BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS

MARCH 14, 2018

PUBLIC HEARING

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION

Attendance: Warren Gay, Josh Rolfe, Leslie Haynes, Bill Kitchen, Christina Therrien, Cathy Lord, Meghan Dennison, Grady Dwelley, Joey Dennison, Ed Pellon, David Clark, Mary Angarola, Robert Atwood, Deborah Atwood, Bob Berta, Sylvia Pouliot.

Town Manager Christina Therrien explained that the purpose of this public hearing is to review an application being submitted to the State of Maine Community Block Grant Program for a public infrastructure grant. She noted that the purpose of the grant is to conduct sewer improvements including replacement of a pump station with a siphon chamber in the Elm Street area. Ms. Therrien added that this is the last major project to be conducted to resolve bypass problems with the sewer system.

Mr. Gay asked for comments and questions on the application. In answer to a question from the audience regarding funding, Ms. Therrien explained that the funding from the Department of Environmental Protection is a 50 % grant/50% loan with a taxpayer local match of approximately $250,000 of the $1,500,000 project. She explained that the loan is considered a 25% match for CDBG purposes. Ms. Therrien discussed funding the local match and informed those present that the majority of the local match will probably be funded by local taxation.

The public hearing was closed at 6:08 PM.

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PUBLIC HEARING

SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT - SKYWALKER’S BAR & GRILLE

Attendance: Warren Gay, Josh Rolfe, Leslie Hynes, Bill Kitchen, Christina Therrien, Cathy Lord, Meghan Dennison, Grady Dwelley, Joey Dennison, Ed Pellon, David Clark, Mary Angarola, Robert Atwood, Deborah Atwood, Bob Berta, Sylvia Pouliot.

Town Manager Christina Therrien noted that under the Machias ordinance Skywalker’s Bar & Grille (86 Main Street) requires a special entertainment permit to conduct a live male review (dancing/entertainment) scheduled on March 16, 2018 from 7:00 PM to 1:00 AM. Ms. Therrien noted that the establishment’s application states that the entertainment is “male entertainers who will dance keeping within the Maine laws. This will be a tasteful show with no full nudity”. Mr. Rolfe commented that the live male revue is covered under the town’s ordinance as entertainment. Ms. Therrien explained that many
businesses in Machias should be applying for special entertainment permits to conduct live entertainment such as music and dancing. She noted that the Town is in the process of advising businesses of the need to adhere to the town’s special entertainment ordinance. Mr. Rolfe observed that it appears that any business with a liquor license should also think about applying for a special entertainment permit. Ms. Therrien explained that the fee for the permit is ten dollars. Mr. Gay asked for any other comments from the public.

The public hearing was closed at 6:18 PM.

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Machias Board of Selectpeople was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Warren Gay. In attendance were Board members Josh Rolfe, Leslie Haynes, Bill Kitchen; Town Manager Christina Therrien; Secretary Cathy Lord; Finance Director Meghan Dennison; Police Chief Grady Dwelley; Fire Chief Joey Dennison; Ed Pellon, David Clark, Mary Angarola, Robert Atwood, Deborah Atwood, Bob Berta, Sylvia Pouliot.

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 February 28, 2018 Board meeting as presented.

2. MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION
On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Bill Kitchen, the Board VOTED:
To approve municipal warrant #77 in the amount of $10,414.37; to approve municipal warrant #78 in the amount of $432,163.32; to approve municipal warrant #79 in the amount of $14,100.65; and to approve municipal warrant #80 in the amount of $31,010.06.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Bill Kitchen, the Board VOTED:
To approve school warrant #35 in the amount of $159,318.63.

3. SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT - SKYWALKERS BAR & GRILLE
On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Bill Kitchen, the Board VOTED:
To approve a special entertainment permit for Skywalkers Bar & Grille.

Vote on Motion: 3 votes in favor, 0 votes opposing; Mr. Gay abstained
Motion was Approved: 3 to 0
4. CDBG PUBLIC FACILITIES GRANT APPLICATION

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Bill Kitchen, the Board VOTED:
To authorize the submission of an application to the Community Development Block Grant program for a public infrastructure grant to conduct sewer improvements.

5. REQUEST - MAINE WILD BLUEBERRY - BURNING OF RECEIVING STATION/WAREHOUSE

Ms. Therrien advised the Board of a request from Maine Wild Blueberry asking that the Machias Fire Department burn an old receiving station/warehouse located adjacent to the wastewater treatment plant. Fire Chief Joey Dennison told the Board that the fire department will use this opportunity as a live fire training exercise.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Leslie Haynes, the Board VOTED:
To authorize the Machias Fire Department to use the burning of an old receiving station/warehouse owned by Maine Wild Blueberry as a training opportunity for live fire training exercises with the stipulation that Maine Wild pay the customary $500. fee to the Town and also once the burning is complete to clean the site of all debris.

6. FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST - ADDITION TO ROSTER

The Board reviewed a request to add a member to the Machias Fire Department roster.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Bill Kitchen, the Board VOTED:
Based upon the recommendation of the Fire Chief, to add Max Harvey to the roster of the Machias Fire Department with the stipulation that Mr. Harvey provide documentation of a fit-for-duty physical examination to the Town of Machias within six months as recommended by Maine Municipal Association.

7. MDOT MEETING RESCHEDULED ON REPLACEMENT OF CAUSEWAY

Ms. Therrien advised the members of the Board that the Maine Department of Transportation meeting on the replacement of the causeway has been rescheduled for Monday, April 2nd at the University of Maine at Machias science building on the campus.

8. CITIZEN SUGGESTION - ELECTRONIC DISPLAY SIGN AT TOWN OFFICE

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that a citizen has suggested that the Town purchase an electronic display sign which would be placed in front of the town office that would provide citizens with public information updates. Some members of the Board noted that these electronic boards can be very expensive. Mr. Rolfe suggesting looking at different
options; he noted that the deciding factor on any purchase would be the cost. Mr. Gay asked the Town Manager to research options for the purchase and provide the members of the Board with her recommendations.

9. NAMI - TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Ms. Therrien reviewed a memo from NAMI/Maine regarding “free evidence-based training that focuses on the mental health needs of youth and preparing the adults who support youth to identify and connect youth who are struggling with a mental health concern”. Ms. Therrien asked the Board for their interest in providing this training to employees. Mr. Rolfe responded that the Board would be interested; it was suggested that this information also be shared with the school department.

10. DISCUSSION OF SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT PERMITS - BUSINESSES WITHIN MACHIAS

Mr. Rolfe noted that it appears based on information provided by the Town Manager that the owners of several businesses located in Machias holding liquor licenses do not realize that they actually need special entertainment permits to hold certain events covered under the town’s special entertainment ordinance. He noted that the Board is asking the Town Manager to reach out to these businesses to advise them of Machias’s special entertainment ordinance.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Leslie Haynes, the Board VOTED: To provide a copy of the ordinance and permit application to local businesses who need to apply for a special entertainment permit allowing a sixty (60) day grace period from date of notification to obtain a permit.

11. AMBULANCE FEES FOR 2019 CONTRACTS

Ms. Therrien advised the members of the Board that she had done research as the Board asked into comparing ambulance fees charged by other ambulance services in the local area. Ms. Therrien reviewed a data sheet on rate comparisons with the Board. Ms. Therrien advised the Board that ambulance contracts are issued in the Fall and any changes to the contracts would go into effect in 2019. The Board discussed adjusting the rates for services.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Leslie Haynes, the Board VOTED: To adjust the ambulance rates for the services provided by the Machias Ambulance Service as follows: BLS-E set at $475., ALS-1 set at $670., ALS-2 set at $750., and mileage to remain at $16.00 per mile.

12. AMBULANCE CHARGES FOR NON-TRANSPORT SERVICES

Ms. Therrien reviewed a memo from Comstar Ambulance Billing Service regarding recommendations on the billing rate review process. The Board reviewed ambulance charges for non-transport services. Mr. Haynes noted the there are many associated costs
involved in a non-transport service such as personnel costs, vehicle costs, and mileage. The Board discussed situations in which people might request non-transport services from the Machias Ambulance Service.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Leslie Haynes, the Board VOTED:
Effective April 1, 2018, any request for services from the Machias Ambulance Service without transport will be billed at 75% of the current BLS rate.

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Bill Kitchen, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 PM.