

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - TOWN OF MACHIAS

JANUARY 11, 2017

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Machias Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:07 PM by Chairman Aubrey Carter. In attendance were Board members Warren Gay, James Whalen, Leslie Haynes, and Josh Rolfe; Town Manager Christina Therrien; Secretary Cathy Lord; Public Works Director Mike Schoppee; Ed Pellon, Cat Cannon, Bob Berta, Dana Melair.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Josh Rolfe, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the December 28, 2016 Board meeting.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

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

To approve municipal warrant #58 in the amount of \$15,185.81; to approve municipal warrant #59 in the amount of \$663,795.73; to approve municipal warrant #60 in the amount of \$12,462.77; and, to approve municipal warrant #61 in the amount of \$50,108.17 .

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

To approve school warrant #28 in the amount of \$213,801.20 .

3. AMBULANCE CONTRACTS - BOARD SIGNATURES

Ms. Therrien noted that signed ambulance contracts have been returned from Jonesboro, East Machias, Cutler, and Machiasport.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Leslie Haynes, the Board
VOTED:

To accept the ambulance contracts as presented.

The members of the Board signed the ambulance contracts. Mr. Rolfe asked what would happen if there was a change to the rates during the course of a contract; Ms. Therrien commented that the contract towns would usually accept a change in rates if this happens.

4. LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL - HELEN'S RESTAURANT

The Board reviewed a liquor license renewal submitted by Helen's Restaurant (food

income of \$900,000. and liquor income of \$90,000.).

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

VOTED:

To approve a liquor license renewal for Helen's Restaurant.

5. LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL - BLUEBIRD RANCH RESTAURANT

The Board reviewed a liquor license renewal submitted by the Bluebird Ranch (JH & B Inc.) Restaurant (food income of \$1,264,004.66 and liquor income of \$52,528.59).

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

VOTED:

To approve a liquor license renewal for the Bluebird Ranch Restaurant (JH & B Inc.)

6. FORFEITURE OF FUNDS AND EQUIPMENT

Ms. Therrien called the Board's attention to a 12/19/16 letter from the district attorney to Police Chief Grady Dwelley regarding the State v. Holly Pellon, Dwight Alley and \$10,142.00 US Currency and a 2002 Chevrolet Pickup Truck for the forfeiture of the money seized in both cases and a forfeiture of the truck in the Alley case.

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

VOTED:

To accept the seized money and pickup truck provided that no fees or attachments exist on the pick-up.

Ms. Therrien noted that the money and the funds from the sale of the pick-up truck must be used for the purchase of equipment for the Machias Police Department.

7. ADJUSTMENT OF BILLING RATES FOR AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that Comstar Ambulance Billing Service is now completing ambulance billing for the Town of Machias. She asked if the Board would consider a rate increase based on a review of what other ambulance services are charging. The Board reviewed a data sheet of ambulance rates charged by some other ambulance services compared to the rates currently charged by the Machias Ambulance Service. Ms. Therrien noted that the service is losing out by not charging rates that insurance companies will reimburse for services. Mr. Whalen commented that he would not approve of a rate increase if it impacts the ability of older citizens to pay for services and that he would really question the need to increase the rates. He pointed out that the MAS rates are within range of the Medicare rates. Ms. Therrien pointed out that MAS is still losing money on the Medicare charges. Mr. Carter made the observation that the ambulance fund is in good standing; he suggested waiting to raise rates until sometime in the future and to not raise the rates just because other services are charging more. Mr.

Whalen agreed that the rates should not be raised on the backs of the people needing services. Mr. Gay agreed with not raising the rates at the present time. Mr. Rolfe commented that he sees no benefit to taxpayers by raising the rates at the present time.

On a motion by Aubrey Carte, seconded by James Whalen, the Board

VOTED:

To not raise ambulance rates at the present time.

8. ACCEPTANCE OF MUNICIPAL AUDIT FOR 7/1/15 TO 6/30/16

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

VOTED:

To accept the municipal audit dated July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

9. BID OPENING FOR LOADER/BACKHOE

Members of the Board opened bids received on the lease/purchase of a new loader/backhoe for the Public Works Department with trade-ins (old loader/backhoe and skidsteer).

Bids:

#1) Beaugard Equipment (Herman, Me.) - \$103,050. purchase price of Case loader/backhoe

- 23,000. loader (trade-in allowance)
- 11,000. skidster with attachments (trade-in allowance)
- \$72,050. Total Purchase Price

Payment Options for this Bid:

3 year loan payment of \$24,854.49 (3.53% APR)

4 year loan payment of \$19,011.06 (3.72% APR)

5 year loan payment of \$15,521.65 (3.86% APR)

#2) Nortrax Inc. (Herman, Me.) - \$103,500. purchase price of John Deere loader/backhoe

- 20,000. loader (trade-in allowance)
- 12,000. skidster with attachments (trade-in allowance)
- \$71,500. Total Purchase Price

Payment Options for this Bid:

3 year loan payment of \$25,555.26 (3.50% APR)

4 year loan payment of \$19,497.38 (3.50% APR)

5 year loan payment of \$15,865.61 (3.50% APR)

The Board reviewed the payment options included with the two bids and did a

comparison of the payment options. Mr. Dana Melair, representing Nortrax Inc., highlighted aspects of his company's bid. The Board discussed the option of leasing or purchasing the loader/backhoe. Ms. Therrien noted that there is the option of obtaining a bank loan to purchase the loader/backhoe outright. Mr. Carter suggested accepting the low bid to purchase the loader/backhoe and going out for bids to local banks for the funding of the purchase.

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

To accept the bid submitted by Nortrax Inc. at the purchase price of \$71,500. for a John Deere loader/backhoe subject to obtaining a bank bid to fund the purchase.

Mr. Carter asked Mr. Melair when the trade-in equipment would be picked up; Mr. Melair advised that the old loader/backhoe and the skid steer would be picked up on the day of the delivery of the new loader/backhoe.

10. RENEWAL OF PAWNBROKER'S LICENSE - MAIN STREET DISCOUNT

The Board reviewed a renewal application for a pawnbroker's license for Main Street Discount.

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

To approve a renewal of a pawnbroker's license for Main Street Discount.

11. BOUNDARY SURVEY WITH TOWN OF WHITNEYVILLE

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that the bid information on the boundary line survey has been provided to Mr. Nate Pennell for his review. She noted that the low bidder's references have been checked and the recommendation is to award the work to the low bidder who submitted a bid of \$9,665. (Boynton & Pickett LLC (Showhegan, Me.).

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

To award the bid to determine the Machias/Whitneyville boundary line to Boynton & Pickett LCC at the bid price of \$9,665.

12. AIRPORT UPDATE

Ms. Therrien reported on the removal of trees at the airport. She reported that she is discussing tree removal with property owners who own property near the airport. Ms. Therrien explained that she has a quote of \$56.00 per hour for a worker with a chainsaw and \$150. per hour for a worker with a skidsteer. She estimated a cost of approximately \$2000. for tree removal. The Board authorized the Town Manager to proceed with getting the work completed for the amount quoted.

13. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

A. The Board signed two additional pieces of documentation for the Community Development Block Grant for the sewer project. The members of the Board signed the residential anti-displacement relocation document and the equal employment opportunity policy document.

B. Ms. Therrien noted that thank-you cards are to be sent to the donors of the heat pump for the airport building.

C. Ms. Therrien discussed a schedule of dates for budget development/review. The Board agreed to hold budget meetings after regularly scheduled Board meetings at 7:00 PM and on off Wednesdays at 7:00 PM as needed to starting on January 25th.

14. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Mr. Whalen noted the need to finish the municipal parking ordinance.

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

VOTED:

To schedule a meeting to finish the municipal parking ordinance within the next two selectmen's meetings.

B. Mr. Whalen asked for an update on the ambulance. Ms. Therrien reported that a tie-rod has been replaced and that the vehicle has an inspection sticker.

C. Ms. Therrien reported that she is working on the Board's directive to list the telebusiness center with a realtor.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Leslie Haynes, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 PM.