

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - TOWN OF MACHIAS

JANUARY 9, 2013

This meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Aubrey Carter. In attendance were Board members Warren Gay, Danny Manchester, Glenn Davis, and Cony Upton; Town Manager Christopher Loughlin; Secretary Cathy Lord; Superintendent of Schools Scott Porter; Sharon Mack, Hillary Savage.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Danny Manchester, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the December 26, 2012 Board meeting.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Danny Manchester, seconded by Warren Gay, the Board

VOTED:

To approve municipal warrant #56 in the amount of \$1,300,105.31; to approve municipal warrant #57 in the amount of \$11,744.67; to approve municipal warrant #58 in the amount of \$364,688.50; and, to approve municipal warrant #59 in the amount of \$15,931.88 .

On a motion by Danny Manchester, seconded by Warren Gay, the Board

VOTED:

To approve school warrant #28 in the amount of \$168,000.

3. LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION - BLUEBIRD RANCH FAMILY RESTAURANT (JH&B INC.)

On a motion by Danny Manchester, seconded by Cony Upton, the Board

VOTED:

To grant a liquor license to the Bluebird Ranch Family Restaurant (JH&B Inc.)

4. BRIEFING - SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT SCOTT PORTER

A. Mr. Porter updated the Board on progress with the school addition project. He advised the Board that he is recommending that the project be put out to bid again in February with bids due at the Machias Town Office on 2/27/13 to be opened at the Board's meeting on that evening. Mr. Porter noted that some changes have been made to the request for bids and that the scope of the project has been scaled back. He advised the Board that the lab project and the culinary arts project have been separated. Mr. Porter explained that there have been some changes to the original lab project such as backing out some of the equipment in the laboratory, the asbestos assessment is lower than previously thought, and the laboratory space has been reconfigured. Mr. Carter pointed out that in the school committee

meeting minutes it was mentioned that the school department would be putting money in the 2014-2015 school budget for the science lab/culinary arts project and he asked what the school committee's intentions were. Mr. Porter explained that he is unsure if there is enough funding for the project and he had recommended putting in money for a payment in next year's budget. He added that it will depend on the amount of the bids if this payment needs to be included in the budget.

Mr. Porter explained to the Board that he wants to use local carpenters/cabinet makers to reduce costs in the project (for example - construction of two new lab tables). Mr. Porter told the Board that he wants to put the electrical work, the mechanical work, and the asbestos abatement out to bid separately and that he wants to hire school employees to work as Machias employees on the project during the summer. He told the Board that he wants to keep the lab project under \$100,000.

The members of the Board discussed proceeding with the school project. The members of the Board agreed with the plans for the project. Mr. Porter said that he will continue to update the Board on progress.

B. Mr. Porter explained that he has started the process on the adult education program funding reconfiguration that the Board and the budget committee recommended be looked at. It was noted that Machias contributes \$85,000. of the \$95,000. total budget for the program. Mr. Porter pointed out that based on population Machias should contribute \$31,000. towards this budget with the remaining amount coming from participating towns. Mr. Porter commented that there has not been a lot of positive response to a realignment of budgetary responsibility. He advised the Board of Selectmen that he will keep the Board updated.

C. Mr. Porter informed the members of the Board that Machias will be losing \$15,000. in school funding cuts in the governor's budget.

5. TAXI CAB PERMIT APPLICATION - SINDEL'S TAXI

Mr. Loughlin advised the Board of a taxi cab permit application submitted by Pauline Brulotte for a taxi cab service called Sindel's Taxi. He reviewed the application with the members of the Board and he noted that the application designates a taxi stand on the dike. Mr. Carter pointed out that the Board cannot authorize use of the dike as a location for a taxi stand since this is state property.

On a motion by Danny Manchester, seconded by Cony Upton, the Board

VOTED:

To table a taxi cab permit application submitted by Pauline Brulotte doing business as Sindel's Taxi.

6. FIRE, AMBULANCE, AND TRANSFER STATION CONTRACT SIGNING

On a motion by Danny Manchester, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board

VOTED:

To sign the fire, ambulance, and transfer station contracts returned from contract towns.

7. BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE

Mr. Loughlin reviewed a budget meeting schedule with the Board.

Mr. Manchester suggested that employee raises be considered at the final budget meeting to allow the Board to see how the budgets develop. Mr. Carter pointed out that this can be done only for salaries not covered under the collective bargaining contract. The Board agreed to postpone consideration of these salaries until final budget review.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that the Town received a letter from Kay Richmond asking that the Town provide a letter supporting a juvenile justice grant. Mr. Loughlin pointed out that the letter would not commit the Town financially. The Board discussed the request and asked that the Town Manager respond with a letter regretting that the Town of Machias cannot commit.

B. Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that there will be another meeting of the ordinance review committee to go through recommendations and final language. Mr. Carter asked that the committee see the changes before scheduling a public hearing.

9. MCDONALD'S SEWER BILL

Mr. Loughlin advised the members of the Board that the plumber working on the McDonald's sewer notified him that the business has been experiencing problems resulting in increased use of sewer and water charges.

10. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Manchester asked for an update on overdue sewer bills. Mr. Loughlin reported that the Town is at the point in the process in which the small claims court process will be used. He confirmed that delinquent sewer users have been sent notices advising that the Town will be proceeding to this next step on delinquent sewer bills. Mr. Manchester cautioned that there is a time limitation when using small claims court.

On a motion by Danny Manchester, seconded by Warren Gay, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 PM.