



# TOWN OF MENDON

## SELECT BOARD

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

### **Notice of Meeting**

**August 29, 2022**

**6:00 PM**

### **Hybrid Meeting**

Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join on your computer or mobile app**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 236 351 196 248

Passcode: Wk9Vbs

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

**Or call in (audio only)**

[+1 347-467-1434,7f42020589#](#)

Phone Conference ID: 742 020 589#

### **Board Members**

**Michael Merolli, Chair**

**Lawney Tinio, Vice-Chair**

**Alejna Brugos**

**Brendan Chenelle**

**Michael Goddard**

### **Meeting Minutes**

At 6PM a regular Select Board meeting was called to order. Present: Mike Merolli, Lawney Tinio, Alejna Brugos, Brenda Chenelle, Michael Goddard, Kim Newman, and Laura St.John-Dupuis.

Mr. Merolli led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Correspondence to the Board**

#### **Discuss use of Residents Use of Town Hall Meeting Room**

Resident, Susan Guido Burke addressed the Board, she had sent a request to use the Town Hall meeting room for a rain date for a wedding on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Amara stated that since there is no policy, there should be one. More important is that there are waivers signed by anyone coming to Town Hall. Mr. Tinio thought there was a policy or discussion of a policy years ago.

Mr. Tinio made a motion to use the facility and sign waivers for use. Second by Mr. Chenelle. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Open Meeting Law Complaint**

Mr. Merolli read email from former Select Board member, Mark Reil for the open meeting law complaint. Mr. Merolli stated that the Planning Board addressed the complaint and was told the matter was closed.

### **Update- Route 16 MassDOT Project**

Mr. Tinio explained that he has attended meetings with MassDOT and Highway Surveyor, Alan Tetreault regarding this project. The project will be located on Route 16 at the Hopedale Town line. MassDOT has a virtual public hearing scheduled for September 22 at 7 PM. Mr. Tinio added that MassDOT will post in the Worcester telegram and gazette and the Milford Daily news and that the project is slated to begin 2 – 3 years from now.

### **Discuss Tech Support for Town Meeting**

Town Clerk, Ellen Agro addressed the Select Board requesting to pay someone to run the technology part of Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting. Ms. Agro stated that she would like the job to go to Dan Byer. Mr. Merolli asked if Ms. Agro has funds in her budget to cover this cost. Mr. Merolli stated that the Town Clerk's budget for running these meetings and that she should be able to take care of this without a vote from the Select Board. Town Counsel, Ms. Cindy Amara stated the Town Clerk can hire someone and can it be a specific individual. Mr. Byer is part of a union contract and you need to find out about any union contract issues.

Mr. Dan Byer addressed the Board and stated that he spoke to Ethics and the job has to posted. Ms. Newman stated she has no problem with Dan doing this work with the 3 hours he gets within his budget; she believes there is room in the budget for 5 hours on the day of Town Meeting. To which Mr. Tinio has concerns if the hours needed become 6 to 10 hours on that day. Ms. Newman will contact the union representative Nelson Carneiro and ask him about this.

#### **Consider Appointment- Heavy Equipment Operator, Highway Department**

Mr. Tinio made a motion to appoint Andrew Goyette to the position of Heavy Equipment Operator for the Highway Department, full time at a rate of \$21.55 per hour. Second by Ms. Brugos. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Consider Appointment – Mechanic, Highway Department**

Mr. Tinio made a motion to appoint/promote Daniel Baker from the position of Heavy Equipment Operator to the position of Mechanic/Heavy Equipment Operator for the Highway Department, full time with a pay rate change from \$21.55 to \$23.23 per hour. Second by Mr. Chenelle. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Consider Appointment- Police Officer**

Mr. Tinio made a motion to appoint Joseph Thompson to the position of Police Officer for the Mendon Police Department, full time, step 3 pay rate of \$1,262.80 per week. Second by Mr. Chenelle. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Consider Appointment- Mendon Housing Authority-Tenant Member**

Mr. Tinio made a motion to appoint Robert Hoffman to the open tenant member seat for the Mendon Housing Authority. Second by Mr. Burgos. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Discuss CDL License Status for Highway Department Employees-**

Highway Surveyor, Mr. Alan Tetreault addressed the Board stating that the Highway Department is in dire need of staff and help with paying for employees CDL Licenses. New Federal regulations state that an applicant must attend CDL training school which costs approximately \$5K. Mr. Tetreault has 2 employees that need to obtain their CDL licenses and would like to know how to go about paying for it. Mr. Tetreault also stated that he is not getting applicants for the open Heavy Equipment Operator positions with existing CDL licenses and that he feels the rate of pay is too low to attract candidates who are licensed. Mr. Merolli asked if there is money in Mr. Tetreault's budget to cover the cost of CDL licensing. Mr. Tetreault stated that his current budget is being used to subcontract out work that needs to be done since he does not have enough employees with CDL licenses to do the work that he has.

Ms. Newman stated that the Board had discussed this and she had spoken to Town Counsel. This will have to be discussed with the Highway Union prior to committing to something outside of the union contract. This will need to be addressed correctly and it is critical to make sure that there isn't a precedent. Ms. Newman will meet with the union representative to work on this issue.

Mr. Merolli stated we should have another meeting to discuss this further and asked Mr. Tetreault to do a survey of surrounding Towns rate of pay for Heavy Equipment operator positions.

#### **Consider Chapter 90 Project Request- Daniels Road**

Mr. Tinio made a motion to approve the Chapter 90 Project Request for Daniels Road in the amount of \$186,766.00. Second by Mr. Goddard. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Consider One-Day Special Alcohol License- Mendham Brothers of the Brush**

Mr. Tinio made a motion to approve the request of the Mendham Brothers of the Brush for a One-Day Special Alcohol License for malt beverages only for September 10, 2022 from 2PM to 11PM at Memorial Field. Pending the receipt of positive routing slips. Second by Mr. Chenelle.

#### **Consider 1 Year and 3 Year Re-Appointments**

Mr. Tinio made a motion to Re-Appoint the following. 1 Year Re-Appointments- Term to Expire June 30, 2023 and 3 Year Re-Appointments- Term to Expire June 30, 2025. Second by Ms. Brugos.

Custodian Soldiers & Sailors Graves- Robin Fletcher

Election Warden – Kathryn Rich  
Emergency Mgmt. Deputy Director-Mark Bucchino  
Procurement Officer, Chief- Kimberly Newman  
Procurement Officer, Highway- Alan Tetreault  
Town Counsel- Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehan LLP  
Veterans Agent- Robin Fletcher  
Veterans Burial Agent- Robin Fletcher  
Wiring Inspector-Jack Grenga  
Wiring Inspector, Assistant- Albert Jones  
ZBA-alternate- John D'Amelio  
ZBA-alternate- Tom Merolli

### **3 Year Re-Appointments- Term to Expire June 30, 2025**

Agricultural Commission- Jane Belleville  
Conservation Commission-Peter Coffin  
Council on Aging- Diane Howell  
Cultural Council- Shannon Elliott  
Economic Development Committee- Tom Merolli  
Finance Committee- John Hodgins  
Finance Committee- Nick Ciantra  
Historic District Committee- Jane Lowell  
Historical Commission- Tom Merolli  
Land Use Committee- Barry Iadarola  
Land Use Committee- Anne Mazar  
Land Use Committee-Peter Coffin  
Taxation Aid Committee- B.Joyce Gilmore  
Zoning Board of Appeals-Jim Carty

### **Municipal Hearing Officer Appointment**

Ms. Jean Berthold, Principal Assessor, addressed the Board to ask if there were going to be any further appointments tonight. Mr. Merolli said no. Ms. Berthold asked about the Municipal Hearing officer appointment. Ms. St.John-Dupuis stated that she had completely forgotten about this separate appointment. Mr. Merolli asked for a motion to appoint Ms. Berthold as the Municipal Hearing Officer.

Mr. Tinio made a motion to appoint Jean Berthold to Municipal Hearing Officer, with a term to expire June 30, 2023. Second by Mr. Chenelle. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Consider Eric Kinshurf, CPA - Accounting Services Contract**

Mr. Tinio made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into a contract with Eric Kinshurf, CPA - Accounting Services from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Second by Mr. Goddard. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Select Board Members Committee Liaison Assignments**

#### **Select Board members stated that they would like to be assigned as Committee Liasons as**

Mike Merolli -Finance Committee

Alenja Brugos- Taxation Aid, Land Use Committee and School Committee

Lawney Tinio- Board of Health, Parks, and Masterplan Committee

Mike Goddard- Economic Development Committee, Historical Commission, CPC and School Committee

Brendan Chenelle -Parks, Agricultural Commission and Historic

### **Consider Meeting Minutes: 8/1/22 & 7/20/22**

Mr. Goddard made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of 8/1/22 & 7/20/22. Second by Mr. Tinio. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Discuss Upcoming Meeting Dates**

Mr. Merolli would like to change meeting dates on Wednesdays at 6 PM, the Board agreed to schedule the following dates for Select Board meetings : Wednesday, September 14, 2022 and Wednesday, September 28, 2022.

### **Discuss Block Party**

Mr. Tinio addressed the Board and provided an update to the Rock the Block party, he stated that an advertisement is being mailed out to all the residents this week. There will be only one trolley, it will do historical tours. School busses will now be used to shuttle people back and forth from parking areas. There are more sponsors coming in, the Explorers Program and Boy Scouts will be helping out. There will also be a MEMA operations trailer that will be there for communication and if there is any trouble. If there is severe weather on the day, the party will be cancelled.

### **Update-103 Uxbridge Road Marijuana Dispensary**

Attorney Ryan, JDM Sale Inc 103 Uxbridge Road addressed the Board with an update on the construction. They should have an Occupancy permit by November 30<sup>th</sup>. Then back to the Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) for review which takes 1 to 2 months. The CCC will notify the dispensary the owner that they can open in 3 days. Attorney Ryan stated he will come back to the Board with an update.

**Executive Session – Purpose 6, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(6) To consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.**

**Executive Session- Purpose 3, pursuant M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(3) To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on litigating position of the public body. Litigation Update.**

Mr. Merolli made a motion to enter into Executive Session Purpose 6 pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(6) to consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body and purpose 3 pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body. Litigation Update. Second by

Roll Call Vote: Merolli- aye, Tinio-aye Brugos-aye Chenelle aye Goddard aye.

Adjournment

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

Submitted by: Laura St.John-Dupuis