the Town, during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, in an aggregate**
3 **amount not to exceed the property tax commitment overlay.**

4 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, recommendation for
5 approval an Article to see if the inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to
6 authorize expenditures to pay any tax abatements granted by the Assessor, Board of
7 Assessment Review, or Board of Selectmen together with any interest due thereon from
8 the Town, during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, in an aggregate amount not to
9 exceed the property tax commitment overlay, as presented.

10 VOTE:

11 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

12 Geoff Wood: Aye

13 Martha Dudman: Aye

14 Matt Hart: Aye

15 Chair John Macauley: Aye

16 Motion approved 5-0.

17
18 **Article 18. To see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
19 **authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose by public bid of Town-owned property,**
20 **other than real property, with a value of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or less**
21 **under such terms and conditions as it deems advisable.**

22 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, recommendation for
23 approval an Article to see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to
24 authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose by public bid of Town-owned property, other
25 than real property, with a value of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or less under such
26 terms and conditions as it deems advisable, as presented.

27 VOTE:

28 Martha Dudman: Aye

29 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

30 Geoff Wood: Aye

31 Matt Hart: Aye

32 Chair John Macauley: Aye

33 Motion approved 5-0.

34
35 **Article 19. To see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
36 **authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell at public auction or by advertised sealed**
37 **bid, and to convey titles obtained under tax deeds and under deeds of conveyance to**
38 **the Inhabitants of the Town any land and/or buildings, including trailers, in lieu of**
39 **payment of taxes except that the Selectmen have the power to authorize redemption.**
40 **Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C**
41 **for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the**
42 **former owner(s).**

43 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for
44 approval an Article to see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to
45 authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell at public auction or by advertised sealed bid, and
46 to convey titles obtained under tax deeds and under deeds of conveyance to the

1 Inhabitants of the Town any land and/or buildings, including trailers, in lieu of payment
2 of taxes except that the Selectmen have the power to authorize redemption. Municipal
3 Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying
4 homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s), as
5 presented.

6 VOTE:

7 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

8 Martha Dudman: Aye

9 Geoff Wood: Aye

10 Matt Hart: Aye

11 Chair John Macauley: Aye

12 Motion approved 5-0.

13
14 **Article 20. To see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
15 **authorize the Board of Selectmen to contract for services, in amounts not to exceed**
16 **appropriation for same, under such terms and conditions as it deems advisable.**

17 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for
18 approval an Article to see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to
19 authorize the Board of Selectmen to contract for services, in amounts not to exceed
20 appropriation for same, under such terms and conditions as it deems advisable, as
21 presented.

22 VOTE:

23 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

24 Martha Dudman: Aye

25 Geoff Wood: Aye

26 Matt Hart: Aye

27 Chair John Macauley: Aye

28 Motion approved 5-0.

29
30 **Article 21. To see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
31 **transfer Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) from the Undesignated Fund**
32 **Balance Account #100-38300 to reduce the 2021 – 2022 tax commitment.**

33 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for
34 approval an Article to see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to
35 transfer Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) from the Undesignated Fund
36 Balance Account #100-38300 to reduce the 2021 – 2022 tax commitment, as presented.

37
38 Chair Macauley asked about the transfer amount. Town Manager Lunt noted that
39 \$500,000.00 was the amount transferred last year. Treasurer Mahar has recommended the
40 amount can easily be done.

41
42 Manager Lunt explained that the money is being moved from an Undesignated Fund, or
43 surplus, in order to reduce the tax commitment on the budget for that year. This equals
44 \$500,000.00 less the Town will have to raise in property taxes.

45
46 VOTE:

1 Wendy Littlefield: Aye
2 Martha Dudman: Aye
3 Geoff Wood: Aye
4 Matt Hart: Aye
5 Chair John Macauley: Aye
6 Motion approved 5-0.
7

8 **Article 24. To see what sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
9 **raise and/or appropriate as Revenue through Excise Taxes, Service Fees and**
10 **miscellaneous sources for the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget.**

11 Manager Lunt reported the revenue through excise taxes, service fees and miscellaneous
12 sources are deemed a solid estimate.
13

14 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, to recommend for
15 approval the amount of \$1,739,943.00 as the sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount
16 Desert will vote to raise and/or appropriate as Revenue through Excise Taxes, Service
17 Fees and miscellaneous sources for the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget, as presented.
18

19 VOTE:
20 Wendy Littlefield: Aye
21 Martha Dudman: Aye
22 Geoff Wood: Aye
23 Matt Hart: Aye
24 Chair John Macauley: Aye
25 Motion approved 5-0.
26

27 **Article 25. To see what sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
28 **raise and appropriate for Department 200 through 221 General Government –**
29 **Governing Body (Board of Selectmen), Municipal Management, Town Clerk,**
30 **Registrar, Elections, Planning Board, Finance, Treasurer, Tax Collector,**
31 **Assessment, Code Enforcement, Unallocated Funds, Human Resources, and**
32 **Technology for the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget.**

33 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, to recommend for approval
34 the amount of \$1,478,989.00 as the sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will
35 vote to raise and appropriate for Department 200 through 221 General Government –
36 Governing Body (Board of Selectmen), Municipal Management, Town Clerk, Registrar,
37 Elections, Planning Board, Finance, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Assessment, Code
38 Enforcement, Unallocated Funds, Human Resources, and Technology for the 2021 – 2022
39 Town Budget, as presented.
40

41 Ms. Dudman noted the amount earmarked for the Selectboard seemed oddly specific.
42

43 VOTE:
44 Wendy Littlefield: Aye
45 Geoff Wood: Aye
46 Martha Dudman: Aye
Matt Hart: Aye

1 Chair John Macauley: Aye
2 Motion approved 5-0.

3
4 **Article 26. To see what sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
5 **raise and appropriate for Department 300 General Assistance Support for the 2021**
6 **– 2022 Town Budget.**

7 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for
8 approval the amount of \$5,000.00 as the sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert
9 will vote to raise and appropriate for Department 300 General Assistance Support for the
10 2021 – 2022 Town Budget, as presented.

11 VOTE:

12 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

13 Martha Dudman: Aye

14 Geoff Wood: Aye

15 Matt Hart: Aye

16 Chair John Macauley: Aye

17 Motion approved 5-0.

18
19 **Article 27. To see what sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
20 **raise and appropriate for Department 350 Rural Wastewater Support for the 2021 –**
21 **2022 Town Budget.**

22 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, recommendation for approval the
23 amount of \$198,529.00 as the sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote
24 to raise and appropriate for Department 350 Rural Wastewater Support for the 2021 –
25 2022 Town Budget, as presented.

26 VOTE:

27 Geoff Wood: Aye

28 Matt Hart: Aye

29 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

30 Martha Dudman: Aye

31 Chair John Macauley: Aye

32 Motion approved 5-0.

33
34 **Article 28. To see what sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
35 **raise and appropriate for Department 406 Street Lights for the 2021 – 2022 Town**
36 **Budget.**

37 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for
38 approval the amount of \$25,750.00 as the sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount
39 Desert will vote to raise and appropriate for Department 406 Street Lights for the 2021 –
40 2022 Town Budget, as presented.

41 VOTE:

42 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

43 Martha Dudman: Aye

44 Geoff Wood: Aye

45 Matt Hart: Aye

46 Chair John Macauley: Aye

1 Motion approved 5-0.

2
3 **Article 29. To see what sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
4 **raise and appropriate for Department 401 and 408 Public Safety – Police and**
5 **Communications (Dispatch) for the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget.**

6 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, recommendation for
7 approval the amount of \$1,281,884.00 as the sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount
8 Desert will vote to raise and appropriate for Department 401 and 408 Public Safety –
9 Police and Communications (Dispatch) for the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget, as presented.

10 VOTE:

11 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

12 Geoff Wood: Aye

13 Martha Dudman: Aye

14 Matt Hart: Aye

15 Chair John Macauley: Aye

16 Motion approved 5-0.

17
18 **Article 30. To see what sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
19 **raise and appropriate for Department 403,404, and 409 Public Safety – Fire**
20 **Department, Hydrants, and Emergency Management for the 2021 – 2022 Town**
21 **Budget.**

22 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for
23 approval the amount of \$985,583.00 as the sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount
24 Desert will vote to raise and appropriate for Department 403,404, and 409 Public Safety –
25 Fire Department, Hydrants, and Emergency Management for the 2021 – 2022 Town
26 Budget, as presented.

27 VOTE:

28 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

29 Martha Dudman: Aye

30 Geoff Wood: Aye

31 Matt Hart: Aye

32 Chair John Macauley: Aye

33 Motion approved 5-0.

34
35 **Article 31. To see what sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
36 **raise and appropriate for Department 501, 515, 520 and 525 Public Works - Roads,**
37 **Waste Management, Buildings & Grounds, Parks & Cemeteries, and 530**
38 **Environmental Sustainability for the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget.**

39 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for
40 approval the amount of \$2,729,726.00 as the sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount
41 Desert will vote to raise and appropriate for Department 501, 515, 520 and 525 Public
42 Works - Roads, Waste Management, Buildings & Grounds, Parks & Cemeteries, and 530
43 Environmental Sustainability for the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget, as presented.

44 VOTE:

45 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

46 Martha Dudman: Aye

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

6 **Article 32. To see what sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
7 **raise and appropriate for Department 505 and 506 Sewers (Wastewater Treatment)**
8 **for the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget.**

9 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for approval
10 the amount of \$1,038,454.00 as the sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will
11 vote to raise and appropriate for Department 505 and 506 Sewers (Wastewater Treatment)
12 for the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget, as presented.

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

21 **Article 33. To see what sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
22 **raise and appropriate for Department 605 Recreation (Public Pool ~Utilities &**
23 **Maintenance) for the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget.**

24 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Mr. Wood seconding, recommendation for
25 approval the amount of \$5,900.00 as the sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert
26 will vote to raise and appropriate for Department 605 Recreation (Public Pool ~Utilities &
27 Maintenance) for the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget as presented.

28 VOTE:
29 Wendy Littlefield: Aye
30 Geoff Wood: Aye
31 Martha Dudman: Aye
32 Matt Hart: Abstains
33 Chair John Macauley: Aye
34 Motion approved 4-0-1 (Hart in Abstention).
35

36 **Article 34. To see what sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
37 **raise and appropriate for Department 701 Economic/Community Development for**
38 **the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget.**

39 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for
40 approval the amount of \$10,000.00 as the sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount
41 Desert will vote to raise and appropriate for Department 701 Economic/Community
42 Development for the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget, as presented.

43 VOTE:
44 Wendy Littlefield: Aye
45 Martha Dudman: Aye
46 Geoff Wood: Aye

1 Matt Hart: Aye
2 Chair John Macauley: Aye
3 Motion approved 5-0.
4

5 **Article 35. To see what sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
6 **raise and appropriate for Department 801 Debt Service for the 2021 – 2022 Town**
7 **Budget.**

8 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, recommendation for
9 approval the amount of \$1,863,050.00 as the sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount
10 Desert will vote to raise and appropriate for Department 801 Debt Service for the 2021 –
11 2022 Town Budget, as presented.

12 VOTE:
13 Geoff Wood: Aye
14 Wendy Littlefield: Aye
15 Martha Dudman: Aye
16 Matt Hart: Aye
17 Chair John Macauley: Aye
18 Motion approved 5-0.
19

20 **Article 37. To see what sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to**
21 **raise and appropriate for Department 991 Capital Improvement Plan transfers for**
22 **the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget.**

23 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for
24 approval the amount of \$613,607.00 as the sum the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount
25 Desert will vote to raise and appropriate for Department 991 Capital Improvement Plan
26 transfers for the 2021 – 2022 Town Budget, as presented.

27 VOTE:
28 Wendy Littlefield: Aye
29 Martha Dudman: Aye
30 Geoff Wood: Aye
31 Matt Hart: Aye
32 Chair John Macauley: Aye
33 Motion approved 5-0.
34

35 **Article 39. To see if the Inhabitants of the Town of Mount Desert will vote to ratify**
36 **the Board of Selectmen’s approval of the Marina Proprietary Fund budget.**

37 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, recommendation for
38 approval the ratification of the Board of Selectmen’s approval of the Marina Proprietary
39 Fund budget, as presented.

40 VOTE:
41 Wendy Littlefield: Aye
42 Martha Dudman: Aye
43 Geoff Wood: Aye
44 Matt Hart: Aye
45 Chair John Macauley: Aye
46 Motion approved 5-0.

1
2 It was agreed to vote on Article 56 when final wording was presented.
3

4 **VII. New Business**

5 A. *As requested by members of the warrant committee, consideration of testing the inflow*
6 *to our three wastewater treatment plants for the COVID-19 virus at an estimated*
7 *annual cost of \$55,000 to \$75,000 to collect samples for testing and to generate a*
8 *beneficial use of the data.*

9 Manager Lunt reported that at the Warrant review of the Public Works Budget some
10 Warrant Committee members suggested testing wastewater for the Covid-19 virus might
11 prove useful.
12

13 Wastewater Superintendent Ed Montague reported that Director Smith asked him to look
14 into what would be necessary for testing for Covid. It's relatively simple to collect
15 samples. There are places to send and test the samples. Superintendent Montague wasn't
16 sure what could be done with the information. Test results would confirm if there was
17 Covid in the wastewater. Based on the CDC data released, the Town already knows
18 Covid is potentially there. Confirming the presence of Covid is not, in Superintendent
19 Montague's opinion, worth the expense involved. He did not know what could be done
20 with the information or what the benefit would be. Wastewater reaches the plant where
21 it's treated and disinfected, then sent out to receiving waters.
22

23 Chair Macauley agreed. There seemed to be no clear idea as to how the data could be
24 useful. The influent could come from any of a couple hundred homes. Superintendent
25 Montague noted that places that do test for Covid can pinpoint areas they want tested,
26 such as a college dorm. The data in that situation can be used to quarantine that to
27 prevent spreading. The Town would be testing on the entire collection system; there
28 would be no way to pinpoint from where evidence of Covid originated.
29

30 Ms. Dudman thanked Superintendent Montague for the excellent report. It appeared that
31 testing would have to occur regularly to offer any real data. She agreed with the
32 assessment presented. Ms. Littlefield thanked Mr. Montague for his report as well. It was
33 well researched, clearly stated, and allowed the Board to move forward quickly.
34

35 The Board concurred. Mr. Hart saw no benefit to the health and welfare of the residents
36 with this sort of testing.
37

38 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, acceptance of the
39 recommendations of Wastewater Superintendent Montague to not test the three
40 wastewater treatment plants in Mount Desert.

41 Motion approved 5-0.
42

43 B. *Review and approval of the 2021 summer dockage rates for the Northeast Harbor*
44 *Marina.*

1 Manager Lunt noted the rates were recommended by the Harbor Committee. Rates were
2 broken down per length of vessel. Additionally, there was a recommendation to adjust
3 the winter rates as well. It was noted these rates are per day.
4

5 Ms. Dudman asked how these rates compared to other harbors in the area. Harbormaster
6 Lemoine noted the only real competition was Dysarts. These rates are less than Dysarts
7 rates for all vessel lengths. Rates have not been increased since 2017. Harbormaster
8 Lemoine reported that despite Covid, 2020 was the best year the marina's ever had.
9

10 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval of the 2021
11 summer dockage rates for the Northeast Harbor Marina, as presented.

12 Motion approved 5-0.
13

14 *C. Winter Spring Inc. d/b/a Colonel's Restaurant 143 Main Street, Northeast Harbor*
15 *request for Liquor License Renewal*

16 MOTION: Mr. Hart moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval of Winter Spring Inc.
17 d/b/a Colonel's Restaurant 143 Main Street, Northeast Harbor request for Liquor License
18 Renewal, as presented.

19 Motion approved 5-0.
20

21 **VIII. Other Business**

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

23 Town Clerk Woolfolk reported that there was a training from the State Vital Records
24 Department. Due to Covid restrictions, the training will be held from 1PM to 2:30PM via
25 Zoom over a period of seven days. There will be 3 trainings in March, 2 in April, and 1 in
26 May. Clerk Woolfolk requested to close the Clerk's office during those trainings. The
27 training is required by the State. The office can remain open; however the Clerks will not
28 be available at that time. Notice can be put on the website and in the paper.
29

30 The Board concurred it was a reasonable request.
31

32 The training would be for Clerk Woolfolk, and Deputy Clerks Jennifer Buchanan and
33 Elizabeth Yeo. Other services would be available such as the CEO's office or the
34 Assessor's office.
35

36 MOTION: Wendy Littlefield moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, to close the Town offices
37 for the seven training dates as requested by the Town Clerk.

38 VOTE:

39 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

40 Matt Hart: Aye

41 Martha Dudman: Aye
42

43 Mr. Wood argued that it would be better to leave the status of the office up to the Town
44 Manager and Town Clerk. The Town Offices did not appear to have to close completely
45 for the trainings. He suggested revising the Motion to approve the Clerks being
46 unavailable during those times and let the office decide how it should be handled.

1
2 Manager Lunt agreed people could still come in and the office would be staffed. Just the
3 services provided by the Clerks would be unavailable during that time.

4
5 REVISED MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval of
6 the Clerks to be unavailable during the seven training dates from 1:00PM to 2:30PM as
7 requested by the Town Clerk.

8 VOTE:

9 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

10 Martha Dudman: Aye

11 Geoff Wood: Aye

12 Matt Hart: Aye

13 Chair John Macauley: Aye

14 Motion approved 5-0.

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

17 *A. Approve & Sign Treasurer's Warrant AP2149 in the amount of \$362,612.55*

18 MOTION: Ms. Littlefield moved, with Ms. Dudman seconding, approval and signature
19 of Treasurer's Warrant AP2149 in the amount of \$362,612.55, as presented.

20 VOTE:

21 Wendy Littlefield: Aye

22 Martha Dudman: Aye

23 Geoff Wood: Aye

24 Matt Hart: Aye

25 Chair John Macauley: Aye

26 Motion approved 5-0.

27
28 *B. Approve Signed Treasurer's Payroll, State Fees, & PR Benefit Warrants AP2147,*
29 *AP2148, and PR2120 in the amounts of \$26,159.55, \$3,036.50, and \$109,065.16,*
30 *respectively*

31 MOTION: Ms. Dudman moved, with Mr. Hart seconding, approval of signed Treasurer's
32 Payroll, State Fees, & PR Benefit Warrants AP2147, AP2148, and PR2120 in the amounts
33 of \$26,159.55, \$3,036.50, and \$109,065.16, respectively, as presented.

34 VOTE:

35 Martha Dudman: Aye

36 Matt Hart: Aye

37 Wendy Littlefield: Abstains

38 Geoff Wood: Aye

39 Chair John Macauley: Aye

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

41
42 *C. Acknowledge Treasurer's School Board AP/Payroll Warrant 18 in the amount of*
43 *\$156,767.11*

44 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, acknowledgement of
45 Treasurer's School Board AP/Payroll Warrant 18 in the amount of \$156,767.11, as
46 presented.

1 VOTE:
2 Geoff Wood: Aye
3 Wendy Littlefield: Aye
4 Martha Dudman: Aye
5 Matt Hart: Aye
6 Chair John Macauley: Aye
7 Motion approved 5-0.
8

9 **X. Adjournment**

10 MOTION: Mr. Wood moved, with Ms. Littlefield seconding, to adjourn the meeting.
11 Motion approved 5-0.
12

13 The Meeting adjourned at 7:59PM.
14

15 Respectfully Submitted,
16

17
18
19 Wendy Littlefield