

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - TOWN OF MACHIAS

AUGUST 26, 2015

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Machias Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:05 PM by Chairman Aubrey Carter. In attendance were Board members Warren Gay, James Whalen, Leslie Haynes, and Josh Rolfe; Secretary Cathy Lord; Finance Director Meghan Dennison; Christine Therrien, Ed Pellon, Richard Bard, Dave Dowley. Lois Libby.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Josh Rolfe, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2015 Board meeting.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Leslie Haynes, the Board

VOTED:

To approve municipal warrant #14 in the amount of \$14,976.91; to approve municipal warrant #15 in the amount of \$27,045.62; to approve municipal warrant #16 in the amount of \$14,177.96; and, to approve municipal warrant #17 in the amount of \$236,879.32 .

3. MACHIAS AMBULANCE SERVICE - REQUEST TO HIRE EMT

Machias Ambulance Service Captain Lois Libby recommended that Mr. Haden Brooks be appointed as a basic licensed EMT for the Machias Ambulance Service. The Board reviewed Mr. Haden's application for employment.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Leslie Haynes, the Board

VOTED:

To appoint Haden Brooks as an Emergency Medical Technician with the Machias Ambulance Service as recommended by the Ambulance Captain.

4. DOWNEAST COASTAL CONSERVANCY - DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mr. Richard Bard, executive director of the Downeast Coastal Conservancy, and Mr. Dave Dowley discussed a five year management plan for the land purchased by the conservancy in Machias. Mr. Bard told the Board that the management plan is a guide for the use of the land over the next five years. He noted that public input was solicited at a public hearing at the University of Maine at Machias and in an

on-line forum. Mr. Bard reviewed the highlights of the management plan and potential uses of the land such as a community park and recreation area, a permanent boat launch, a dog park, cross country trails, a fitness trail, a children's recreation area, gathering spaces/informal classroom, etc... Mr. Bard advised the Board that uses for the Machias River Preserve land will have a focus on conservation, hiking trails, forestry, and boating access.

Mr. Dowley suggested moving the 4th of July fireworks display to a location across the river in order to make the land available for spectators to sit and watch the fireworks. He also suggested looking into having the Cherryfield Foods building removed; he noted that the building is an eyesore and is a safety liability. Mr. Carter noted that the Town has tried to obtain the building but has been met with disinterest from the building's owner. Mr. Dowley asked permission to approach the building owner about a purchase; Mr. Carter commented that the Board would be interested in anything Mr. Dowley can do to facilitate the matter.

Mr. Bard thanked the Board for their time and he advised the members of the Board that the conservancy is open to any ideas concerning the land at any time.

5. NEW HING GARDEN - LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL

The Board reviewed a liquor license renewal submitted by the owner of the New Hing Garden Restaurant.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Warren Gay, the Board
VOTED:

To approve a liquor license renewal for the New Hing Garden Restaurant.

6. RESIGNATION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

Mr. Carter noted that the Board has received a letter of resignation from Mr. Donald Hicks from the Machias Fire Department. Mr. Carter noted that the Board had discussed the possibility of this resignation at their last meeting and had asked that the position be advertised as soon as possible.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Josh Rolfe, the Board
VOTED:

To accept Mr. Donald Hick's resignation from the Machias Fire Department.

Mr. Haynes asked that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Hicks commending him for his years of service in the Machias Fire Department.

7. RESIGNATION FROM THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Carter noted that the Board has received a letter of resignation from Mr. Martin Cook from the Machias Budget Committee.

On a motion by James Whalen, seconded by Warren Gay, the Board

VOTED:

To accept Mr. Martin Cook's resignation from the Machias Budget Committee.

On a motion by James Whalen, seconded by Warren Gay, the Board

VOTED:

To advertise the open position on the Machias Budget Committee for interested citizens; if there is no response, to solicit a citizen to serve on the committee.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Mrs. Dennison noted that there is a 5K walk in Machias sponsored by the Downeast Aids Network on 9/26/15 at 9:00 AM.

B. Mrs. Dennison noted that the Board has a copy of a discharge report on today's rain event.

C. Mrs. Dennison advised the Board that Aroostock Mental Health is still interested in purchasing the Machias Telebusiness Center.

D. Mrs. Dennison informed the Board that there is a meeting on the Washington County budget at the commissioner's conference room on 9/3/15 at 4:00 PM

E. Mr. Whalen informed the Board that the airport beacon is operating. He also advised the Board that John Reynolds has been contacted at the prison for work on the airport building. Mr. Whalen noted that the bid for the crack seal project at the airport will be posted in the newspaper.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by James Whalen, the Board

VOTED:

To adjourn to executive session at 6:30 PM in order to discuss a personnel matter with members of the town manager's search committee and the Finance Director as allowed under 1 M.R.S.A. Subsection 405(4).

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Josh Rolfe, the Board

VOTED:

To adjourn the executive session at 7:10 PM and reconvene into regular session.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Warren Gay, the Board

VOTED:

To hire Christine Therrien as the new town manager, starting no later than October 1, 2015, the position will include 15 vacation days a year with flexible schedule and an annual salary of \$60,000. to include a two year contract with a severance agreement of two paid weeks for every year of service.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Josh Rolfe, the Board

VOTED:

To appoint Christine Therrien as the interim town manager immediately.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Josh Rolfe, the Board

VOTED:

To adjourn to executive session at 7:20 PM in order to discuss a personnel matter with the interim town manager as allowed under 1 M.R.S.A. 405(4).

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Josh Rolfe, the Board

VOTED:

To adjourn the executive session at 7:35 PM and reconvene into regular session.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Josh Rolfe, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 PM.