



SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 13, 2023

Members: Judy Bickford, Don McDowell, Christopher Palermo, Laura Streets

Absent: Richard Craig

ADMINISTRATION and STAFF: Chief Jason Luneau, Interim Town Administrator; Dennis DiGregorio, Fire Chief; Tina Sweet, Finance Director; Bill Mapes, EMS Chief; Bonnie McDermott, Scribe

PARTICIPANTS/GUESTS: Martin Green, Tracy Patnoe, Stacey Ferriman, Tom Cloutier, Jamie Jaret, Sheila Tarbox, Tony Cote, Jerry Throne, Christy Snipp, Laura Green

**participating via Zoom*

CALL SELECTBOARD MEETING TO ORDER

Judy Bickford called the Selectboard Meeting to order at 5:30 PM at the Tegu Building.

AGENDA CHANGES/ADDITIONS

Add under New Business:

1. Approve Judy Bickford to sign the warrants.

Add under Other Business:

1. Possible Executive session

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss Public Safety Budget (MPD, MFD, & EMS)

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Chief Jason Luneau of the Morristown Police Department presented his department's budget for the fiscal year 2024-2025. He described the circumstances, concerns, and significant trends that set the foundation for his budget planning. The Board had questions and comments for Chief Luneau and thanked him and his department for their service.

Fire Chief Dennis DiGregorio of the Morristown Fire Department presented the budget for the fiscal year 2024-2025 for his department. He explained the circumstances, needs and concerns of his department over the year which precipitated his budget planning as presented. The Board asked for

clarification, explanations, and made comments on his presentation. The Board thanked Fire Chief DiGregorio for his and his department's work over the last year.

EMS Chief Bill Mapes of Morristown Emergency Medical Services offered and explained the needs and concerns that created the basis for his department's budget proposal for the fiscal year 2024-2025. The Board acknowledged his work and that of the members of his department and had questions about the scope of his department's responsibilities.

The one main concern for all departments revolved around the equipment required for each. The Board had questions from the Finance Director, Tina Sweet, and a discussion ensued.

2. Approve Judy Bickford, Chair, to sign the warrants Monday November 20, 2023

Motion made by Don McDowell to approve Judy Bickford to sign the warrants for November 20, 2023. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried. (4/0)

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Possible Executive Session - Labor, Legal, Personnel

Motion made by Chris Palermo to go to Executive Session because I find that premature general public knowledge of labor relationships with employees to the body will clearly place the town at a substantial disadvantage. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried. (4/0)

Motion made by Chris Palermo to go to Executive Session to discuss labor relations agreements with employees under the provisions of Title 1 section 313 (a) (1)(b) of the Vermont Statutes, to include Interim Town Administrator Jason Luneau; Interim Human Resources Director, Tina Sweet; and Highway Superintendent, Kevin Barrows. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried. (4/0)

Motion made by Chris Palermo to go into Executive Session because I find that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the public body, or a person involved, at a substantial disadvantage. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried. (4/0)

Motion made by Chris Palermo to go into Executive Session to discuss the appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee subject to T1 V.S.A. § 313 (a)(3). To include Interim Town Administrator, Jason Luneau. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried. (4/0)

Motion made by Chris Palermo to go into Executive Session because I find that premature general public knowledge of pending or probable civil litigation or prosecution, to which the public body is or may be party, will clearly place the town at a substantial disadvantage by disclosing its negotiation strategy. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried. (4/0)

Motion made by Chris Palermo to go into Executive Session to discuss the pending or probable litigation or prosecution under the provisions of Title 1 section 313 (a) (1) of the Vermont Statutes, to include Interim Town Administrator, Jason Luneau and Attorney James Barlow. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried. (4/0)

Motion made by Chris Palermo to come out of Executive Session at 8:27 PM. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried. (4/0)

Motion made by Chris Palermo to eliminate two EMS part-time benefited positions. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried. (4/0)

Motion made by Chris Palermo to create a full time EMS position. Motion seconded by Don McDowell. Motion carried. (4/0)

ADJOURN

Motion made by Don McDowell to adjourn. Motion seconded by Chris Palermo. Motion carried. (4/0)

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm

Submitted and filed this November 13, 2023.

Bonnie McDermott, Scribe

Please note all minutes are in Draft form and are subject to approval at the next Selectboard meeting.