



TOWN OF MENDON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
20 Main Street, Mendon, MA 01756
Tel: 508-473-2312 Fax: 508-478-8241

Notice of Meeting
October 15, 2019
Mendon Town Hall
6:30 PM

Board Members
Christopher Burke, Chairman
Mark W. Reil Jr.
Lawney Tinio

Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes

At 6:30 PM a regular Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order. Present: Mark Reil, Lawney Tinio, Kim Newman and Laura St. John-Dupuis. Absent: Chris Burke

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- 10/1/19

Mr. Tinio made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of 10/1/19. Second by Mr. Reil. The motion passed unanimously

Correspondence to the Board **Consider N-Grid easement for the New Police Station Building and Project Update**

Mr. Don Morin of the Police Station Building Committee explained that the easement was to locate a pole for the Police Station project.

Mr. Tinio made a motion to sign the N-Grid Grant of Easement for the New Police Station pole location. Second by Mr. Reil. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Morin provided a project update, stating that the wood framing and sally port are complete. The roof, siding and windows should be done in the next couple weeks so that the building is weather tight for the winter. Mr. Morin still trying to working on the parking situation while construction is happening. The project is on schedule with a project completion date at the end of March. The exception is the final paving that may not happen until spring. From a budget standpoint, they did encounter the unforeseen condition with ledge. The contingency is at about \$165K which will be needed to cover security systems and furniture.

Mr. Morin advised that the bids for the security systems will be mailed to the BOS and they are due on October 30, 2019. Mary Bulso, the project manager will be handling the bid opening.

Finally, Mr. Morin stated that the General Contractor did not bid on the demolition of the existing police station or final top coat and that the Board of Selectmen would have to handle that aspect of the project.

Consider the request from St. Gabriel's Church to place signs advertising St. Gabriel's Christmas Fair on December 7, 2019.

Mr. Tinio made a motion to authorize St. Gabriel's Church to place signs advertising St. Gabriel's Christmas at: Millville Road and Route 16, Main St and Route 16 and North Ave and Northbridge Road. Second by Mr. Reil. The motion passed unanimously.

Discuss Mosquito Program – Tim Deschamps of CMMCP and the BOH will be in attendance.

The Board of Health members and Mr. Tim Deschamps, Executive Director of the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project (CMMCP) addressed the Board and provided material regarding the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project. Mr. Deschamps stated that the CMMCP provides year-round programs for mosquito larvae control in area wetlands as well as additional maintenance programs and testing done on a weekly basis, the testing is done in Jamaica Plain, MA.

CMMCP has a biologist on staff, provides curbside pickup of spare tires and has a beaver mitigation program that it operates according to State regulations along with Town's Boards of Health and Conservation Commissions.

Board of Health Members Mr. Andrew Fiske, Chair asked if the CMMCP provides aerial spraying. Mr. Deschamps stated that they do not provide aerial spraying. Mr. Fiske added that the state had notified the Town and advised that they would be performing aerial spraying. Mr. Greenberg BOH member stated that there is a vaccine available for horses and that he does vaccinate his horses in the spring.

Mr. Tinio asked Mr. Deschamps how long has the CMMCP been around. Mr. Deschamps stated that the CMMCP was formed in 1974. They are currently working with 42 communities. Mr. Tinio asked how long has EEE been an issue. Mr. Deschamps stated EEE was identified in 1939. It is now beginning to show up in southern New Hampshire.

Mr. Tinio commented that if the town was to enroll in this program, there is still no guarantee that this program will affect the outcome. When all of the communities around are enrolled in CMMCP but they were all elevated to critical status even though they were part of this project. Mr. Tinio is finding it difficult to justify to enroll in the CMMCP program. Mr. Tinio asked how long Northborough has been enrolled. Mr. Deschamps stated that Northborough has been an original member since 1974.

Ms. Newman asked if the CMMCP is doing a lot of different types of things and is there any correlation with towns that have been in the program longer and if over time they didn't hit critical due to education. Mr. Deschamps advised that it is hard to say. EEE has shown up a few times in Westborough so it is hard to answer.

Mr. Reil added that the Town of Northborough, who has been a member since the beginning, has had a case of EEE. Mendon has not been a member and has not had any instances of human cases.

Ms. Newman stated that it would be different if the town was in a totally different financial situation. Mr. Tinio stated that he does not think the budget plays a role in this, and has a hard time approving enrollment if there is not guarantee this program is going to keep EEE from showing up in Mendon.

Mr. Dan Byer, Mendon Parks Department, feels that a huge part of this testing. We were a day ahead of holding a huge event when there was notification of EEE. Mr. Byer feels enrolling in the program would be beneficial.

Ms. Newman asked how often does CMMCP come out. Mr. Deschamps advised that testing is done on a weekly basis at 10 – 12 test sites depending upon topography.

Mr. Reil asked for further questions from the audience and then closed the conversation.

Review STM Warrant

Ms. Newman reviewed the STM Warrant articles since the warrant closed on 10/3/19. Town Counsel, Cindy Amara was in attendance.

Ms. Newman stated that Fin Com cannot make a recommendation on a funding source until free cash is certified. We should have free cash certified in November. If we do not have any available free cash we can pass over each financial article on the floor.

Article 5 for Central Mass Mosquito Control Project, for the Town to enter become a member of the Central Mass. Mosquito Control Project. Mr. Tinio stated that he would like to see what other types of options there are before

bringing this to Town Meeting and suggests this article wait until the May Town Meeting. The Board agreed to remove this article from the warrant.

Ms. Newman addressed Article 8 to see if the Town would provide funding for the JAG (Justice Assistant Grant) Program. Chief Kurczy addressed the Board and stated that the JAG Program provides \$1 per resident the funds stay in the Town of Mendon and is used to help with the opioid epidemic it provides various services.

Article 10 Establishing a revolving account for cisterns. Fire Chief Kessler addressed the Board stating at Cisterns are underground tanks that hold water that is used for fires as the Town does not have a public water supply. Chief Kessler has concerns about the Town many and that we do not have the ability to properly maintain them and some were not installed properly. This article will assist in this process.

Article 27 amends current General Bylaws by adding a new section that will prohibit the display of wild or exotic animals in traveling acts for public entertainment or amusement. Mr. Reil and Mr. Tinio both had concerns that this could affect the Zoomobile program at Southwick Zoo. Town Council suggested changing the wording to ensure the bylaw would not have an effect on the current zoo or any future zoo in Mendon. Ms. Newman and Town Council will work on this language together.

Article 29 is a Citizens Petition to change existing Zoning By Laws by changing any instances of the words "Board of Selectmen" and "Selectmen" to "Select Board". Town Council stated that all Zoning Bylaw changes require a public hearing by the Planning Board and then a report to be completed prior to the Special Town Meeting before the article can be acted upon. BOS Executive Assistant will remind the Planning Board that this must take place.

Mr. Tinio made a motion to sing the November 20, 2019 Special Town Meeting Warrant as amended by Town Council. Second by Mr. Reil. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Mr. Tinio made a motion to adjourn. Second by Mr. Reil. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by Laura St.John Dupuis
Approved