

PUBLIC HEARING
LIQUOR LICENSE FOR NEW HING GARDEN RESTAURANT

Machias Board of Selectmen Chairman Aubrey Carter called a public hearing to order at 6:05 PM. In attendance were Board members Warren Gay, Danny Manchester, and Glenn Davis; Town Manager Christopher Loughlin; Secretary Cathy Lord; Town Clerk Sandra Clifton, Police Chief Grady Dwelley; Sewer Department Director Bob Bialotta; James Whalen, Daniel Bowker, Elaine Cale, David Bell, Jennifer Peters, Yizhi He..

Town Manager Chris Loughlin explained that the reason for this public hearing was to review an application for a liquor license for the New Hing Garden Restaurant due to a change in ownership. Mr. Carter asked the applicant if the restaurant has actually changed ownership. Mr. Yizhi He responded that the official closing of the property was held in New York City last week on October 15th. Mr. Carter asked Police Chief Grady Dwelley if the police department had any problems at the restaurant; Chief Grady responded that he has had no problems at this business. Mr. Carter asked for questions or comments from the public regarding the liquor license. Hearing no other comments or questions from the public, Mr. Carter closed the public hearing at 6:10 PM.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - TOWN OF MACHIAS

OCTOBER 22, 2014

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Machias Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:10 PM by Chairman Aubrey Carter. In attendance were Board members Warren Gay, Danny Manchester, and Glenn Davis; Town Manager Christopher Loughlin; Secretary Cathy Lord; Town Clerk Sandra Clifton; Sewer Department Director Bob Bialotta, Police Chief Grady Dwelley, James Whelan, Elaine Cale, Daniel Bowker, David Bell, Jennifer Peters.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Danny Manchester, seconded by Warren Gay, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2014 Board meeting.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

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

To approve municipal warrant #32 in the amount of \$15,095.95; to approve municipal warrant #33 in the amount of \$24,714.70; to approve municipal warrant #34 in the amount of \$12,550.70; and, to approve municipal warrant #35 in the amount of \$61,499.32 .

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

To approve school warrant #16 in the amount of \$180,434.22 .

3. ACTION ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

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

To accept the Community Development Block Grant for the adult education program.

4. ACTION ON LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION - NEW HING GARDEN RESTAURANT

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

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

5. MAINE WILD BLUEBERRY COMPANY TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISCUSSION

Mr. David Bell, plant manager for Cherryfield Foods/Maine Wild Blueberry Company, advised the members of the Board that the company is very interested in working with the Town of Machias on a tax increment financing arrangement for the construction of a new cold storage facility to be built at the company's facility on outer Elm Street. He explained to the Board that as the blueberry crop has grown so has the need for a cold storage facility to hold the product at the company's facility. Mr. Bell distributed informational material on TIFs and he reviewed the key points of tax increment financing, the benefits to the Town and to the company, and the next steps in the process of developing a TIF.

Mr. Loughlin pointed out that in a previous TIF arrangement with Machias Savings Bank the bank guaranteed the creation of a certain number of jobs; he asked if jobs would be created with this TIF? Mr. Bell explained that there would be job retention; he noted that the facility has fifty year-round jobs and forty-five to fifty seasonal positions. He mentioned the possibility of a handful of new jobs being created but he was uncertain about the number. Mr. Loughlin asked what the value of the proposed new project would be and Mr. Bell noted that the project is estimated at seven million dollars. Mr. Carter pointed out that the building permit application states that the project is estimated at a little over two million dollars. Mr. Bell said that he had not seen the application and he explained that the permit would need to be revised to reflect a better estimation of the costs.

Mr. Bell asked the Board to consider working with Cherryfield Foods/Maine Wild Blueberry on a TIF arrangement and to discuss the concept at their next meeting. Mr. Carter asked if the company is willing to shoulder all the costs of the TIF and both Mr. Bell and Mr. Bowker agreed that the company would pay for all the costs of setting up the TIF if the Town decides to participate. Mr. Carter pointed out that citizens would have vote to approve a TIF agreement. Mr. Bell thanks the Board for listening to the

presentation.

6. BAY AREA TRANSFER STATION CONTRACTS

Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that Bay Area Transfer Station contracts have been sent to contract towns for signatures. He noted that the Board will sign the contracts when they are returned.

7. BIDS ON CLEANING SIPHON CHAMBER/SEWER LINES

Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that four requests for bids on cleaning the siphon chamber and sewer lines were sent out. He added that no bids for the work were returned to the Town. Mr. Loughlin said that he would solicit bids on the project again. Mr. Carter suggested personally calling the contractors regarding the work which needs to be done in order to encourage interest in the project.

8. PAYMENT ALLOCATION FOR SEWER PAYMENTS RECEIVED

Mr. Loughlin told the Board that the town's policy on delinquent sewer payments is to apply payments received to the oldest account owed by the sewer user. He noted that if the Board wants to change the payment procedure that policy would need to be revised.

9. CLOSURE OF TOWN OFFICE FOR BUSINESS ON ELECTION DAY

Mr. Loughlin recommended that the Machias Town Office be closed to regular business on Election Day November 4th due to the voter turn-out expected that day.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board
VOTED:

To close the Machias Town Office to regular business on Election Day, Tuesday, November 4th.

10. TRAILER PARK - REQUEST FOR REDUCED RATE

Mrs. Elaine Cale discussed the status of the Dublin Street Trailer Park's sewer billing with the Board. Mr. Loughlin explained that Mrs. Cale is requesting that the charges for the fourth quarter of 2013 and the first and second quarters of 2014 be reduced. He recommended reducing the amount owed for each of these quarters to \$1625.45 per quarter. The Board reviewed the request.

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

To reduce the sewer bills for the fourth quarter of 2013 and the first and second quarters of 2014 to \$1625.45 per quarter on the Dublin Street Trailer Park sewer account.

Mrs. Cale pointed out that the interest has been accruing on the 2014 sewer charges for the trailer park since she was advised to hold off paying anything on this account until the problems were resolved; she asked that the Board eliminate the interest for 2014 since she was advised to wait before addressing these accounts. Mr. Carter suggested that the Board take this request under advisement and discuss it at their next meeting. Mrs. Cale thanked the Board for their consideration.

11. RESERVE OFFICER COMPENSATION FOR SPECIAL DUTY ASSIGNMENTS

Chief of Police Grady Dwelley explained to the Board that his department has been inundated with requests for special duty assignments such as police protection at the Fairpoint facility on Broadway. He asked the Board if they would consider compensating reserve police officers at the rate of eighteen dollars per hour for special duty assignments in order to attract these officers to take the extra duties. The members of the Board discussed the request with the Chief. Mr. Carter pointed out that there would need to be some way to note the hourly rate for special assignments on an officer's time card; Chief Dwelley explained that he submits a separate invoice for special duty hours.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board
VOTED:

To compensate reserve police officers for reimbursed special duty details at the rate of eighteen dollars per hour.

12. MANAGER'S REPORT/OTHER BUSINESS

A. Mr. Loughlin recommended that Mr. Cecile Leigle's employment with the Town be extended for two weeks.

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

To extend Mr. Cecil Leigle's employment with the Town of Machias for an additional two weeks to be paid out of the Public Works budget.

B. Mr. Loughlin advised the members of the Board that the State is pushing Machias to extend the airport runway. He noted that the Town has pushed back the runway extension project to 2017. Mr. Loughlin pointed out that due to new matching fund requirements from the federal government Machias will be expected to pay between \$260,000. to \$270,000. towards the project,

C. Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that the Town has received a \$2668.90 bill from its attorney for legal advice on the DEP sewer fine.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board
VOTED:

To pay the Town's attorney the sum of \$2668.90 from the sewer account.

D. Mr. Loughlin advised the Board that Mike Schoppee was hired effective 10/13/14 which was a holiday. He asked the Board for direction since Mr. Schoppee did not technically start in his new position until 10/14/14.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board

VOTED:

That since Mr. Mike Schoppee's official date of hire was 10/13/14 that he be paid holiday pay for Columbus

Day.

E. Mr. Loughlin reported that there was an overflow incident at the siphon chamber on 10/17/14. He also reported to the Board that granite stones were found thrown into the sewer. Mr. Bialotta reported that he is looking at locking the manhole since this has happened before and the DEP wants a plan of action to address the problem.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM.