

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - TOWN OF MACHIAS

MARCH 11, 2015

PUBLIC HEARING

Vice Chairman Warren Gay called a public hearing on Road Closures due to thawing roads and reduced road capacities to order at 6:00 P.M. Mr. Loughlin explained that as a part of the Town's Road Closure Ordinance, the Selectmen were required to have a hearing to give the public a chance to voice concerns regarding the potential closure of roads. Glenn Davis remarked that there was no use to post the roads because the Town did not act to enforce the ordinance. Danny Manchester said that there had been no summons written last year. Mr. Loughlin asked the Board if they wanted to direct more of the Police Department's efforts toward enforcement in Kennebec. Discussion then centered over the view that the Town had already posted the roads. This was clarified to recognize that the State of Maine had posted Kennebec Road, not the Town. With no other comments from the public in attendance, Mr. Gay closed the hearing at 6:10 P.M.

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Machias Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:10 PM by Vice Chairman Warren Gay. In attendance were Board members Danny Manchester, Glenn Davis, and James Whalen; Town Manager Christopher Loughlin; Bob Berta of Countywide and Cat Cannon of the Machias Valley News Observer were in attendance, and Bob Bialota.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

Due to a family emergency, the Secretary was not in attendance, and the minutes of the last meeting were not available.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

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

To approve municipal warrant #73 in the amount of \$16,464.94 to approve municipal warrant #74 in the amount of \$61,379.36; to approve municipal warrant #75 in the amount of \$12,527.70; and, to approve municipal warrant #76 in the amount of \$45,462.34 .

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

To approve school warrant #36 in the amount of \$244,021.27.

3. SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT

Mr. Loughlin brought forward the Special Entertainment Permit request from the American Legion Post #9. This is an annual request by the Legion.

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

To approve the Special Entertainment Permit for the American Legion Post #9

4. APPROVAL OF PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURES

Mr. Loughlin asked the Board if they wished to post the roads. The Board declined to post the roads for this season.

5. FLOORING/ CARPETING BIDS- TOWN OFFICE

Mr. Loughlin ADVISED THE Board that there were three bids for flooring. The bids were as follows:

Sarro's Flooring	Option 1	\$ 13,190
	Option 2	\$ 13,929
	Option 3	\$ 14,397
	Option 4	\$ 14,797
Family Floor Store	Option 1	\$ 16,029
	Option 2	\$ 14,786
	Option 3	\$ 13,459
Rigg's Rugs	Option 1	\$ 17,700
	Option 2	\$ 16,635
	Option 3	\$ 16,925
	Option 4	\$ 13,400

On a motion by Danny Manchester, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board
VOTED:
To award the bid to Sarro's Flooring for Option 1 at \$13,190.

6. MAINE WILD TIF DISCUSSION

Maine Wild was not available to attend the meeting. They will attend the meeting after they get more information for the Board.

7. OLVER ASSOCIATES UPDATE ON THE OPERATION OF THE SEWER SYSTEM

Bill Olver and Annaleis Hafford of Olver Associates were present to discuss any issues the Board might have regarding the proposed take-over of the operation at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Olver Associates saw few issues in the actual changeover. The contract still needed to be reviewed by an attorney for the Town. The Board asked Mr. Loughlin to have the contract reviewed by the next meeting.

8. SOLID WASTE FEE PROPOSAL FOR NEXT YEAR

Mr. Loughlin GAVE THE Board copies of the fee structure based on the current year's fee structure. Three methods were used. The proposal had the current structure, a fee structure based on the number of housing units and a third method that uses a combination of the two. This third method used 80% of the population model and 20% of the housing unit model. After some discussion Danny Manchester asked that the proposal be reconfigured to use a 70% population and 30% housing unit ratio.

9. WATER COMPANY UPDATE- PUC MEETING

Mr. Loughlin informed the Board that we had just received word from the Public Utilities Commission that the request for a hearing for the issues the Town had with the water company were going to be investigated. The first hearing would be on March 24, 2015 at 10:00 AM at the PUC Building in Hollowell.

10. FORECLOSED PROPERTIES-REQUEST FOR DISPOSAL

Mr. Loughlin informed the Board of the three properties that were foreclosed upon during the past week. They included two pieces on Gardner Avenue owned by Kneeland, one adjacent to the Rose M. Gaffney School and one between the housing and the Sunrise Trail. The third piece of property was the Beckman property that had been offered to the Town earlier this year.

The Board asked Mr. Loughlin to advertise the Beckman property and the Kneeland lot adjacent to the Sunrise trail for sale. The Board also asked Mr. Loughlin to see if the School would like to purchase the lot adjacent to the RMG School for taxes owed. Mr. Loughlin said he would pursue that course of action. Mr. Loughlin also indicated that we had technically foreclosed on a double-wide trailer owned by the Pentecostal Church on Kennebec Road. The structure was dismantled several years ago and there is no property to foreclose upon.

11. ALTERNATIVE SOLID WASTE OPTION

Mr. Loughlin brought to the Board information regarding the disposal of solid waste at the Charlotte County facility in New Brunswick, Canada. This option is currently used by Calais, and Washington County. The costs appear to be lower than what we are currently paying. Mr. Manchester asked Mr. Loughlin to obtain information on the life expectancy of the site for future use.

12. MANAGER'S REPORT/ OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Loughlin informed the Board that he intended to hire Susan Tinker as the part time police secretary. The Board wanted more information. Dr. Whalen asked to see all the applications for the position. Mr. Loughlin stated he did not feel comfortable with that. Mr. Manchester questioned the Town Manager's authority to hire employees. Mr. Loughlin asked the Board to provide a rate of pay for the position of \$10.00/ hour.

Glenn Davis made a motion to make the police secretary's rate of pay \$10.00/ hour. There was no second to the motion.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

Mr. Loughlin notified the Board that he was adding Clifford Strout to the Town's Ambulance roster.

On a motion by Danny Manchester, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 PM.

Chris Loughlin