

BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS

AUGUST 11, 2021

A meeting of the Machias Board of Selectpeople was called to order at 6:55 PM by Chairman Paula Johnson-Rolfe. In attendance were Board members James Jackson and Sandra Sinford; Interim Town Manager Bill Kitchen; Secretary Cathy Lord; Mary Angarola, David Clark, Bruce Smith, Carol Christianson, Josh Rolfe, Sarah Dedmon Craighead, Kathryn Toppin, Sean Lent, Ed Pellon, Sharon Mack, Josh Rolfe, James Rawsthorne, Melissa Raznrih.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by James Jackson, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2021 Board meeting.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by James Jackson, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board VOTED:

To approve municipal warrant #10 in the amount of \$12,117.98 and to approve municipal warrant #12 in the amount of \$13,171.19 .

On a motion by James Jackson, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board VOTED:

To approve municipal warrant #11 in the amount of \$85,237.45 and to approve municipal warrant #13 in the amount of \$116,227.74 .

On a motion by James Jackson, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board VOTED:

To approve school warrant #81321 in the amount of \$382,393.49 .

3. ACTION ON CDBG GRANT - BAD LITTLE FALLS BREWING LLC

On a motion by James Jackson, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board VOTED:

That the Town of Machias will submit the Bad Little Falls Brewing LLC Community Block Grant to the State of Maine with the understanding that the business owners provide the Town with written documentation within thirty (30) days stating that the Town has first position if the business defaults.

Vote On Motion: 3 votes in favor of the motion (Jackson, Sinford, Johnson-Rolfe)

4. POLICE CHIEF'S POSITION

Mr. Kitchen advised the Board that the Town is advertising for a Chief of Police and patrol officers. He distributed the advertisement being utilized to attract applicants and read it aloud to those in attendance; he explained that he is trying a different approach from the usual and not using the usual boil-plate advertisement. Mr. Kitchen said that he has placed the advertisement in County Wide, Machias Valley News Observer, on the Maine Municipal Association website, on Linked-In, and on the state law enforcement

website. Mr. Kitchen reported that he has received inquiries and one formal application for the chief's position. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe commented that the advertisement does grab your attention and she noted that using the "unique opportunity" language encourages interested people or a team of people to apply. Mr. Kitchen suggested that the Board think about forming a search committee or allowing the interim town manager to review the applications to recommend those applicants who should be interviewed by the Board.

5. SECURITY SYSTEM FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Kitchen informed the Board that he has an appointment with Black Bear Security on Friday (13th) to discuss the security needs of the police department. He explained that Mike Schoppee and Bill Sternburg are assisting him. Mr. Kitchen noted that he is looking at a two tier estimate from Black Bear Security on the lock system and cameras and any additional needs for the department. He also reported on on-going progress with equipping the police cruisers.

6. COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Kitchen informed the Board that a technology team from Machias Savings Bank came to the town office on Tuesday (10th) for a walk-through and examination of the town's computer system. He noted that the team conducted a complete evaluation and will provide the Town with recommendations on on-going services, hardware, work stations, software, security, and ransomware.

7. MACHIAS DIKE/MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Kitchen reported that the Dike roadway was paved by the MDOT this week and he reported positive results he is having communicating with MDOT personnel. Mr. Rolfe noted that in the past he had spoken to MDOT personnel about concerns of the stability of the Dike. Mr. Kitchen announced that on Tuesday, September 14th the MDOT will conduct a public information exchange event on the Dike from 4:00 to 7:00 PM.

8. COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mr. Kitchen reported that the park concerts are continuing; he noted that the last scheduled concert was postponed due to rain. He noted that the concerts would be running through the middle of September with the possibility of the concerts continuing into the Fall. He reminded the Board of events occurring on August 21st and that Bike Maine will be having an event on September 10th, 11th, & 12th with a community meet-and-greet on September 11th.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Mr. Kitchen advised the Board that they had previously discussed that the Town had taken possession of a mobile home located at 20 Pleasant Street for non-payment of taxes. Mr. Kitchen reported that in the interim, Mr. Gary Huntley has purchased the property on which the mobile home sits. Mr. Kitchen reported that Mr. Huntley has sent the Town a bill in the amount of \$375. per month since the mobile home sits on his

property. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe noted that Mr. Huntley had offered to purchase the mobile home for the amount of taxes owed on it; she explained that the Town was going to put the mobile home out to bid to the public at which time Mr. Huntley could put a bid in. She pointed out that the Town tries to give anyone placing a bid a fair opportunity to purchase tax-acquired property.

On a motion by James Jackson, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board
VOTED:

Because of the uniqueness of the situation in that the mobile home was acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes and is separate from the property it sits on, to empower the Interim Town Manager to negotiate with the property owner.

B. Mr. Kitchen informed the Board that the Ambulance Captain recommends the appointment of Hannah E. Lee to the Machias Ambulance Service.

On a motion by James Jackson, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board
VOTED:

As recommended by the Ambulance Captain, to appoint Hannah E. Lee to the Machias Ambulance Service as an EMT.

On a motion by James Jackson, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 PM.