

BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS

MAY 9, 2018

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, Paula Johnson-Rolfe, Bill Kitchen; Town Manager Christina Therrien; Secretary Cathy Lord; Ed Pellon, David Clark, Mary Angarola, Bill Burke, Bob Berta.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2018 Board meeting with the following correction: it should be noted that Vice-Chairman Josh Rolfe officiated the meeting due to the absence of Mr. Gay.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

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

To approve municipal warrant #93 in the amount of \$11,002.86; to approve municipal warrant #94 in the amount of \$135,772.67; to approve municipal warrant #95 in the amount of \$16,564.08; and, to approve municipal warrant #96 in the amount of 407,467.63 .

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

To approve school warrant #43 in the amount of \$212,580.50 .

3. AMERICAN LEGION POST #9 - SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT

The Board reviewed an application for a special entertainment permit submitted by the American Legion Post #9.

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

To approve a special entertainment permit for the American Legion Post #9.

4. MACHIAS BAY AREA CHAMBER ANNUAL DINNER

Ms. Therrien reminded the members of the Board that the Machias Bay Area Chamber of Commerce is holding its annual dinner on Friday, May 25th at 5:30 PM at the Kilburn Commons at the University of Maine at Machias.

5. BOLD COAST FESTIVAL UPDATE - BILL BURKE

Mr. Bill Burke updated the Board regarding the Bold Coast Sea & Sky Festival scheduled for July 20th to 21st. He noted that activities added to this year's celebration are laser tag, boat races, and fly-a-kite. Mr. Burke explained that safety contingencies have been put in place for the boat races and there are plans for a first aid station for festival participants to access if needed. Mr. Burke reviewed the list of activities being offered for this family fun festival.

Mr. Burke asked the Board if the Town of Machias could supply traffic cones for the dike area in order to slow vehicle traffic down due to the volume of pedestrian traffic. He also asked if the Public Works Department could supply trash containers in the downtown area. Mr. Gay affirmed that traffic cones and trash bins can be provided for the festival. Mr. Burke told the Board that the festival will offer many family fun activities that are "kid friendly"; he added that festival organizers are always looking for additional volunteers to help out. Ms. Therrien asked if the music being offered one night was scheduled to last until 11:00 PM? Mr. Burke noted that there is music for one night of the festival lasting until 11:00 PM and he explained that he would contact the only adjacent homeowner to let them know that the music being scheduled is a one time activity.

Mr. Burke informed the Board that Pat's Pizza will be celebrating its five year anniversary on May 23rd with fun activities scheduled to tie-in with the Burnham Tavern celebration.

Mr. Burke thanked the members of the Board for their time. The Board noted that Mr. Burke has done an amazing job and that the Bold Coast Sea & Sky Festival is a great addition to the community.

6. PINEO'S TRUE VALUE - REQUEST TO BURN

The Board reviewed a request from Mr. Steven Pineo, owner of Pineo's True Value, asking for the Machias Fire Department to burn an old house located on Route #1.

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

To approve the burning of a house owned by Steven Pineo located on Route #1 by the Machias Fire Department with the property owner providing the standard donation to the fire department and with the stipulation that the property owner clean up the debris from the burned structure in a timely manner.

7. REQUEST FROM CHARLES ROBBINS - NAMING OF US ROUTE 1 FROM JONESBORO TO MACHIAS

The Board reviewed a request from Mr. Charles Robbins asking the Board to consider naming the section of Route #1 from Jonesboro to Machias for the Revolutionary War heroine, Hannah Weston. After a short discussion, the Board gave their support to Mr. Robbins's proposal.

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

To support the naming of Route #1 from Jonesboro to Machias for Hannah Weston.

8. REQUEST FOR INSTALLATION OF STREETLIGHT ON OLD COUNTY ROAD

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that she contacted the Town of Marshfield regarding paying half the cost of placement of a streetlight on the Old County Road; she explained that the response was that Marshfield would not pay half the cost. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe questioned if the person who made the request of Machias, Mr. McGuire, had also petitioned the Town of Marshfield about the need for the streetlight since Marshfield owns half the road. Ms. Therrien said that she did not know if Mr. McGuire had also talked with the Town of Marshfield. The Board discussed the request as well as the question of placing a streetlight on property owned by another town. Ms. Therrien recommended drafting a letter to Mr. McGuire explaining that the town which owns the property where the streetlight would be located does not wish to financially support placement of a streetlight on that site; explaining that the Town of Machias cannot place a streetlight in another town; and, asking Mr. McGuire to contact the Town of Marshfield regarding the need for a streetlight on their property. The Board asked that the Town Manager send this letter to Mr. McGuire. Mr. Rolfe explained that the Board is in support of placement of the streetlight as per Mr. McGuire's request but cannot proceed with action on the request due to the fact that Marshfield will not assist financially and due to the fact that Machias cannot place a pole in another town.

9. CHECK FOR BALANCE OF UNPAID PROPERTY TAXES - ACCOUNT #949

Ms. Therrien explained that the foreclosure date on Account #949 was on March 9th and the date of the check to pay for overdue taxes was April 2, 2018. Mr. Rolfe pointed out that the owner paid the overdue amount almost a month after the foreclosure date. Mr. Gay recommended that the Board accept the payment and issue a quit claim deed on the property. Mr. Rolfe noted that the problem is that the Town has already foreclosed on the property. Ms. Therrien advised the Board that they have accepted late payments on foreclosed property in previous circumstances. Ms. Therrien reiterated her concern that the state of the property in question poses a serious liability concern since there would be a major financial cost to Machias to clean up the property. Mr. Rolfe expressed his concerns - the property has been foreclosed on, in the future there will be no grounds to say "no" to other property owners wanting to pay taxes owed past the due date on foreclosed properties, and this situation sets a precedence on foreclosed properties. Ms. Therrien explained that there have been past situations in which the Board has allowed a prior owner to pay overdue taxes up until the time that the property is actually listed for sale by the town. She noted that the Board has always tried to return property to prior owners as much as possible depending on the situation. Mr. Rolfe said that he would not object as long as the Town is consistent in its practices.

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

To accept the check for the balance of unpaid property taxes due on Account #949 (Heirs of Myron Hatt) and issue a quit claim deed and complete all required paperwork.

10. SEWER ABATEMENT/DISCHARGES

Ms. Therrien explained that the Town Clerk is requesting that the Board issue sewer abatements/discharges on the following accounts:

Account #219 - \$218.70

Account #252 - \$115.50

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

VOTED:

To abate charges on Sewer Account #219 for \$218.70 and on Sewer Account #252 for \$115.50 as recommended by the Town Clerk.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Ms. Therrien advised the Board that they have copies of the town's water quality report for their review.

B. Ms. Therrien reminded the Board of the June 17th DAR/Wreaths Across America chapel service at 10:00 AM.

C. Mr. Rolfe asked about interest in providing non-ethanol fuel in Machias. He suggested looking at the cost and that he would be willing to ask questions of local suppliers. The other members of the Board expressed interest and asked Mr. Rolfe to proceed with his inquiries.

D. Mr. Bob Berta showed a packet of information he said was provided at a recent meeting of the Calais Town Council and requested that the Town of Machias provide such a packet of information to reporters.

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by Josh Rolfe, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 PM.