

**BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS
FEBRUARY 10, 2021**

A meeting of the Machias Board of Selectpeople was called to order via the Zoom platform at 6:00 PM by Chairman Josh Rolfe. In attendance were Board members Paula Johnson-Rolfe, James Jackson, and Leslie Haynes; Town Manager Christina Therrien; Secretary Cathy Lord; Town Clerk Sandra Clifton; Finance Director Meghan Dennison; Police Chief Todd Hand; Mary Angarola, Deborah Haynes, Amanda Gardner, Sarah Dedmond Craighead, Carole Porcher, Rich Rolfe, Ann Marie Evans, Bob Berta.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2021 Board meeting.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

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

To approve municipal warrant #63 in the amount of \$67,180.52; to approve municipal warrant #64 in the amount of \$16,553.25; to approve municipal warrant #65 in the amount of \$650,999.69; to approve municipal warrant #66 in the amount of \$21,853.46; and, to approve municipal warrant #67 in the amount of \$63,438.31 .

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

To approve school warrant #21221 in the amount of \$165,475.88 .

3. RESIGNATION - MACHIAS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that Dustin Matsy is resigning from his full-time position in the fire department; she informed the Board that Mr. Matsy is willing to cover the twenty-four hour per week part-time position. Ms. Therrien suggested to the Board that Adam Paul be offered the full-time position in the fire department that Mr. Matsy is resigning from and offer the twenty-four hour part-time position to Mr. Matsy. Mr. Rolfe noted that his only worry was that this personnel hiring meets collective bargaining guidelines. Ms. Therrien said that she did not see any problems with collective bargaining stipulations. The Board discussed hiring Mr. Matsy and Mr. Paul as suggested by the Town Manager. It was the consensus of the Board to make the position appointments as recommended.

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

To support the Town Manager's recommendation to accept the resignation of Dustin Matsy and to hire him to fill the twenty-four hour per week part-time position and to offer the full-time position in the fire department to Adam Paul.

4. REPORT ON PUBLIC WORKS TRUCK

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that the one-ton public works truck broke down. She pointed out to the Board that there had been previous discussions regarding purchasing another truck and she suggested that she would develop specifications for the purchase of a one-ton truck. Ms. Therrien pointed out that there are some funds left in the budget which could be appropriated for the purchase of a truck; she advised the Board that she would like to get some quotes to see what the approximate cost would be. The Board discussed Ms. Therrien's suggestions; it was the consensus of the Board to ask that the Town Manager look into vehicle specifications and get some quotes on a one-ton truck.

5. CDBG ADVISORY COMMITTEE - SEWER PROJECT

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that the Community Development Block Grant program for the sewer project requires formation of an advisory committee. She recommended that the following people be appointed to the sewer project CDBG advisory committee:

James Jackson - Board of Selectpeople
Paula Johnson-Rolfe - Board of Selectpeople
Christina Therrien - Town Manager
Mike Schoppee - Public Works Director
Chuck Croan - Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator
Betsy Fitzgerald - Code Enforcement Officer
Bill Thompson - Planning Board Chairman
Bill Kitchen - Citizen
Ann Marie Evans - Citizen/Budget Committee

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

To establish a CDBG advisory committee composed of the members as suggested by the Town Manager.

6. BUDGET COMMITTEE VACANCY

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that she received no further communication from anyone interested in serving on the budget committee; she noted that there are two people interested in appointment to the budget committee and they are Rich Rolfe and Carole Porcher. The Board discussed the two candidates' backgrounds and how to proceed.

The Board considered this motion made by James Jackson:
To appoint Carole Porcher to the Machias Budget Committee

Motion failed due to a lack of a second on the motion

The Board considered this motion made by Leslie Haynes:
To appoint Rich Rolfe to the Machias Budget Committee

Motion failed due to a lack of a second on the motion

Ms. Porcher commented that it would be difficult to have a wife and husband on town boards serving at the same time. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe pointed out that it was Mr. Rolfe who volunteered to serve on the budget committee during a Board meeting two meetings ago. Chief Hand said that it was obvious why the Board did not take action at that time or at the last meeting. Mr. Rolfe explained that the Board did not act on an appointment at their last meeting because it was thought there was no hurry and it was thought that the Board had more than sufficient time to make the appointment; in the meantime, it was thought that the Board would continue to solicit any other interest. Mr. Jackson suggested that Ms. Porcher could abstain during discussions of the police department budget since she volunteers for the police department.

Mr. Jackson commented that there are many budget meetings and theorized that Mr. Rolfe could be "spreading yourself thin" by volunteering for the budget committee. Mr. Rich said that he has no problem with meeting any commitments he makes. Ms. Porcher told the Board that she is retired, has been a resident of Machias for four years, and would like to serve her new community. She added that she could abstain from decisions regarding the police department if she were appointed to the budget committee and that she would handle the appointment in a professional manner. Mr. Rolfe noted that he has been a resident of Machias since 2004, has worked on the county budget over the last eight years, has experience in budget development, and he told the Board that he is interested in helping out.

Mr. Rolfe asked what the will of the Board was? Mr. Rolfe commented that there is no question regarding any candidate's professionalism and commitment. He pointed out that there are two worthy candidates who want to serve on an advisory board. Ms. Deborah Haynes said that she would encourage the Board to consider Mr. Rolfe for the appointment and she pointed out that it was Mr. Rolfe who first expressed interest in serving on the committee. Ms. Evans said that she would be willing to remove herself from the budget committee so that Ms. Porcher could serve. She added that she could continue to attend budget meetings and participate as a Machias citizen. Ms. Porcher said that she does not want to see Ms. Evans step down. Mr. Haynes questioned if both candidates could be put on the committee? Mr. Rolfe noted that the budget committee is made up of three members at the current time; he added that membership on the committee changes to five members in June. Ms. Dennison asked if the Board could consider adding an alternate member such as the planning board has? Ms. Therrien pointed out that there can only be three members on the budget committee at the present time.

Mr. Rolfe suggested that this item can be placed on the Board's next meeting agenda to allow time for the members of the Board to consider how to proceed. Mr. Jackson agreed. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe said that she would like to see the Board make a decision at tonight's meeting. She said that she objected to the Police Chief's characterization that the Board was maliciously doing things by having postponed action at earlier Board meetings. Mr. Haynes agreed that a decision needs to be made. Ms. Therrien suggested that a good option would be that Ms. Evans could act as a mentor to new members if the Board were to appoint Ms. Porcher and Mr. Rolfe. Ms. Evans said that she was submitting her resignation from the budget committee and would like to attend budget meetings and work with new committee members in a mentoring capacity.

On a motion by James Jackson, seconded by Josh Rolfe, the Board
VOTED:
To accept Ms. Evans resignation from the Machias Budget Committee.

On a motion by James Jackson, seconded by Leslie Haynes, the Board
VOTED:
To appoint Rich Rolfe and Carol Porcher to the Machias Budget Committee.

Vote on Motion: 3 to 0: Ms. Johnson-Rolfe abstained

7. RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA POLICY

Mr. Rolfe suggested that the Board set up a workshop to discuss the development of the recreational marijuana policy and to make changes to the medical marijuana policy. He suggested that the Board set a definite date for the workshop at their next regularly scheduled meeting in February.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Ms. Therrien explained to the Board that she plans to use vacation time next week; she also noted that town office personnel are interested in taking vacation time that week which could result in the town office needing to be closed if another employee needs to be absent because of medical care reasons. The Board discussed the possible need to close the town office for a day; the Board stated their support if the office needs to be closed if the employee needs to be absent.

B. Ms. Therrien advised the Board that she has met with department heads on budgets. She reminded the Board that budget meetings are scheduled on March 3rd and March 17th.

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by Leslie Haynes, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 PM.