



TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT WARRANT COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Tuesday, February 2, 2021
6:00PM**

Approved 2/09/2021

Meeting held over Zoom

Present (17): John Adams, Tate Bushell, Katrina Carter, Owen Craighead Jr., Rodney Eason, Jesse Hartson, Brian Henkel, Stephanie Kelley Reece, Ellen Kappes, Phil Lichtenstein, Gail Marshall, Samuel McGee, Jerry Miller, Kathleen Miller, Timothy Murphy, Donna Reis, Carmen Sanford

Excused (2): William Ferm, Craig Roebuck

Absent (3): Blakeslee Bell, Norris Reddish, Marina McGarr

Guests: Chief Jim Willis, Chief Mike Bender, Gibson McCullagh, Cpt. Basil Mahaney, David Kerns, Amilie Blackman, Chapin McFarland

- I. The meeting was called to order by Phil Lichtenstein at 6:02 PM.
- II. The Warrant Committee introduced themselves and welcomed their guests to the meeting.
- III. The Committee discussed proposed procedures for Zoom meetings.
- IV. A motion for approval of the Minutes from the January 26, 2021 Warrant Committee meeting was made by Owen Craighead and seconded by Jerry Miller (add Donna Beals). The minutes were approved 18 to 0
- V. Public Safety Budget Review: Chief Willis gave an overview of the Police Department/Dispatch budgets including salary split with Bar Harbor, summer seasonal increase, holiday pay, pay equity between towns, health insurance, the use of federal frequencies for communications, and the potential for upgraded fiberoptic communications (not in current budget),

Chief Bender gave an overview of the Fire Department budget including the addition of a full time fire fighter, vehicle maintenance decrease. There was a question about where the money for the design for the proposed Fire Department expansion came from and Chief Bender explained that the Building Reserve fund was used. There was further discussion of the potential for consolidation of fire services across towns, the need for

expanded coverage, and the logistics of expanded coverage including auxiliary fire stations. There was also discussion of the potential for consolidating the NEH Ambulance Service with the Fire Department

- VI. Round Table Discussion – The Warrant Committee discussed the possibility to request that the Town carry over the \$600 Warrant Committee line item into the General Fund or the possibility to re-allocate the Warrant Committee line item to supplement the low/no-cost lunch program at the elementary school.
- VII. Next Meeting Tuesday, February 9, 2021 Public Works Budget Review: Tony Smith / Marina Budget Review: Harbormaster John Lemoine
- VIII. All other business as may be legally conducted.
- IX. Sam McGee moved to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Donna Beals. The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM