

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - TOWN OF MACHIAS

SEPTEMBER 24, 2014

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Machias Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Aubrey Carter. In attendance were Board members Warren Gay, and Eric Holm; Town Manager Christopher Loughlin; Secretary Cathy Lord; Cony Upton.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Eric Holm, seconded by Warren Gay, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2014 Board meeting.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Warren Gay seconded by Eric Holm, the Board  
VOTED:

To approve municipal warrant #24 in the amount of \$16,053.66; to approve municipal warrant #25 in the amount of \$858,980.67; to approve municipal warrant #26 in the amount of \$15,401.14; and, to approve municipal warrant #27 in the amount of \$39,731.97 .

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Eric Holm, the Board

VOTED:

To approve school warrant #12 in the amount of \$179,156.42 .

3. WINTER SAND BIDS

Members of the Board opened bids received on the purchase of winter sand. Mr. Loughlin noted that the specifications stipulated that the sand be screened, delivered, and mixed with the town's salt at the Public Works garage.

Bids:

By Us Company - \$7.90 per cubic yard

Hanscom's Construction - \$8.80 per cubic yard

Mr. Loughlin noted that the low bid this year is twenty cents higher than last year's low bid. He asked the Board for permission to negotiate for the purchase of 1500 cubic yards for this year.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Eric Holm, the Board

VOTED:

To award the bid for the purchase of 1500 cubic yards of winter sand to By Us Company at \$7.90 per cubic yard.

4. SPECIAL TOWN MEETING SCHEDULED

Mr. Loughlin reminded the members of the Board of a special town meeting scheduled for the Board's 10/8/14 meeting at 6:00 PM on the use of Station '98 funds as well as a public hearing afterwards on a Community Development Block Grant for adult education funding.

5. CERTIFICATE OF COMMITMENT OF SEWER USER RATES

Mr. Loughlin reported that \$92,111. has been billed out for sewer charges for the last quarter.

On a motion by Eric Holm, seconded by Warren Gay, the Board

VOTED:

To accept the certificate of commitment of sewer user rates.

6. PARKING ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

The Board briefly discussed the composition of a parking ordinance committee. Mr. Carter suggested postponing this item of business until all members of the Board are in attendance.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Eric Holm, the Board

VOTED:

To table a discussion of the composition of a parking ordinance committee.

7. DISPOSAL OF OLD PUBLIC WORKS LAWNMOWER

Mr. Loughlin reported that approximately three years ago the Town purchased a new lawn mower and it was presumed that the old mower was still at the Public Works garage but could not be used because it needed a deck. He informed the Board that Norm Robert has had the mower in his possession for at least three summers. Mr. Loughlin noted that the town's policy allows the Board of Selectmen to dispose of property. He pointed out that Mr. Robert is willing to return the mower without the replacement deck he added when he repaired it. The Board discussed how to proceed.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Eric Holm, the Board

VOTED:

That the Board of Selectmen dispose of the old lawnmower by offering it for the sum of one dollar to Norm Robert.

8. STORM DRAIN PROJECTS

Mr. Loughlin reported that Jerry Wood started work on storm drains this week and that Hanscom's Construction will begin work on storm drains next week.

9. MANAGER'S REPORT/OTHER BUSINESS

A. Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that he would like to develop a town web site which would be designed by a local person for less than fifteen hundred dollars. He asked the Board to fund the design and development of a town web site from the contingency account. Mr. Carter said that he has heard comments as to why the Town does not have a web site and commented that he thought it was a good idea. Mr. Loughlin described the content of the web site and that it could probably be up and running by Thanksgiving. Mr. Gay and Mr. Holm agreed to proceed.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Eric Holm, the Board

VOTED:

To authorize the expenditure of up to fifteen hundred dollars for the creation of a town web site.

B. Mr. Loughlin reminded the Board that the Town Office will be open on 9/25/14 for regular business except for the issuance of vehicle registrations and requests for vital statistics documents while personnel attend elections training.

C. Mr. Loughlin asked the Board to fund the purchase of treats for Halloween trick-or-treaters..

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Eric Holm, the Board

VOTED:

To allow the expenditure of two hundred dollars out of contingency for the purchase of Halloween treats.

D. Mr. Loughlin suggested looking at the cost of completing the paving of the Kennebec Crossroads. Mr. Upton noted that County Concrete will be in the immediate area for the next few weeks working on projects.

E. Mr. Loughlin noted a letter sent to the King Foundation for the funding of the school signs.

F. Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that he has looked into the purchase of a street sweeper since the Town spent approximately ten thousand dollars on street sweeping over the last year. He noted that a used sweeper can be purchased for approximately thirty-five thousand to fifty thousand dollars (around eight years old and would last five to ten years). Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that a new sweeper would cost one hundred fifty thousand dollars. He cautioned the Board on a warranty for a used piece of equipment. Mr. Gay suggested that Mr. Loughlin look into picking equipment up at an upcoming state surplus equipment auction. It was noted that some type of funding should be included in the 2015-2016 municipal budget to purchase a street sweeper.

G. Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that the Town will be purchasing heating oil from Acadia Fuel for three dollars a gallon. He noted that the company advised him that they have a policy which allows employees to take advantage of a ten cent per gallon reduction. Mr. Loughlin asked the Board if they wanted to allow town employees to access this benefit. The Board discussed the company's policy; members of the Board expressed the opinion that personnel should not profit from being town employees. It was the consensus of the Board not to sanction this practice for town employees.

H. Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that they have copies of the Machias Water Company response to PUC questions. Mr. Loughlin and the Board briefly discussed the letter.

#### 10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Eric Holm, the Board

VOTED:

To adjourn into executive session at 6:58 PM in order to review a recommendation on a candidate for the Position of Public Works Director from the interview committee pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6) (A).

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Eric Holm, the Board voted to adjourn the executive session and reconvened into open session at 7:20 PM.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Eric Holm, seconded by Eric Holm, the Board

VOTED:

To authorize the Town Manager to negotiate with the candidate the interview committee selected to fill the Public Works Director's position.

On a motion by Eric Holm, seconded by Warren Gay, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 PM.