



TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT WARRANT COMMITTEE

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

Northeast Harbor Meeting Hall and via Zoom

Members Present: Phil Lichtenstein, Katrina Carter, Tim Murphy, Mike Olsen, Lauren Kuffler, Owen Craighead, Donna Beals, Carmen Sanford, Alan Kimmerly, Rosemary Matchak, Blakeslee Bell

Zoom: Megan Bailey, Jamie Blaine

Excused: Bill Ferm, Jesse Hartson, Craig Roebuck, Stephanie Reece, Jerry Miller, Kathy Miller

Absent: Marina McGarr

Guests: Paul Paradis, Hancock County Commissioner; Brian Henkel, Mount Desert Public Works Director

1. 6:00pm Call Meeting to order, minutes from the 1/30 meeting approved.
2. 6:02pm Paul Paradis discussed how Hancock County's budget is funded by the various municipalities. Based on property assessments, Mt. Desert is the largest contributor at 15.66%. The largest cost centers to the County are the jail, the Sheriff's department, the Registry of Deeds and the Probate Court. Commissioner Paradis fielded a number of questions from WC members relating to where and how various funds are spent and the overall functioning of County governance. It was pointed out that some funds make their way back to the Town, such as \$140,000 for broadband expansion.
3. 6:50pm Public Works Director Brian Henkel thoroughly discussed how the reserve accounts within his budget have now been folded into the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). As to his budget, there are

some modest increases for various requisite chemicals used for septic treatment, etc. The street sign budget has also increased. The WC asked Mr. Henkel a number of questions related to line items in the budget, along with issues such as the possibility of the regional High School connecting it's waste water to the Somesville septic plant and the low wires along the northbound Rt. 198 roadway.

4. 7:45pm Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings: Discussion of the School budget is Monday, February 12 at 6:00pm. The Marina and the Land Use Zoning Ordinance will be the following night, Tuesday, February 13 at 6pm. Both meetings at the meeting hall and by Zoom.

Guests:

Respectfully submitted,

Owen Craighead, Recording Secretary