

Machias Select Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 11, 2026
At Machias Tele-Business Center

Attending: Chairman Jake Patryn, Ben Edwards, Mike Hinerman, Carole Porcher, Town Manager Sarah Dedmon, Town Clerk Sandra Clifton, Finance Director Nicholas MacDonald, Police Chief Keith Mercier, Ambulance Director Ryan Maker, Budget Committee Members Jim Lenke, and Joshua Rolfe, Recording Secretary Sharon Mack. On Google Meets: SCEC's Tora Johnson and MVNO's Paul Sylvain.

Jake Patryn called the meeting order at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes - On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman, the board

VOTED to adopt the minutes from Select Board meetings on 01/28/2026, 02/25/2026, Select Board/Budget Committee Meeting on 02/25/2026, and Select Board/Budget Committee Meeting on 03/02/2026

Warrants - On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman, the board

VOTED to approve the warrants as listed:

Payroll: 1/30 #90 \$35,232.95; 2/6, #92 \$56,827.19, #93 \$480.19, #95 \$1,512.00; 2/3 #99 \$31,715.88, #100 \$10,575.59; 2/20 #102 \$52,007.93; 2/27 #104 \$34,717.82; 3/6 #107 \$55,202.45.

School: 2/6 #78162 \$287,358.01 payroll, #78172 \$71,902.27 AP; 3/6 #78455 \$274,919.19 payroll, #78458 \$52,208.60 AP.

Accounts Payable: 1/30 #91 \$148,043.19, #94 \$94,158.63, #96 \$1,674.94, #98 \$189,350.83; 2/13 #101 \$133,916.79; 2/20 #103 \$93,270.16; 2/27 #105 \$94,903.25, #106 \$320.22; 3/6 #108 \$125,748.04.

Signatures needed:

Ambulance contracts: The board signed the 2026 ambulance contracts for the towns of Marshfield, Roque Bluffs, Whitneyville and Whiting. Ryan Maker explained these were annual renewals at a cost of \$80 per person, based on population. Ryan said he and Sarah Dedmon will be visiting each of the town's select person meetings to explain the basis for an increase in rates.

New Business:

1. Town Report Printing Bid Opening - Two bids were opened: Snowman Printing in Hermon for 300 copies at \$768.47, and Xpress Copy of Portland at \$1171.21. Sarah Dedmon announced that the 2026 Machias Town Report would be dedicated to Richard Shaw. On a motion by Mike Hinerman, second by Ben Edwards, the board **VOTED** to award the printing of the 2026 town reports to Snowman Printing at a cost of \$768.47.

2. Real Estate Tax Discharges of Responsibility for Debt Collection - Town Clerk Sandra Clifton explained that there were two discharges:

a. account R352 for taxes for \$208.68. This was a mobile home that burned in 2021 and was erroneously on the tax rolls in 2022 and 2023. On a motion by Carole Porcher, second by Ben Edwards, the board

VOTED to discharge \$208.68 in taxes for property RE 352.

b. Account R835 for \$290.05. Sandra Clifton explained that the person owing the taxes died. However, when the property was sold, a new account was created which left the original account intact, creating a double billing situation. The discharge would remove the original account. On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Carole Porcher, the board

VOTED to discharge \$290.05 in taxes for property RE 835.

3. Refund of Sewer Payment – Sandra Clifton explained that a Machias homeowner had been overpaying their quarterly payments, mistakenly believing they were due monthly. Jake Patryn suggested the town create a new policy to let the town staff handle such overpayments so they did not require Select Board approval. On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman, the board **VOTED** to refund an overpayment of \$1,167.66 to Sewer Account #256.

4. Adoption of Acceptable Use Policy – Sarah Dedmon said that if the town adopted such a policy, it could obtain free fiber security threat insurance from the Maine Municipal Association. She said that the town was moving into a town employee email system and will be holding lunch and learn sessions regarding fiber security. The board acknowledged that the policy may need amending in the future as new security threats appear. On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman, the board

VOTED to adopt the Acceptable Use Policy for fiber security threats.

5. Appointment of Dean Petruzzi to Budget Committee - On motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman, the board **VOTED** to appoint Dean Petruzzi to the Machias Budget Committee.

Old Business: none

Town Manager's Update

1. Sarah Dedmon said the completed recommendations of the Upper Machias Bay Management Plan should be completed by late April and a public informational meeting will be held on May 4, 2026.
2. A 3D model of the town's stormwater system should be completed by Sunrise County Economic Council in a few months and SCEC is also working on a number of grants that the town will submit. It was noted by the board that this is an invaluable collaboration and partnership. The UMBMP also illustrates the importance of connections between area communities.

Other Business:

1. Jake Patryn outlined his participation in Harbormaster Training, the Maine Fishermen's Forum and collaborative work with other area harbormasters. Jake said while it may seem odd to have a harbormaster without a harbor, there are many other coastal related issues, such as dredging and access, that arise. Jake said the position is aspirational, and eventually will redefine Machias' harbor. Jake said he will make this position a priority for him in 2026.

On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman, the board **VOTED** to adjourn at 5:50 p.m.