

**Mount Holly Special Select Board Meeting
September 21, 2020
Minutes**

Zoom Meeting: 844 3526 9021

Present: Select Board: Jeff Chase, Jennifer Matthews, Mark Turco

Town Officials: David Johnson, Jon McCann, Jim Seward, Clinton Woolley

Members of the Public: Ted Crawford, Stephen Michel, Robin Nelson

1. **Call to Order** by Mark Turco at 4:31 pm.

2. All recited the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

3. **Changes and/or additions to the agenda** – Jennifer Matthews asked to remove agenda item #12 as Sue Covalla did not need her letter addressed in the meeting. Jeff Chase asked to remove agenda item #9 as the owner of the water line will make the necessary repair. Ted Crawford asked to move agenda items # 6-11 to the regular October meeting, where he thought they belonged. He stated few residents knew of this meeting or could attend at 4:30 in the afternoon. Ms. Matthews stated: the Planning Commission was eager to hire their new clerk and needed the Select Board to act on their recommendation to do so; Mr. Woolley’s resignation had been in the Select Board office since September 9th and the Planning Commission needed all members appointed so as to help with the work on the Town Plan; Hubbard would like to pick up the metal pile next week, according to Clinton Woolley; and, Ms. Matthews had told Louise DeCormier she would ask the Select Board to address her inquiry about a ‘Children at Play’ sign at this meeting. She stated these items all needed to be addressed in a timely fashion. She also noted that the agenda for the meeting had been posted since Friday. Mr. Crawford stated that deciding items at a Special meeting was too easy and had never been done in the history of the Mount Holly Select Board. Mr. Chase suggested the Select Board meet twice a month on a regular basis in order to respond to items in town in a timely manner. Mr. Turco noted Mr. Crawford’s concerns. He stated the Select Board would maintain the agenda as is for this evening.

4. **Federal CARES Act Grant & Cott Contract** – Jon McCann reported the Town had asked for about \$19,000 to digitize five years’ worth of land records for on-line public access. The State had extra funds available and awarded the Town over \$29,000, which could be used to digitize additional years. First step in the process is to enter into a contract with Cott Systems, the company which will host the data and provide the scanner for the digitization project. Ms. Matthews made a motion to accept the Federal CARES Act grant funds and enter into a five-year contract with Cott Systems for the digitization and online hosting of the land records, seconded by Mr. Chase, unanimously approved.

5. **Municipal Planning Grant Resolution** – Ms. Matthews read through the resolution (attached) in support of the Town applying for the grant. Mr. Chase made a motion to sign the resolution, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved.

6. **Planning Commission Clerk – New Hire Recommendation** – The Select Board was in receipt of a letter from the Planning Commission recommending the hiring of Renee Sarmento as the Planning Commission clerk. Ms. Matthews made a motion to hire Ms. Sarmento as the Planning Commission clerk for a maximum of ten hours a month at a starting wage of \$15 per hour, seconded by Mr. Chase, unanimously approved.

7. **Planning Commission Member Clinton Woolley’s Resignation** – Mr. Turco made a motion to accept Mr. Woolley’s resignation with regrets, seconded by Ms. Matthews, unanimously approved.

8. **Transfer Station Metal Pile Proposal** –Mr. Woolley reported that Hubbard would pick up the pile and take everything in it with no fee. Mr. Chase made a motion to have Hubbard pick up the metal pile at no charge to the Town, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved.

9. **Frost Hill Road – Private Water Line** – Item not necessary per Mr. Chase.

10. **Children at Play Sign – Yale Road** – Ms. Matthews reported she had received a call from Louise DeCormier about having the Town put up a ‘Children at Play’ sign along Yale Road. Mr. Turco stated the Town could not assume the liability for putting up such signs. Individuals can put up their own signs as long as they are not in the traveled portion of the road. Robin Nelson commented on the speeding cars on Belmont Road and other roads in town, and she expressed her concerns for children near those roads. Discussion ensued. Mr. Turco thanked Ms. Nelson for her input.

11. **Susan Covalla Letter** – Ms. Matthews said the item need not be addressed per Ms. Covalla.

12. **Executive Session: Title 1 V.S.A. S 313(a)(3) – personnel** –Citing Statute, Mr. Chase made a motion to enter Executive Session for an employee evaluation, seconded by Ms. Matthews, unanimously approved. At 5:49, Mr. Chase made a motion to exit Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Turco, unanimously approved. No actions taken.

13. **Adjourn** – at 5:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Jennifer Matthews

Minutes Approved: 10.13.2020