

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - TOWN OF MACHIAS

APRIL 12, 2017

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Machias Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00 PM by Vice Chairman Warren Gay. In attendance were Board members James Whalen, Leslie Haynes, and Josh Rolfe; Town Manager Christina Therrien; Secretary Cathy Lord; Finance Director Meagan Dennison; Ed Pellon, Sandi Malagara, Martha Washington, Reagan Smith, George Washington, Lynette Smith, Bill Kitchen, Bob Berta.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Leslie Haynes, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2017 Board meeting.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

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

To approve municipal warrant #86 in the amount of \$12,751.46 and, to approve municipal warrant #87 in the amount of \$417,427.07.

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

To approve school warrant #42 in the amount of \$228,240.03 .

3. BIDS FOR PRINTING OF ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

Members of the Board opened bids received for printing 650 copies of the 2017 annual town report.

Bids:

Jiffy Print - \$2520.15

Bangor Letter Shop - \$2628.20

Albison's Printing - \$1854.90

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by James Whalen, the Board
VOTED:

To award the bid for the printing of 650 copies of the 2017 annual town report per the bid specifications to Albison's Printing for the bid price of \$1854.90 .

4. AWARD OF PROJECT CANOPY GRANT

Ms. Therrien reported to the Board that the greenspace sub-committee of the town's revitalization committee had applied for a 2017 Planting and Maintenance grant under the Project Canopy Assistance Program for the planting of trees in the downtown area. Ms. Therrien

called the Board's attention to a March 17th letter from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation, & Forestry advising of approval of a grant of \$8000. to the Town of Machias. Ms. Sandi Malagara, representing the revitalization committee, noted that the grant requires an in-kind funding match from the Town. She noted that the committee has \$1000. from a local bank and pledges of over \$9000. from in-kind and financial donations.

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

VOTED:

To accept the \$8000. Project Canopy grant for the Town of Machias and to authorize the Town Manager to sign the general assurances for the federally funded grant and to sign the contract for the grant on behalf of the Town.

Mr. Rolfe asked about the reimbursement of funding since the Town must document matching funds of \$8000. Mrs. Dennison explained that the match is allocated from designated funds and can only be spent on this project.

5. SCHEDULING OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Ms. Therrien suggested that the Board schedule a special town meeting for the purpose of borrowing an amount not to exceed \$950,000. to finance costs of the sewer project. She suggested that the Board schedule this meeting on April 26th at 6:00 PM immediately prior to the regular selectmen's meeting.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by James Whalen, the Board

VOTED:

To schedule a special town meeting on 4/26/17 at 6:00 PM for authorization to proceed with securing the loan for the sewer project.

The Board requested that the Town Manager place notices for the meeting as soon as possible to enable citizens to attend the meeting.

6. REQUEST TO BURN BUILDING - MACHIAS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Therrien advised the Board of a request from Bill & Gretchen Cherry asking that the Machias Fire Department burn a building located at 429 Kennebec Road. Ms. Therrien noted that Mr. Cherry will make a donation of \$500. to the fire department and will clean up the site after the building is burned.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by James Whalen, the Board

VOTED:

To authorize the Machias Fire Department to burn a building located at 429 Kennebec Road as requested by Bill & Gretchen Cherry with the understanding that a donation of \$500. is to be made to the fire department and that the burn site will be cleaned in a timely manner as outlined in the request.

7. BAD LITTLE FALLS/TENNIS COURT PROPERTY - LEASE AGREEMENTS

Ms. Therrien gave a status update as requested by Mr. Whalen on the Bad Little Falls Park and tennis court properties. She told the Board that both properties are owned by the State of Maine, not the Town of Machias. Ms. Therrien noted that the State gives Machias long-term leases to use the properties and that the State is now in the processing of renewing the leases.

8. SEWER ABATEMENT REQUEST FROM MICHELLE RAY

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that she had met with Ms. Ray and reviewed/discussed the sewer bills for Ms. Ray's Water Street property with her. Ms. Therrien noted that Ms. Ray now understands the bills and agrees that she owes the amounts outlined in the bills and has agreed to pay \$100. per month as a good-will effort to pay for the charges. Ms. Therrien noted that she will draft a written agreement between Ms. Ray and the Town. Ms. Therrien suggested that the Board could abate the \$50.19 amount and credit it towards the outstanding charges.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by James Whalen, the Board

VOTED:

To abate \$50.19 of Ms. Ray's sewer charges on her Water Street property and apply this amount to the outstanding charges owed on the property; and, to agree to enter into a payment plan of \$100. per month with Ms. Ray on the outstanding charges until the full amount is paid off.

9. SEWER RATE INCREASE CONSIDERATION FOR 2017-2018

The Board indicated they would like to discuss a sewer rate increase with the members of the budget committee during budget discussions.

10. MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION - AWARD OF PAVING CONTRACT

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that in a March 23, 2017 letter the Maine Department of Transportation has advised that the contract for paving state roads in this area of Washington County has been awarded to Lane Construction Company.

11. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Ms. Therrien gave the Board a report on tree removal at the municipal airport. She also advised the Board that the specifications for the airport building and road have gone out for bids.

B. Ms. Therrien reported that the new backhoe has been delivered but has a missing heating block which will be installed.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Mr. Whalen advised the Board that at the April meeting of the Machias Planning Board the planning board members recommended that a oversized map be displayed in the Machias Town

Office overlaying the revised floodplain zoning areas to show property owners changes the State is making to the floodplain in Machias; he added that the Board also requested that letters be sent out to affected property owners advising them of the status of their property in the floodplain area. Ms. Therrien noted that she has called the State Planning Office and Judy East for assistance on the maps and the Town should have a map showing the affected areas within Machias by next week to display in the town office.

B. Mr. Whalen noted that the Machias Police Department costs the taxpayers approximately \$333,000. per year with almost no income revenue. He suggested that a committee of five citizens could study the department and make some recommendations for improvements. Mr. Rolfe noted that he would like to have a discussion with the police chief before making any plans for a citizen committee to look at the department. Ms. Therrien said that she will ask the police chief to be in attendance at the Board's next meeting to share information.

On a motion by Leslie Haynes, seconded by James Whalen , the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 PM.