

MENDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES OF MEETING----- September 9, 2013

APPROVED----- September 23, 2013

Chairman Tinio, Selectmen Goddard and Reil are present.

Chairman Tinio called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and led the pledge.

Selectman Goddard made and Selectman Reil seconded a motion to offer Town of Mendon retirees Altus Dental Statewide Plan Number 1. This plan is funded 100% by the retirees. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Tinio read reasons that Michael Ammendolia was chosen as Senior Citizen of the Year and the Proclamation from the Selectman that he will be awarded at a ceremony on September 15.

Chairman Tinio read the letters of commendation for Police Department Employees, Paul Mansfield, Steven Sinko, Pamela Mason, Chris Bettencourt, Dave Kurczy, Donald Blanchette, and Fire Department employee, Mark Bucchino.

Duncan Chapman and George Lamothe from Northeast Real Estate Solutions joined the board and referencing the Taft Orchard property update sent to Selectmen this afternoon. The Commercial RFP responses are due Dec. 5 but he expects bidders may contact the Planning Board mid- to the end of October. It has been advertised but he plans to give bid packages to area developers he thinks may be interested. MA DOER SREC II rules are due out which will expand the program. No one responded to the Solar RFP. This could be due to final rules not being published. Potential bidders were confused by the bid bond. They thought it was not refundable and that all bidders not just whoever was awarded the bid needed to put in the money. One potential bidder said that the ledge would be too much of a challenge. BVT is interested in buying power at a reduced price. National Grid met the net metering cap. Duncan believes that number of the people who signed up with MA DOER may be reduced by half. The RFP will be reissued and due November 15 or 30 before the commercial ones are due. Chairman Tinio would like to not have a bid bond. Mr. Chapman suggested requiring a non refundable \$5,000 deposit at the the contract is awarded. **Selectman Goddard made and Selectman Reil seconded a motion to remove the bid bond from revised RFP. The motion carried unanimously. Selectman Goddard made and Selectman Reil seconded a motion to amend, pending legal review that the town can remove the bid bond. The motion carried unanimously.** Selectmen agreed to not have PILOT program part of the RFP. Duncan suggested having commitment from Mendon to have a net metered crediting agreement to purchase power from the lessee. Mr. Chapman suggested the town pay \$7500 for the Interconnection Application to reserve a place in the queue. *Action: Duncan will look into whether a bid bond is required by law. D. Willoughby to inform Bill Ambrosino to expect calls from potential bidders.*

Selectman Goddard made and Selectman Reil seconded a motion to appoint Kathleen Schofield, 135 Blackstone Street, to the Master Planning Committee with a term to expire June 30, 2014. The motion carried unanimously.

Members discussed the Police Chief's request to appoint Ms. Courtney Ann Motuzas as a part-time police matron. Members want to know if there is money in his budget for the addition before appointing someone. *Action: D. Willoughby to put on the agenda for the next meeting.*

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Selectman Goddard made and Selectman Reil seconded a motion to open the Special Town Meeting Warrant (STM) for Tuesday, November 19, 2013. The Warrant will close on October 21, 2013. The motion carried unanimously.

Members agreed to wait for the Land Use Committee to review 52 Providence Street before deciding whether they want to purchase the property under M.G.L. Chapter 61A.

Members discussed town counsel's advice regarding the use of the Taft Orchard Property for the End Zone's overflow parking. Linda Hawkes, Treasurer/Collector discussed a bond that exists for the town-owned property and whether the town is able to make money from leasing it. Linda will discuss with Clark. Selectman Goddard suggested having a policy, stopping the existing practice and give written authorization. A letter needs to be sent to them telling them to stop the practice of letting customers park on town property. Action: D. Willoughby to draft a letter and inform of needing permission from the State to cross Route 16. She will also send a letter to counsel about letting people use conservation land for which a bond is issued.

Selectman Goddard made and Selectman Reil seconded a motion to sign the three-year License & Service Agreement with Virtual Town Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

Members discussed receipt of three proposals from recruiting firms for a Town Coordinator/Administrator. Members will research references. Action: D. Willoughby will send Mr. Schofield the proposals. An article will be placed on the November STM for \$16,000 to cover these services.

Discussion of hiring a Public Safety Clerk will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Selectman Goddard made and Selectman Reil seconded a motion to accept and sign at a later date the Agreement between the Mendon Permanent Firefighters Union Local 4936 I.A.F.F. and the Town of Mendon One-Yar contract dated July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014. Acton: Chairman Tinio will send D. Willoughby the contract so she can print it to be signed. Town counsel has reviewed the changes.

Mr. Cataldo, Mr. Watson and Mr. D'Alessandro, Water Board and Mr. Fiske, Mr. Fichtner, Board of Health and Ms. Kakela-Bottoms, Water Board & Board of Health Admin. approached the board. Missy gave the history of her position as Water Board Clerk. Selectman asked for specific things that have changed since taking on the clerical position. Chairman Tinio needs to know how many hours need to be allocated for the Water Board and if additional hours are needed for the Board of Health. When Missy was out on medical leave five hours were allocated for someone to fill in. There is also a budget issue and/or outsourcing issue if more than 2.5 hours are needed for the Water Board. Discussion surrounded user fees. Septic loan program and additional billing notices have increased for the Board of Health. Action: Missy will compile a list of new functions and duties that have increased her hours and how many hours the Water Board requires.

Mr. Cataldo is awaiting an answer from owner of Miscoe Springs as to whether they will accept an offer for their property from Mendon. Bonnie & Doug Curtis who live across the street from Miscoe Springs approached the board. They explained that when the company first bought the plant their well ran dry as well as houses on Cadman Road. The company was pumping more water than what was permitted.

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They would bring in 20,000 to 30,000 gallons plus pumping the same amount to bottle. They are concerned that the 170 neighbors' wells will run dry again.

Selectman Goddard made and Selectman Reil seconded a motion to approve the meeting minutes of August 26, 2013 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Tinio explained that funding for the air conditioner condenser at the Fire Department is coming from the Green Communities' grant money. **Selectman Goddard made and Selectman Reil seconded a motion to sign the Guardian Energy Efficiency Project Order Form to install an energy efficiency air conditioner condenser at the Mendon Fire Department for \$6,972.00. The motion carried unanimously.**

Selectman Goddard made Selectman Reil seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Willoughby
Administrative Assistant

Documents Discussed Located in the 'Administrative Secretary's' Office:

Senior Citizen of the Year Proclamation Awarded to Michael Ammendolia and 2013 Senior of the Year Mike Ammendolia.doc
Commendations from Chief Ernest Horn to Paul Mansfield, Steven Sinko, Pamela Mason, Chris Bettencourt, Dave Kurczy, Donald Blanchette and Mark Buccino
Mendon Taft Parcel RFP's Update and Schedule 9_9_13.docx
Virtual Towns & Schools License and Service Agreement
BOS Meeting Minutes of August 26, 2013
Guardian Energy Efficiency Project Order form dated September 6, 2013
License & Service Agreement with Virtual Town Halls and Schools
Letter from Chief Horn dated September 3, 2013
Agreement between the Mendon Permanent Firefighters Union Local 4936 I.A.F.F. and the Town of Mendon One-Yar contract dated July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014