

Machias Select Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 27, 2026
At Machias Tele-Business Center

Attending: Select Board Jake Patryn, Ben Edwards, Carole Porcher, Mike Hinerman; Finance Director Nicholas MacDonald, Ambulance Director Ryan Maker, Transfer Station Director Nichole Albee, Public Works Director Michael Schoppee, Paul Sylvan of the MVNO, and recording secretary Sharon Mack.

Jake Patryn called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman the board **VOTED** to adopt the Select Board's minutes of 5/13/26. Carole Porcher abstained.

On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman, the board **VOTED** to adopt the Select Board's minutes of 4/16/26 as amended.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Sale of 48 Fremont Street - the town has received an offer of \$36,200 for the tax acquired property at 48 Fremont Street. Jake Patryn explained that any offer needs to include sewer fees from 2024, 2025, and 2026, and the board did not have that information. He explained that state law requires that anything over what the town is owed in fees and taxes will revert to the previous property owner. The bidding couple agreed to wait until the next board meeting if necessary. Jake Patryn assured them that if the figures were available, the board could hold a special meeting.

2. Discontinuation of trash bags at Transfer Station - During budget deliberations, the board asked the Transfer Station Director Nicole Albee for some data and statistics to help increase revenue and decrease the annual shortfall at the station. Nicole Albee provided comparisons of expenses for town-sold bags versus weight of trash, how many town-sold bags were on hand, and possible solutions. The board would like more information from Nicole Albee, such as the weight going over the scale compared to how much is shipped to provide an accurate weight of what is in the town-sold bags. Nicole Albee also provided a comprehensive comparison of operational costs between Machias, Pleasant River, Milbridge, Cherryfield and

Harrington. The board opted to review all the data for future discussion.

3. Town Cleanup Day/Week – Mike Schoppee informed the board that the last time the town offered a free dump day, it was an “utter disaster” and cost the town between \$15,000 and \$17,000. A discussion was held on how such a free day would be held, if problem properties would be specifically targeted for assistance, and whether having stickers for residents’ vehicles would be a partial solution. The board said that with the expense of such a day at such a high level, it should be something taken to the residents to see if they wish to support it. They said they wanted the issue on the next board’s agenda to continue the discussion.

4. Ambulance Loan Payoff – Ryan Maker explained there is enough in the ambulance’s surplus fund to pay off a 2024 ambulance note and the fund would be refreshed with a projected 2026 surplus of \$150,000. On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Carole Porcher, the board **VOTED** to take \$121,218.32 from the ambulance unassigned fund balance to pay off the ambulance note.

On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman, the board **VOTED** to adjourn at 7:54 p.m.