



## **TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT WARRANT COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes from**

**Tuesday, February 1, 2022**

#### **Members Present**

Meeting Hall: Phil Lichtenstein, Katrina Carter, Mike Olsen, Tim Murphy

Zoom: Jerry Miller, Stephanie Reece, Owen Craighead, Kathy Miller, Rosemary Matchak, Sam McGee, Donna Beals, Jesse Hartson, Carman Sanford, Rodney Eason

Excused: Tate Bushell, Craig Roebuck, Norris Reddish, Bill Ferm, Ellen Kappes

Absent: Marina McGarr, Tate Bushell, Blakeslee Bell

Guests: Police Chief James Willis, Captain David Kerns, Fire Chief Mike Bender and Tom Wallace (Zoom)

1. Call Meeting to order by Phil Lichtenstein at 6:00pm
2. A motion for approval of Minutes from January 25, 2022 Warrant Committee meeting was made by Jerry Miller and seconded by Katrina Carter. The minutes were approved 12-0.
3. Meeting. Sam McGee moved to adopt minutes of 1/25 meeting, seconded by Katrina Carter.

6:05pm Chief Willis explained budget changes such as salary adjustments for various personnel. Discussed dispatch improvements along addition of mental health services for officers and parking meter and ticketing tech that could be implemented in Mount Desert if needed. Carmen Sanford asked for clarification on police job sharing with Bar Harbor.

6:25pm Fire Chief Mike Bender reviewed the Fire Dept. budget. Chief's salary now commensurate with the Police Chief. Shared Assistant Chief position with Bar Harbor. Other staff modifications, additions and re-characterizations. The timeline for construction/improvements/costs at both NEH and Somesville discussed along with disposition of personnel and equipment during the phased work.

Kathy Miller questioned call frequency of the newly combined Fire/EMS service. Katrina Carter questioned possible changes in nature of service sharing with BH.

Donna Beals questioned personnel (possible lack thereof) concerns.

Rodney Eason questioned possible supply chain issues.

Sam McGee asked for a more detailed overview of the nature of the changes and the reasoning behind those changes.

Discussed renovation project in depth. There will be EV charging stations and no use of solar power at this time.

The project appeared to be met with support from the Warrant Committee following the Q&A.

Discussed the importance of achieving a quorum for the March 8 special meeting in the hopes of passing the articles so that construction can commence as scheduled.

7:50pm Roundtable: Questions over use of the Somesville community center.

Discussion concerning the increase in personnel to provide more comprehensive coverage by MDFire/EMS. The Warrant Committee requested the minutes of this meeting be forwarded to the BOS to underscore our wish that the special meeting be effectively disseminated to the public.

8:04pm Adjournment

4. Next Meeting will be Tuesday February 8, 2022. Public Works Budget Review.

Respectively submitted,

Owen Craighead, recording secretary