

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - TOWN OF MACHIAS

DECEMBER 28, 2016

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, James Whalen, Leslie Haynes, and Josh Rolfe; Town Manager Christina Therrien; Secretary Cathy Lord; Ed Pellon, Andrew Mulholland, Dale Lambert, Cat Cannon, Bob Berta.

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 14, 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 #54 in the amount of \$14,203.15; to approve municipal warrant #55 in the amount of \$90,226.61; to approve municipal warrant #56 in the amount of \$15,501.70; and, to approve municipal warrant #57 in the amount of \$53,542.66 .

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

VOTED:

To approve school warrant #26 in the amount of \$209,366.87 .

3. AMBULANCE CONTRACTS - BOARD SIGNATURES

The Board signed returned ambulance service contracts from the University of Maine at Machias, the Town of Marshfield, and the Town of Northfield.

4. APPOINTMENT PAPERS/BLUEBIRD MOTEL SEWER AGREEMENT - BOARD SIGNATURES

The Board signed appointment papers for recently appointed employees and they signed the sewer discharge agreement with the Bluebird Motel discussed at the Board's last meeting

5. DATE FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Ms. Therrien suggested scheduling a special town meeting for January 11th to ask for citizen approval on the lease/purchase of a new backhoe/loader.

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

VOTED:

To schedule a special town meeting on January 11, 2017 at 6:00 PM.

6. BID OPENING - BOUNDARY SURVEY

Members of the Board opened bids for the boundary survey to establish the location of the Whitneyville/Machias boundary line.

Bids: Boynton & Pickett LLC (Skowhegan, Me.)

Part I - \$5,640. Part II - \$1,200. Part III - \$125. Part IV - \$2,700. Total - \$9,665.

West Falls Surveying (Machias, Me.)

Part I - \$7,000. Part II - \$1,500. Part III - \$50. Part IV - \$2,500. Total - \$11,050.

CES Inc. (Machias, Me.)

Part I - \$6,500. Part II - \$1,500. Part III - \$1,500. Part IV - \$3,000.

Total - \$12,500.

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

VOTED:

To table the boundary line bids in order to allow time to share the bid information with the Town of Whitneyville.

Mr. Andrew Mulholland (West Falls Surveying) asked if the other two bidders had provided performance bonds. He asked about the need to provide a performance bond for the work to be done on the boundary line. He noted that it had been very difficult for him to obtain a performance bond due to the type of work involved with establishing a specific boundary.

7. CDBG DOCUMENTATION FOR PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT/PUBLIC HEARING DATE

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that a public hearing has been scheduled on January 9th at 4:00 PM to review acceptance of Community Development Block Grant funds for the sewer upgrade. She noted that she would complete the self-evaluation and the transition plan as part of the required paperwork. Mr. Whalen asked if the Town has to provide a matching amount; Ms. Therrien noted that the DEP loan which has already been accepted by the Board is to be used as the grant match. Mr. Whalen commented that he wants to see where the funds are actually going. Ms. Therrien explained that Olver Associates will provide a report on the actual breakdown of the costs for the Board to review.

Ms. Therrien explained the paperwork to be completed for the CDBG funds - 504 certification, fair housing resolution, fair housing self-assessment, standards of conduct, and prohibition against conflicts of interest.

8. AMBULANCE BID SPECIFICATIONS/ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS

Ms. Therrien reported that she had reviewed the ambulance bid specifications and made changes as needed.

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

VOTED:

To proceed with publishing the bid specifications for the purchase of a new ambulance for the Machias Ambulance Service.

9. PROPOSAL FOR WIRELESS INTERNET IN BOARD ROOM

Ms. Therrien reviewed an estimate to provide wireless internet in the Board's meeting room at a cost of \$404.98 (Axiom Technologies). Mr. Rolfe commented that he believes the actual expense is under \$100.

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

VOTED:

To install wireless internet in the Board's meeting room with the cost not to exceed \$100.

10. REQUEST ON CODE ENFORCMENT OFFICER'S POSITION

Mr. Dale Lambert, a resident of Elm Street, addressed the Board. He asked the Board to consider him for the Code Enforcement Officer's position. Mr. Carter commented that the Town currently has a CEO. Mr. Lambert also made a request that the speed limit on Elm Street be enforced by the police department. Mr. Carter asked Mr. Lambert to address a letter regarding concerns to the Board signed by residents of Elm Street. Mr. Carter thanked Mr. Lambert for discussing these concerns with the Board.

11. RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA MORATORIUM

Ms. Therrien asked the Board if they wanted to consider placement of this issue on the warrant for the special town meeting. Mr. Rolfe suggested that the Board sit back and take into consideration what is happening in other communities before making any decisions about a moratorium. The other members of the Board agreed.

12. MACHIAS TELEBUSINESS CENTER DISCUSSION

Mr. Whalen pointed out that at the present time the telebusiness center is empty and providing no revenue to the town; he suggested that the Board consider other options regarding the building. The Board discussed either selling or leasing the building.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Leslie Haynes, the Board

VOTED:

To authorize the Town Manager to place the telebusiness center up for sale or rent.

Mr. Whalen recommended that the property be placed with a real estate agent from either the Bangor or Portland area.

13. BOARD COMMENTS - MACHIAS TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Ms. Therrien noted that the committee which worked on the transportation study would like to have feedback on the study. Mr. Gay commented that he believes the number one priority is the junction of Rt. #1 and the Kennebec Road; other members of the Board agreed with Mr. Gay. Ms. Therrien recommended that something be done on Steel Hill, relocating the crosswalks on upper Main Street, and addressing the corner of Elm Street. Mr. Whalen suggested having a joint meeting with representatives of the Maine Department of Transportation to discuss what the MDOT can help with. Ms. Therrien advised the Board that the MDOT will assist the Town with Steel Hill but will not finance the entire project and she noted that the MDOT is willing to contribute half of the cost of the Kennebec Road project but that the only project the MDOT will finance completely is the Elm Street corner. Ms. Therrien asked the Board how they wanted to proceed. Mr. Rolfe commented that the Town does not have the funds to complete these projects and therefore will have to wait to see what the MDOT is willing to do. Members of the Board noted that they have reviewed the transportation study but since the Town has no funding at the present time they will take the study under advisement.

14. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Ms. Therrien advised the members of the Board that the Town has received sealed purchase offers for the foreclosed properties located on Free Street and West Street. She reminded the Board that neither property received bids after being advertised. The Board opened the purchase offers received. Ms. Therrien reviewed the outstanding fees and taxes owed on each property.

Bid - 7 Free Street - Meghen Latimer: \$3,600. to be paid at the end of January with an addition \$3,000. paid at the end of March. Total bid of \$6,600.

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

VOTED:

To accept the offer to purchase the property located at 7 Free Street from Meghen Latimer in the total amount of \$6,600. with the total amount to be paid in full by April 1, 2017.

Bid - 38 West Street - Paula Johnson Rolfe & Cody Johnson - \$5,525.11

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

VOTED:

Pending the attorney's review of the town's foreclosure actions taken on property located at 38 West Street, to accept the offer to purchase the property from Paula Johnson Rolfe & Cody Rolfe in the amount of \$5,525.11 .

B. Ms. Therrien noted that as of January 1st there is a new minimum wage; she noted that there is some impact on town employees who work at the transfer station and ambulance drivers.

C. Ms. Therrien noted that the members of the Board have been given copies of a letter from the Department of Environmental Protection, the January 11th special town meeting warrant, and the notice for a January 9th public hearing to comply with Title VI requirements.

15. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Whalen noted the increased incidents of deaths locally due to drug overdoses and he suggested the possibility of distributing Narcan. The Board briefly discussed the drug problem in the local area. Mr. Rolfe expressed concern about the exposure to liability issues by providing Narcan to the public. Mr. Whalen commented that at the least the public needs to start a conversation about the drug situation.

On a motion by Warren Gay, seconded by Josh Rolfe, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM.