



# TOWN OF MENDON

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

## **Notice of Meeting**

**October 1, 2019**  
**Mendon Town Hall**  
**6:30 PM**

## **Board Members**

**Christopher Burke, Chairman**  
**Mark W. Reil Jr.**  
**Lawney Tinio**

## **Amended** **Meeting** **Minutes**

At 6:32 a regular Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order. Present: Mark Reil, Lawney Tinio, Kim Newman and Laura St.John-Dupuis. Absent: Christopher Burke.

Mr. Reil led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Citizen Statements and Petitions**

Mr. Dan Byer addressed the Board and asked about limited parking due to the new Police Station Construction and wanted to make sure the issue was brought to the Board's attention. Ms. Newman stated she may need to have employees park off site and be shuttled in. Mr. Don Morin of the Police Station Building Committee stated he would look into the construction schedule and see if there was any way to assist with the parking situation.

## **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- 7/15/19
- 8/6/19
- 9/10/19

Mr. Tinio made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of 7/15/19, 8/6/19 and 9/10/19. Second by Mr. Reil. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Correspondence to the Board**

**Consider the request from the "Trees for Hope" non-profit committee would like to request placing signs around Mendon to advertise the "Trees for Hope Festival".**

Mr. Tinio made a motion to approve the request of the Trees for Hope Committee to place advertisement signs for St. Gabriel's Parish in Upton Tree of Hope Festival on Saturday December 7 and Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> at the following locations in Mendon: The intersection of North and Milford St, the intersection of Millville Road and Rt 16 and at the intersection of Providence St and Hartford Ave East. Second by Mr. Reil. The motion passed unanimously.

**Consider Location Change of Previously Approved Special Alcohol License for Soktoberfest to be held on 10/5/19.**

Mr. Tinio made a motion to amend the previously approved Special License for wines and malt beverages only approved on 7/15/19 to the new location of: Clough Elementary School, 10 North Ave, Mendon. Second by Mr. Reil, the motion passed unanimously.

## **6:45 PM Verizon Cable License Renewal Ascertainment Public Hearing**

Mr. Tinio read the public hearing notice.

**Mr. Tinio made a motion to open the public hearing for Verizon Cable License. Second by Mr. Reil. The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Tinio made a motion to close the public hearing for the Verizon Cable License renewal. Second by Mr. Reil. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Consider Verizon Cable License Renewal**

Mr. Tinio made a motion that I hereby move that the Board of Selectmen, as the cable television license Issuing Authority, vote as follows: To grant the subject Cable Television Renewal License to Verizon New England, Inc., with an effective Date of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 for a term of five (5) years. All terms and conditions contained in this Renewal License have been agreed to by Verizon. Second by Mr. Reil. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Stormwater Management Yearly Update**

Ms. Gabrielle Bellfit from Tighe and Bond along with Highway Surveyor Mr. Alan Tetreault provided a handed out and stated that all requirements for last year for Stormwater Management were met and completed.

Ms. Bellfit stated that the Town established a webpage the Town of Mendon's website with a survey regarding stormwater management, there were very few participants.

Ms. Bellfit advised that the annual report was prepared and sent to the EPA yesterday, and it will be posted on the Town's website by the end of the week. The next steps will be working with Alan on finalizing the town wide facility inventory. The Town needs to update its bylaw and streamline procedures for plan review and her office will work with planning board to handle that.

### **Consider Street Name for Applewood Subdivision-Tabled.**

### **Interview and Consider Appointment of Diane Howell to the Council on Aging**

Mr. Tinio made a motion to appoint Diane Howell to the Council on Aging for a term to expire June 30, 2022. Second by Mr. Reil. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Interview and Consider Appointment of Jennifer Talamini to the Council on Aging**

Mr. Tinio made a motion to appoint Jennifer Talamini to the Council on Aging for a term to expire June 30, 2022. Second by Mr. Reil. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Interview and Consider the Appointment of Matt O'Brien to the Economic Development Committee- Tabled**

### **Review STM Warrant**

Ms. Newman reviewed the articles that are on the draft 11/20/19 STM. The warrant is open until 10/3/19 and there will be more submission.

There was a question about Article 5 for funding enrollment in the Central Mass Mosquito Control Program. Mr. Fiske of the Board of Health provided a handout of the maps of Towns enrolled in the program. Mr. Tinio and Mr. Reil would like more time to consider this. Mr. Deschamps of the CMMCP will attend the next bos meeting on 10/15 and provide more information.

Mr. Tom Merolli has submitted several Citizens Petition Articles. Mr. Merolli addressed Board of Selectmen. Article 24, which is an article that will require all meetings by Boards and Committees to be recorded by February 2020.

Mr. Tinio stated that he would be more in support of a policy.

Ms. Newman added that the Board is all about transparency and that she has met with the Council on Aging Director, Amy Wilson- Kent to discuss having as many Senior volunteers to assist in televising meetings. Ms.

Newman stated that February is too soon and that more time is required to accomplish this as we need another space and to ensure there are volunteers available to tape the meetings. She added that the Board will need to work with other Boards to achieve this, the only way it works is working together, forcing the issue can cause problems with Boards/Committees.

Mr. Tinio added that he feels we need at least 3 locations, and this would be costly, and feels we are not ready to force this on other Boards and Committees.

Ms. Ellen Agro, Town Clerk, stated that February is not a good timeframe because the Attorney General has 90 days to approve the bylaw language after submittal. And the STM is 11/20/19. It could be the end of February before the Attorney General approves this.

Chief Kurczy stated that the Town could be opening itself up for litigation if this becomes a bylaw. He suggests that Town Council have an opportunity to address this article.

Mr. Don Morin of the Police Station Building Committee added that a new meeting room at the police station could be upgraded at some point to record meetings.

Ms. Newman went over Citizens Petition Article 25 to increase the Board from 3 to 5 members. Mr. Tinio explained that it is difficult to get people to run for a Board of Selectmen seat with the makeup being 3. Ms. Newman stated that she has seen quite a few elections most of them are uncontested and has worked for Towns where there are more seats. There is a value to have additional voices on the Board and would encourage people who are interested to run for the Board of Selectmen and that has not been occurring in the six years she has worked in Mendon. A person has to have a real love of public service to put time into this job.

Mr. Tinio, the best part about running is when you are running with other people. During candidate's night there is more debate when running against someone and we are able to get the full benefit of hearing where the Town is headed and what the Towns people want. To have walk on seats, is not a good idea.

Mr. Reil stated that if you can't run with someone and have an election that is contested you have to be able to debate topics.

Mr. Merolli stated that we aren't talking about uncontested seats. Mr. Reil stated that Mr. Merolli stated people are afraid running for a seat. IF you have good ideas and put the work in and go around the community people will vote for you

Ms. Newman added that most of the candidates have come up through other Boards and have served on other boards and commissions for a while.

Mr. Newman stated at 3 or 5 makes very little difference internally its not a workload issue. It becomes an issue of conflict between the 5 members than work that is getting done. The topics become more political and less task based.

The next Citizens Petition article Mr. Merolli submitted to change the name from Board of Selectmen and to Select Board was discuss. Mr. Merolli stated that it is just a more gender-neutral term, 70 Towns have done it, Mendon should be ahead of the curve.

Ms. Newman stated that this should not become a politicized issue and not for the Board to decide. If people want to do it, it will get done.

Mr. Tinio stated if we put this on as the Board of Selectmen, we have to speak about it. Mr. Reil feels it should come from a citizen's petition as it is a specialized issue that should come from the citizen who are for it.

Ms. Newman asked Mr. Carole Carnovale to address the Board regarding her request for an article to be placed on the warrant for a bylaw for the display of wild animal traveling in traveling circus

Ms. Carnovale addressed the Board and stated there is all kinds of scientific evidence and this is the trend now that these animals are treated humanely. There are bills in the legislature right now to prevent this kind of treatment of

animals, but until then Towns have to step up. 10 towns in MA who band these traveling animal acts. Topsfield banned Elephants and Camels this past May at Town Meeting.

Mr. Tinio asked if this would affect the Zoo. Ms. Carnovale stated that this is only for traveling animals in a circus. It would not affect the Zoo.

Ms. Newman invited Ms. Carnovale to attend the next Selectmen meeting on 10/15 to review the warrant again.

#### **Executive Session**

Mr. Reil made a motion to enter into Executive Session Under Purpose 2 and Purpose 3 of M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(2)(3) to conduct non-union personnel contract negotiations, Police Chief and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining, Mendon Fire. Second by Mr. Tinio. The motion passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote: Reil- Aye, Tinio-Aye

Mr. Reil made a motion exit Executive Session and adjourn. Second by Mr. Tinio. The motion passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote: Reil- Aye, Tinio-Aye

Submitted by Laura St.John-Dupuis

Approved: 10/15/19