

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - TOWN OF MACHIAS

FEBRUARY 25, 2015

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Machias Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00 PM by Vice Chairman Warren Gay. In attendance were Board members Danny Manchester, Glenn Davis, and James Whalen; Town Manager Christopher Loughlin; Secretary Cathy Lord; Police Chief Grady Dwelley; Fire Chief Joey Dennison; Edward Pellon.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Danny Manchester, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2015 Board meeting.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

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

VOTED:

To approve municipal warrant #69 in the amount of \$15,268.03; to approve municipal warrant #70 in the amount of \$11,439.08; to approve municipal warrant #71 in the amount of \$16,646.43; and, to approve municipal warrant #72 in the amount of \$67,178.15 .

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

VOTED:

To approve school warrant #34 in the amount of \$212,555,12 .

3. ROAD WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS HEARING

Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that the road weight restrictions ordinance outlines that a public hearing will be held before the weight restrictions postings are done. He proposed that the Board supply a seven day public notice of the hearing and hold the hearing on March 11th prior to the beginning of the selectmen's meeting. Pending results of the public hearing, Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that he will advertise the closing of roads to overweight vehicles from March 12th to April 17th.

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

VOTED:

To schedule a public hearing on March 11, 2015 at 6:00 PM on road weight restrictions.

4. MAINE WILD/CHERRYFIELD FOODS TIF UPDATE

Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that he provided information to Maine Wild/Cherryfield Foods on the work which will be performed to the sewer system on the opposite side of the Machias River. He noted that representatives of the company would like to meet with the Board of Selectmen during their March 11th meeting regarding information they have obtained from their attorney. The Board asked that Mr. Loughlin have the town's attorney examine the TIF documents.

Mr. Whalen commented that he had a conversation with Mr. Loughlin about hiring a lawyer specifically trained to handle TIF negotiations and legalities and had asked for the name of the TIF attorney representing the Town of Machias. Mr. Loughlin noted that Mr. Rutledge would be the attorney the Town would consult with regarding the TIF but that the Town of Machias does not have a lawyer specifically hired for this reason. Mr. Whalen reviewed what he knew about this attorney's background and he stated his dissatisfaction with regards to finding suitable representation for the town in TIF negotiations. Mr. Loughlin responded that he had tried to explain how Mr. Rutledge would be involved. Mr. Gay suggested that the Board move on with the remainder of the agenda.

5. POLICE VEHICLE BANK LOAN

Members of the Board opened the two bids received for the loan to purchase a new police vehicle.

Bids: Machias Savings Bank - 1.25% for a three year term

Bar Harbor Bank and Trust - 0.98% for a three year term (bond counsel at town's expense)

Mr. Whalen suggested finding out what the actual cost of the bond counsel would be to allow the Board to use this additional information in making a decision regarding the true costs associated with this bank loan..

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

VOTED:

To table awarding the bid for the police vehicle bank loan pending further information.

Mr. Loughlin said that he will supply this additional information and poll the Board by telephone as to a decision on the award of the bid.

6. POLICE VEHICLE BIDS

The Board opened bids received on the purchase of a new police vehicle.

Bids: Darling's - \$29,688.00 for a 2015 Police Interceptor package
- \$26,581.00 for a 2015 Ram pick-up
Profile (Blueberry Ford) - \$31,038.44 for a 2015 Police Interceptor package

Chief Dwelley reviewed the bid packages submitted by the two dealerships.

After reviewing the content of the bids, Chief Dwelley recommended awarding the bid to Darling's for the purchase of the 2015 Police Interceptor package for \$29,688.

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

VOTED:

To award the bid for the purchase of the police vehicle to Darling's for a 2015 Police Interceptor package for \$26,581.

7. TOWN OFFICE FLOORING BIDS

Mr. Loughlin reported that the Town received two bids for town office flooring in the form of e-mails not in sealed envelopes as was outlined as proper procedure in the bid specifications. He noted that the two e-mails were sent by Rigg's Rugs and Family Floor Store. Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that they could either examine the two bids or reject them due to improper bid submission. The Board discussed following correct bidding procedure and decided to reject the bids submitted as e-mails and to rebid the work.

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

VOTED:

To reject the e-mail bids received on the town office flooring and rebid the work specifying that the bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope marked as "town office flooring bids".

8. SCBA BIDS - FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Loughlin noted that one bid was received for the purchase of two self-contained breathing apparatus for the Machias Fire Department. Chief Joey Dennison explained that the fire department is buying two new SCBA every year which replace older pieces of equipment. Mr. Whalen asked why the equipment is replaced instead of being repaired. Mr. Dennison explained that it would cost too much to repair the equipment; he noted that he takes parts off the broken units and uses these parts for repairs. Mr. Whalen asked what ultimately happens to non-reparable units; Mr. Dennison explained that these are thrown away since they are unusable. Chief Dennison advised the Board that the fire department has six new units and that he is still using six of the old units for firefighting activities.

Bid: IPS - \$9,806. for two units

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

VOTED:

To award the bid for the purchase of two self-contained breathing apparatus to IPS for \$9,806.

9. UPDATE ON OPERATION OF SEWER SYSTEM

Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that Olver Associates is reviewing the Machias sewer system and is currently advertising to see what manpower is available. He informed the Board that representatives of the company are meeting with members of the Board on March 11th at 10:00 AM to report on grant money from the USDA for sewer improvements.

10. STATION 1898 COMMITTEE

Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that the Station '98 Committee has been reassembled and will be meeting on March 3rd to discuss utilizing funds to complete work on the building. Mr. Manchester volunteered to attend the meeting.

11. MANAGER'S REPORT/OTHER BUSINESS

A. Mr. Loughlin told the Board that sewer liens totaling \$23,812.50 will be mailed out on February 27th. There are thirty-five accounts for small claims court action.

B. Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that the DEP will be addressing the discharge of waste snow; he noted that the DEP did allow Machias to push excess snow over the Machias bridge into the water.

C. Mr. Whalen informed the Board that he forwarded a letter to and also had a conversation with John Walker of Ultrapower regarding the potential for burning trash at the Ultrapower facility.

D. Mr. Gay asked about the status of animal control equipment held by Mr. Nelson. Chief Dwelley explained that the property is being tied up in court since Mr. Nelson's former girlfriend has initiated legal proceedings against him thus cutting off his access to the home they once shared which is where the equipment is located.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

VOTED:

To adjourn into executive session at 6:42 PM to listen to a request for a poverty tax abatement as outlined in Title 1, M.R.S.A. s/s 405 (A)(C) and in Title 1 s/s 841.

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

VOTED:

To come out of executive session at 7:05 PM and reconvene into open session.

The Board of Selectmen left open the possibility of the taxpayer coming back to the Board at 6:30 PM on March 3, 2015 to present any new evidence supporting the request for abatement.

On a motion by Danny Manchester, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 PM.