

## **BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS**

**OCTOBER 9, 2019**

A meeting of the Machias Board of Select-people was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Josh Rolfe. In attendance were Board members Paula Johnson-Rolfe, Bill Kitchen, James Whalen, and James Jackson; Town Manager Christina Therrien; Secretary Cathy Lord; David Clark, Mary Angarola, Bruce Smith, Ed Pellon, Ken Varian, Sarah Dedmon, Mark Brown, Nancy Lewis, Marci Gaglione.

### **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 September 25, 2019 Board meeting.

### **2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION**

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

To approve municipal warrant #28 in the amount of \$10,698.21; to approve municipal warrant #29 in the amount of \$166,226.66; to approve municipal warrant #30 in the amount of \$11,825.38; and to approve municipal warrant #31 in the amount of \$89,016.59 .

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

To approve school warrant #15 in the amount of \$279,376.15 .54

### **3. APPOINTMENT PAPERS - POLICE CHIEF AND REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE MEMBER**

Ms. Therrien noted that the Board is officially confirming the appointment of the Police Chief, Todd Hand.

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

To appoint Dylon Jennings to the Machias Downtown Revitalization Committee.

The Board signed the certificate of appointment papers.

### **4. MARSHFIELD/UNORGANIZED TOWNSHIPS SOLID WASTE AGREEMENTS**

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

To sign the solid waste agreements with the Town of Marshfield and the unorganized townships.

### **5. BID OPENING - SCHOOL STOVE BIDS**

Ms. Therrien advised the members of the Board that no bids were received in answer to the request for bids for the purchase of a stove for the school department.

## **6. HISTORIC WATERWHEEL PRESENTATION - MARK BROWN**

Mr. Mark Brown made a presentation to the Board on the feasibility of placement of a water wheel in the Machias River in or near Bad Little Falls for the purpose of generating power for the lighting of the park. Mr. Brown reviewed the historic background of hydroelectric power and showed an illustration depicting the placement of the water wheel in the river. Mr. Rolfe commented that "this is an interesting proposition" and that he "would love to see it happen". Ms. Johnson-Rolfe agreed and said this would "be pretty cool". Mr. Kitchen commented that it would be great if people passing by the area could visibly see the waterwheel operating. The group discussed concerns regarding fish migration in the river and Mr. Pellon questioned what would happen with freezing ice in the winter. It was the consensus of the Board to support Mr. Brown's efforts looking into the feasibility of putting a waterwheel in the river to generate hydropower.

## **7. APPROVAL OF TOWN MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION FOR PART-TIME DISPATCHER**

Ms. Therrien recommended that Mr. Tony Wood be hired to fill the part-time (24 hour) dispatcher position.

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

Based on the Town Manager's recommendation, to hire Mr. Tony Wood as the part-time dispatcher under the town's standard six month probationary period and fit-for-duty physical exam.

## **8. APPROPRIATION OF CANDY FOR DOWNTOWN TRICK-OR-TREAT EVENT**

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

To approve the expenditure of \$250 from the contingency account for the purchase of Halloween candy for the downtown trick-or-treat event.

## **9. DECK THE FALLS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

The Board discussed holding the Deck the Falls Christmas contest again this year. They discussed recognition categories, advertisement of the event, awards, businesses/residential categories, and various ideas for the event. It was the consensus of the Board to hold the event this year and that the Board will re-discuss the celebration by sharing ideas and putting the event into a formalized plan during an upcoming Board meeting.

## **10. TELEVISED BOARD MEETINGS - DISCUSSION**

Ms. Therrien explained to the Board that she invited Mr. Ken Varian to tonight's meeting since he would be the person able to discuss what is needed in order to televise Board meetings. Mr. Rolfe explained that the Board is interested in finding the best way to televise the meetings and that the ability to televise the meetings should be mobile/portable to take to alternate sites when needed for such things as public hearings

and annual town meetings. He added that another goal for the televising of meetings is to stay away from being too expensive.

Mr. Varian explained that recording the meetings and posting the meetings on the town's website would be the least expensive method. He noted that the streaming method would require a good wide-band internet connection and would cost \$1000. per year after an initial yearly cost of \$3000. for the purchase of equipment (camera, microphone, tri-pod, power cord, etc...). Mr. Varian noted that the Town would need to store the recorded meetings and that this cost would be included in the \$1000. yearly cost.

Mr. Kitchen commented that Board meetings should be available to people to watch and he noted that the equipment needs to be easily moved depending on meeting locations. Mr. Jackson said that it would be interesting to see if public interest is generated by televising the meetings. It was the consensus of the Board to have the Town Manager proceed with procuring prices for the equipment needed to televise meetings to the public.

### **11. SMOKING POLICY FOR MUNICIPALITY**

Ms. Therrien reviewed the Board's comments and feedback on their last discussion of a formal smoking policy for the town. Ms. Therrien reviewed suggested wording for a proposed policy. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe asked if the Town should place "No Smoking" signs at public recreation areas but there was no consensus by the Board to do this. It was decided that this item would be placed on the Board's next meeting agenda to review a proposed policy which will be sent to the Board prior to the next meeting for their review.

### **12. UPDATE ON BALLFIELDS**

Mr. Whalen advised the Board that he had just attended a meeting on the ballfields. He reported that approximately \$53,000. is needed for trenches, topsoil, compost, and seed to improve the drainage at the school's ball field. Mr. Whalen noted that there was a discussion on reaching out to find a fundraising person who would be in charge to the fundraising plan with the goal of reaching out to potential large donors for the funding. Mr. Whalen explained that the group wants to see if the lights at the Southside Field actually work. The Board discussed asking electricians for an assessment of the lighting at the town-owned field.

### **13. OTHER BUSINESS**

A. Ms. Therrien noted that she received a notice that due to increased tariffs placed by President Trump on Chinese goods that there has been a 15% increase in the cost of fireworks. She pointed out that there would have to be either a cut-back in the town's 4th of July fireworks display due to the increased cost or the Board would need to add \$600. (15%) to the budget to cover the additional cost. The members of the Board discussion the options.

On a motion by Bill Kitchen, seconded by James Whalen, the Board  
VOTED:

To allocate \$600. from contingency to fund the tariff increase on the 4th of July fireworks display.

B. Ms. Therrien advised the Board that the federal government is asking the Town to sign the grant agreement for the \$200,000. share of the flood protection grant and she recommended that the Board sign the agreement.

On a motion by Bill Kitchen, seconded by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, the Board

VOTED:

To authorize the Town Manager to sign the pre-disaster mitigation grant agreement.

Vote On Motion: 4 fours supporting the motion (Mr. Rolfe, Mr. Kitchen, Ms. Johnson-Rolfe, Mr. Jackson) 1 vote in opposition to the motion (Mr. Whalen)

Motion was Approved

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 PM.