



TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT WARRANT COMMITTEE

**Minutes from:
Tuesday, February 13, 2024 6:00PM**

Northeast Harbor Meeting Hall and via Zoom

Members Present: Phil Lichtenstein, Katrina Carter, Stephanie Reece, Tim Murphy, Mike Olsen, Lauren Kuffler, Owen Craighead, Alan Kimmerly, Rosemary Matchak, Blakeslee Bell

Zoom: Jamie Blaine, Donna Beals, Carmen Sanford

Excused: Bill Ferm, Jesse Hartson, Craig Roebuck

Absent: Marina McGarr, Jerry Miller, Kathy Miller, Megan Bailey

Guests: Noel Musson of the Musson Group; Kim Keene, Code Enforcement Officer; John Lemon, Harbormaster; Gail Marshall & Tracy Keller, Mt. Desert Planning Board

1. 6:00pm Call Meeting to order, minutes from the 2/6 meeting approved with a correction to the next meeting dates, announcements.
2. 6:10pm Noel Musson addressed a host of changes to the Land Use Zoning Ordinance across 16 articles. Most of the changes related to setbacks, clarifications in wording, and corrections to the contents of certain articles. Predictably, Article 15: "Short-Term Rental and Vacation Rental Licensing Ordinance" prompted the most discussion. Mr. Musson, along with Gail Marshall and Tracy Keller of the planning board, were helpful in explaining the rationale for article 15's existence and they fielded a number of questions both real and hypothetical from the WC related to article 15.
3. 7:17pm CEO Kim Keene began by covering the planning board budget. There is an increase of \$65,000 in aid of hiring a consultant for a complete re-drafting of the Town's Comprehensive Plan as it is

badly outdated. The CEO budget will rise significantly since the current part-time Deputy CEO position is transitioning to full-time. The budgeted salary for this yet-to-be-filled post is set at \$64,000. An extra \$10,000 is also included in the budget for a planning consultant. Ms. Keene and Mr. Musson concluded by answering additional questions from the WC.

4. 7:45pm Harbormaster John Lemoine's budget is rising approximately 8.5% due almost exclusively due to inflation. When asked about damage from the back-to-back January storms, Mr. Lemoine estimated about \$500 in damages in total, which is remarkable.

Upcoming Meeting: Monday, February 26 for third party requests

Respectfully submitted,

Owen Craighead, Recording Secretary