

Wednesday, April 8, 2026
Machias Select Board Meeting
At Machias Tele-Business Center

Attending: Select Board members Jake Patryn, Sandra Sinford, Ben Edwards, Mike Hinerman, Carole Porcher, Town Manager Sarah Dedmon, Town Clerk Sandra Clifton, CFO Nicholas MacDonald, Police Chief Keith Mercier, SCEC's Tora Johnson, MVNO's Paul Sylvain, Budget Committee members Ty Richards, Joshua Rolfe and Jim Lenke, AOS 96 Superintendent Nicole Case and AOS 96 Bookkeeper Amanda Sprague, Alison Paprocki and Sam Diefenbach representing Porter Memorial Library, Jason and Tracy representing Community Action Programs of Aroostook, Hancock and Washington Counties.

Meeting called to order at 5:02 p.m.

MINUTES:

On a motion by Carole Porcher, second by Mike Hinerman, the board VOTED to adopt the Select Board Meeting minutes of 3/25/2026 as presented.

On a motion by Carole Porcher, second by Mike Hinerman, the board VOTED to adopt the Select Board and Budget Committee Meeting minutes of 3/25/2026 as presented.

On a motion by Carole Porcher, second by Mike Hinerman, the board VOTED to adopt the Select Board and Budget Committee Meeting minutes of 4/2/2026 as presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Foreclosure Discussion: Sandra Clifton reported she had send out 24 foreclosure notices to taxpayers. Some have already paid, she said, but at least three appear to be unable to pay. She said one is a mobile home with a minimal tax bill of \$155.80; the second is unable to pay the bill of \$3,271.00; and the third is a dilapidated and empty home on West Kennebec Road owing \$632.82.

Sandra Clifton explained that the board need not respond, and that Sarah Dedmon has the authority to waive the foreclosures. A fourth case involves a mobile home that has been moved to a new location in Machias. Jake Patryn suggested that a discussion be held at the next board meeting.

OTHER:

1. Sarah Dedmon said she is working with SCEC to apply for \$2 million in grant funding for a new town office and is in conversation with Mid Coast Solar regarding land they own on US Rt. 1.

2. Tora Johnson reported that the rollout of the Upper Machias Bay Management Plan is nearly complete and the final recommendations are set. An event will be held at the University of Maine's Reynolds Center on May 4, 2026 and various officials, staff, boards and legislators will be invited. She also mentioned that the clappers under the dike were installed and the water levels behind the dike were concerning as they were higher than expected.

3. Jake Patryn reported that he had developed a draft Harbor Ordinance after collaboration and discussions with area harbormasters and he is seeking feedback from fishermen that live in Machias but moored elsewhere. He said he is also talking with NOAA regarding the channel depth and possible dredging. He said harbormasters from Addison to Eastport are talking and working together.

4. Sarah Dedmon said another ordinance regarding fire service fees will also be coming before the board soon.

ADJOURN:

On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman, the board VOTED to adjourn at 5:21 p.m.