

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN - TOWN OF MACHIAS

DECEMBER 20, 2017

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Machias Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Warren Gay. In attendance were Board members Josh Rolfe, Leslie Haynes, Bill Kitchen, and Paula Johnson-Rolfe; Town Manager Christina Therrien; Secretary Cathy Lord; Mike Schoppee, Tom Schaffer, Ed Pellon, David Clark, Mary Angarola, Bob Berta.

### 1. BOARD MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Bill Kitchen, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2017 Board meeting as presented.

### 2. MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, the Board VOTED:

To approve municipal warrant #51 in the amount of \$13,531.31; to approve municipal warrant #52 in the amount of \$676,647.91; to approve municipal warrant #53 in the amount of \$14,009.12; and, to approve municipal warrant #54 in the amount of \$53,585.08 .

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, the Board VOTED:

To approve school warrant #23 in the amount of \$200,835.22 .

### 3. ACTION ON MACHIAS TRAFFIC ORDINANCE

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Paula Johnson Rolfe, the Board

VOTED: To adopt the Machias Traffic Ordinance with the revisions as discussed by the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager.

### 4. WCCOG CONTRACTS FOR COASTAL GRANT

Ms. Therrien reviewed the components and scope of work to be completed by the Washington County Council of Governments on the coastal grant. Ms. Therrien noted that compensation to WCCOG for their work is for an amount not to exceed \$13,000.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Bill Kitchen, the Board VOTED:

To sign an agreement with the Washington County Council of Governments for work to be completed on the coastal grant with compensation for the work not to exceed \$13,000.

## 5. AMBULANCE AND FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACTS

The Board reviewed and signed ambulance contracts with Northfield, Marshfield, East Machias, Whiting, Whitneyville, Machiasport, and the University of Maine at Machias and fire protection contracts with Whitneyville and Northfield.

## 6. SALE OF AMBULANCE - BID OPENING

The Board opened one bid received in response to an advertisement to sell the surplus 2000 ambulance.

Bid: Jerry Blackburn - \$607.00

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, the Board  
VOTED:

To accept the bid of Jerry Blackburn in the amount of \$607. for the surplus ambulance.

## 7. MR. TOM SCHAFFER - WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST

Mr. Tom Schaffer, state wildlife biologist, discussed the state's overview of the local deer population. He noted that the deer herd has increased in some areas like Machias due to moderations in the coastal climate and in response to a reduction of the predator population. He recommended maintaining the current number of permits currently being used in the zone in which Machias is located and that the State will be evaluating the number of does being killed in the zone and how this affects the deer population. Mr. Ed Pellon asked about the people are complaining about the deer. Ms. Therrien explained that a few residents of Machias have expressed concerns about the tick problem. Mr. Pellon pointed out that many, many older citizens enjoy watching the wildlife. Mr. Gay commented that he does not see that there is a problem with the number of deer in the area. Mr. Rolfe commented that he would defer to the strategies being utilized by the State to control the deer population. Mr. Schaffer explained that the State will examine the tag results and make a determination based on these results. Mr. Gay noted that the Town will continue to monitor its deer population. Ms. Therrien and the Board thanked Mr. Schaffer for speaking about the deer population.

## 8. AIRPORT MATCHING FUNDS FOR FUTURE PROJECTS

Ms. Therrien noted that a complete rehab of the airport is scheduled for next year to include fuel sales and hangers. She noted that the loans for the rehab dictate that there will be \$250,000. in matching local funding. Ms. Therrien noted that this amount will be offset by whatever amount is raised by the airport committee towards the project. The Town Manager noted that funding should be in place by May and she suggested that the Board of Selectmen go to the voters to ask for permission to pursue a loan for the matching funds. The Board and the Town Manager discussed scheduling a special town meeting seeking permission to pursue a loan for the matching funds.

## 9. CONSIDERATION OF EXCISE TAX REFUND

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

To refund Mr. Abbandonato's vehicle excise tax.

Mr. Rolfe noted that the letter received from the State refers to differing circumstances than Mr. Abbandonato had originally disclosed to the Board but that he would defer to the Division of Vehicle Services.

## 10. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Therrien noted that an e-mail was received regarding the lighting units for the top of college hill and that the e-mail explains a delay in the purchase of the units and the substitution in the size of the posts for the units.

## 11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, the Board  
VOTED:

To adjourn to executive session at 6:50 PM to consider a poverty tax abatement under M.R.S.A. Title I Chapter 405 subsection 6(F).

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, the Board  
VOTED:

To adjourn the executive session at 7:00 PM and reconvene into open session.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Bill Kitchen, the Board  
VOTED:

To deny the poverty tax abatement request based upon the monthly income received, the 100% of poverty rate amount, and the amount of monthly household expenses.

On a motion by Leslie Haynes, seconded by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 PM.