

Note: Before beginning the meeting, those assembled stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS

MARCH 22, 2023

A meeting of the Machias Board of Selectpeople was called to order at 6:04 PM by Chairman Paula Johnson-Rolfe. In attendance were Board members Sandra Sinford, Jake Patryn, and Carole Porcher (via Zoom); Town Manager Bill Kitchen; Secretary Cathy Lord; Police Chief Keith Mercier; Ambulance Service Captain Lois Libby, Kyle Winslow, Police Officer Tim Mace.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Jake Patryn, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2023 Board meeting.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

Ms. Johnson-Rolfe noted that the Board would review and sign town warrants at their next meeting.

3. AMBULANCE/FIRE CONTRACTS & INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

The members of the Board signed ambulance service contracts with Northfield, Jonesboro, and Whitneyville and a fire contract with Northfield. The Board also signed an interagency agreement with Northfield for the Machias Town Office to provide services for vehicle registrations for that town. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe noted that this was the standard agreement between the two towns.

4. BIDS - AMBULANCE POWER STRETCHER

Ms. Libby noted that no bids were received on the purchase of a new power stretcher for one of the town's ambulances. She advised the Board that two companies supply this piece of equipment but no response to the bid specifications was received. Ms. Libby asked the Board for permission to contact the companies regarding the purchase of a new power stretcher. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe pointed out that the Town has met the requirement to send out specifications to companies to obtain sealed bids on the purchase but that there was no response. She explained that the cost to re-bid has to be considered since this is a specialized piece of equipment. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe noted that the Board has satisfied the bid requirements. Mr. Kitchen advised that Ms. Libby will contact companies who supply this medical equipment and that she will discuss the results of her inquiries with him.

5. APPOINTMENT OF AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDER

Ms. Libby asked the Board to appoint Alec Bisson to the Machias Ambulance Service as an EMT.

On a motion by Jake Patryn, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board
VOTED:

To appoint Alec Bisso to the Machias Ambulance Service as a medical EMT.

6. TOWN REPORT - BID OPENING

The members of the Board opened the bids received for the printing of the Machias annual report.

Bids:

X-Press Copy - \$2232.42
Jonesport Type Print & Copy - \$7345.00
Creative Print Services - \$2769.00
Downeast Graphics - \$3210.95
Snowman Group - \$2036.82

On a motion by Sandra Sinford, seconded by Jake Patryn, the Board
VOTED:

To award the bid for the printing of the Machias annual town report to Snowman Group in the bid amount of \$2036.82 (650 copies).

7. POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Police Chief Messier advised the Board of sixty-seven calls for service last month and that there were surprise visits from the State Liquor License Bureau checking on liquor licenses in Machias.

Chief Mercier recommended to the Board that Officer Tim Mace be promoted to Sergeant. Mr. Kitchen added his agreement to the recommendation saying Officer Mace was a vital member of the police department. Mr. Patryn suggested that the members of the Board be allowed time to consider the promotion. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe commented that the Board needs some time to consider the promotion and that it is the promotion being considered, not the person recommended for the promotion.

Chief Mercier also told the Board that reserve police officers will need to be hired and that these newly hired officers will need supervision. Chief Mercier commented that it is difficult to retain good police officers.

8. MESERVE POINT UPDATE

Mr. Kyle Winslow from the Maine Coast Heritage Trust updated the Board on the Meserve Point Preserve development. He described on-going efforts to increase trail accessibility in the preserve. After the presentation, members of the Board thanked Mr. Winslow for his presentation.

9. VERSANT PROPERTY EXCHANGE

The Board discussed the Versant proposal. Mr. Kitchen noted that the Town would be given a twenty-five year lease. He advised the Board that Versant would not sell their property to the Town. Mr. Patryn commented that Versant would build a new substation near the solar farm which would provide a substantial increase in property taxes. The members of the Board discussed how to proceed.

On a motion by Jake Patryn, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board
VOTED:

To accept Versant's exclusive use of the land for no less than two twenty-five year terms or more for the real estate exchange agreement.

10. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Jake Patryn, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 PM.