

Chairman Goddard, Selectman Schofield, and Town Administrator Newman are present in the Upper Town Hall, Mendon.

Chairman Goddard called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

Selectman Schofield made and Chairman Goddard stepped down to second a motion to approve the regular session meeting minutes of October 14 and 27 and November 5 and the executive session meeting minutes of October 14 not to be released. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Skinner, 131 Hartford Avenue East, asked the Selectmen if they would allow him to refurbish the thermometer on side of old the fire station. He explained that no one else has offered to do it and he has experience renovating old items. He showed pictures of a Fire Engine and a 1959 Plymouth Sport Suburban. He will do it at his own cost. However, he needs assistance taking it down. The Historical Commission needs to take a vote to giving their approval. **Selectman Schofield made and Chairman Goddard stepped down to second a motion to allow Dick Skinner to refurbish the thermometer on the old fire station pending agreement of the Historical Commission.** He estimates it will take over a year. *Action: Ms. Newman to ask Mr. Tetreault, Highway Surveyor, to help take it down and see when the Historical Commission can make a decision.* **The motion carried unanimously.**

Selectman Schofield read the proposed Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Proclamation. **Selectman Schofield made and Chairman Goddard stepped down to second a motion to proclaim November Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month. The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Goddard passed over Building Department fees until Selectman Schofield can find out if Mr. Aicardi can join the Selectmen tonight.

Mr. Byer was not present to discuss the PARC grant; therefore, the item was passed over.

Selectman Schofield made and Chairman Goddard stepped down to second a motion to appoint Heather Allcock, 20 Haywood Circle, to the Finance Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2017. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Newman recommended that the contract for the Compensation Survey not be signed tonight because she would like a representative from the Collins Center to present their proposal at the November 24th or Dec 8th.meeting.

Chairman Goddard explained that union employees are given a paid 1/2 day the day before Thanksgiving and Christmas. Selectmen would like to grant the same to all full-time employees. **Selectman Schofield made and Chairman Goddard stepped down to second a motion to authorize paid holidays for all full-time employees for a 1/2 day the day before Thanksgiving and 1/2 day the day before Christmas as it is contracted for Town Hall Union employees. The motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Newman explained that she and Mr. Tetreault, Highway Surveyor, discussed the Historic District relative to ADA compliance and materials. Mr. Tetreault is interested in approaching the Community Preservation Committee and Historical Commission to redo the sidewalks to coincide with the tercentennial celebration in 2017. Ms. Newman would attend the meetings, also. He has a vision of what he would like such as cobblestone. Ms. Newman would like to know if Selectmen would like this done. An engineering study would be required. Chairman Goddard would be in favor of understanding

what it would take and for it to be coordinated with the Master Plan Committee and Planning Board, as well. Selectman Schofield is also in favor of it and has ideas of how to fund if money cannot come from the CPC.

Ms. Newman would also like to approach the CPC to fund a Paddock property study. She sought the Selectmen's approval to get a feasibility study to for potential uses of the land which is near the Senior Center. Both Chairman Goddard and Selectman Schofield approved of the study.

Ms. Newman reported that the Quissett Road property is listed in the Central Register. The closing date for the property is December 22. The right of first refusal needs to be given by the 17th. There is a public walk through for interested parties on December 3 or 4. The Purchase and Sale will be signed on December 8. Information will be on the website for those wishing to bid.

Selectman Schofield made and Chairman Goddard stepped down to second a motion to open the FY15 Property Tax Classification hearing. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Tycks, Board of Assessors Member, read the Fiscal Year 2015 Tax Recapitulation. Ms. Berthold told everyone to delete amounts in parentheses next to Miscoe Hill Green Repair and Library Purchase & Renovation on page one as they were last fiscal year's. Ms. Berthold noted that the residential valuation increased more than the commercial valuation. Miscoe Springs leaving town was the cause of the commercial valuation decrease. There is not enough of a commercial base to have a dual tax rate which would shift the burden to businesses by increasing their tax rate. If that was done, it may deter businesses from coming to Mendon. Ms. Berthold reiterated that the tax rate is set at the annual town meeting. Chairman Goddard wondered whether there is a level where one would consider a dual tax rate. Ms. Berthold said she could calculate that. She noted Mendon has mostly small businesses that would be negatively impacted by a dual tax rate. Selectman Schofield said that information may be good for the Master Plan Committee. **Selectman Schofield made and Chairman Goddard stepped down to second a motion to close the FY15 Property Tax Classification Hearing. The motion carried unanimously. Selectman Schofield made and Chairman Goddard stepped down to second a motion to adopt a single tax rate for the Town of Mendon in Fiscal Year 2015. The motion carried unanimously.** Selectmen signed the LA5. Selectman Schofield thanked the Assessors for all their hard work.

Don Morin, Library Building Committee member, joined the Selectmen to give an update on the project. He reported that they received Green Communities and Department of Energy grants thanks to the assistance of Mr. McHenry, Green Communities Coordinator, and Ms. Mazar, Community Preservation Committee Chair, as well as Senator Moore and Representative Fernandes. His Committee is requesting waiving the building permit fees. The 50 percent-completed design plans and cost estimates are due next week. **Selectman Schofield made and Chairman Goddard stepped down to second a motion to waive the Building Department permit fees for the new Taft Library. The motion carried unanimously.**

Selectman Schofield explained that the Board will be returning to open session after the executive session. **Selectman Schofield made and Chairman Goddard stepped down to second a motion to enter into Executive Session, MGL Chapter 30A Section 21, to conduct a strategy session in preparation for negotiation with the Treasurer/Collector and to conduct contract negotiations with the Treasurer/Collector. We'll reconvene. A roll call vote is necessary.** Schofield-aye Goddard-aye.

Chairman Goddard reconvened the regular session.

Selectman Schofield made and Chairman Goddard stepped down to second a motion to sign the employment agreement between the town of Mendon and Linda J. Hawkes ending June 30, 2015. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Schofield made and Chairman Goddard stepped down to second a motion to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diane Willoughby". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Diane Willoughby
Administrative Assistant

Documents Discussed located in 'Administrative Secretary's' Office:

Regular Session Meeting Minutes of October 14 and 27 and November 5, 2014 and Executive Session of October 14, 2014

Town of Mendon's Fiscal Year 2015 Tax Recapitulation

November Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation

Department of Revenue Bureau of Accounts Classification Tax Allocation Mendon FY 2015

White River Junction Fire Engine Photos & Old Fire Station Thermometer Photos

Employment Agreement Between the Town of Mendon and Linda J. Hawkes Ending June 30, 2015