



TOWN OF MENDON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

20 Main Street

Mendon, Massachusetts 01756

Telephone: (508) 473-2312 Fax: (508) 478-8241

MEETING MINUTES**FEBRUARY 4, 2004**
APPROVED: FEBRUARY 18, 2004

Meeting called to order at 7: 10 pm by Chairman Dale Pleau, attended by Selectmen Dennis Shaheen & Ken O'Brien.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
Board recites the Pledge.

2. Warrants
Warrants are signed.

3. Board of Selectman's Christmas Party

Ms. Tetreault gave Selectmen Shaheen the money owed to him from the Selectmen's Christmas Party.

4. Minutes

Motion by Dennis Shaheen to approve minutes of the January 21, 2004 regular meeting, Ken O'Brien 2nd, all in favor.

Executive Minutes for January 21, 2004 will be discussed in Executive Session.

5. Board Comments

Chairman Pleau reminded the public of the Special Town Meeting on February 10, 2004 and that it is time to pull papers for Elected positions and they can get these forms at the Town Clerk's office. Selectmen O'Brien reminded the public that there are a lot of openings and encouraged the public to get involved in their town.

Chairman Pleau discussed with the Board the amount of delinquent taxes. The Board discussed the amount and how to handle them. Selectmen Shaheen would like to work with the people to pay their taxes.

Chairman Pleau reminded the Board it is not fair for the residents who pay their taxes on time and asked Ms. Tetreault to find out legally what can be done to collect.

6. Open Forum

No one had any comments for Open Forum.

7. FY05 Budget

Chairman Pleau invited the Fin Com to the meeting to discuss the FY05 budget. Ms. Tetreault told the Board Chairman Holmes said there was nothing to discuss. Chairman Pleau asked the Fin Com Clerk to invite the Fin Com up to the meeting.

8. Dispatcher

Chief Horn requested the Board appoint Mike Farrell as Full Time Dispatcher. Motion by Ken O'Brien to appoint Mike Farrell to Full Time dispatcher effective February 17, 2004, @ \$14.30 per hour Dennis Shaheen 2nd, all in favor.

Chief Horn requested the Civil Defense to report to the Chief not the Board. Motion by Ken O'Brien to have Mike Farrell the Civil Defense Coordinator report to the Chief of Police, Dennis Shaheen 2nd, all in favor.

Selectmen O'Brien thanked Dispatcher Daniel Lamoreau for his services and good luck at the Police Academy.

9. Fin Com

Chairman Pleau asked the Chairman of Fin Com, Art Holmes if there were any major concerns for the FY05 budget? Chairman Holmes responded it will be a tight year and the school is scheduled to get a big increase and that he does have a concern about snow & ice. Chairman Pleau repeated to the residents Mr. Holmes concerns & encouraged residents to again get involved and pay attention to their town.

Chairman Pleau asked Ms. Tetreault about a letter he received from MIIA. She explained it was a letter awarding the town money for equipment the Fire Department asked for.

10. Meeting Dates

The Board set meeting dates of 3/10, 3/24, 4/7, 4/21, & 5/5.

11. Water issues

Ms. Tetreault discussed with the Board the short & long term solutions for the Water issues with Hopedale. Selectmen O'Brien would like to have the Water Board in to discuss these issues with them and move toward a solution, he reminds the Board the clock is ticking and the Town does not want to be at the 11th hour trying to keep water to the residents in the south of town.

12. Town Collector/Treasurer

Motion by Dennis Shahern Per agreement with the current Collector/Treasurer, and as a result of the Collector/Treasurer's inability to perform her duties effective Jan. 31, 2004, I move, pursuant to the provisions of chapter 41, section 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws, that the Board of Selectmen appoint Christine Kupstas, temporarily to hold the office of Town Collector/Treasurer and to exercise the powers and perform the duties of Town Collector/Treasurer until the incumbent Town Collector/Treasurer resumes such duties or until further directive of the Board of Selectmen, and I further move that the Administrative Assistant forthwith file with the office of the Town Clerk notice of this temporary Town Collector/Treasurer appointment. However, the Town agrees to keep Karen Lowell on the payroll until Feb. 28, 2004 or until her long-term disability insurance becomes effective, whichever comes first. Ms. Lowell will reimburse the Town for any period during which she received both a salary from the town and long-term disability. The Town also agrees that Ms. Lowell will continue on the Town of Mendon health insurance policy.

Selectmen discussed the issue with the Parks Commission Clerk. The Commissioners requested the Clerk be a Grade 4 Step 1 and upon listening to the tape she was paid at the requested rate. Ms. Palmer informed the Board that the Commissioner had not come into her office to listen to the tape. Selectmen also reminded the residents of employment opportunity at the camp for the summer. Selectmen O'Brien also reminded the

Taft Library will soon announce the date for the Cardboard Boat Race and encourages the residents to participate and to come and enjoy the fun.

Motion by Dennis Shaheen to go into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining to return only to adjourn under MGL Chapter 39, Section 23B Ken O'Brien 2nd, all in favor.

Roll Call, Pleau – Yes, Shaheen – Yes, O'Brien – Yes.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Terry Palmer
Administrative Secretary
Board of Selectmen