

## BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS

APRIL 10, 2019

A meeting of the Machias Board of Selectpeople 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 Glenn Davis; Town Manager Christina Therrien; Secretary Cathy Lord; Police Chief Grady Dwelley, Ed Pellon, David Clark, Mary Angarola, Bruce Smith, Peter Jackson, Jacob Van de Sande, Sarah Dedmon, Peter Irving.

### 1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Glenn Davis, seconded by James Whalen, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2019 Board meeting.

### 2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board VOTED:

To approve municipal warrant #76 in the amount of \$10,853.98; to approve municipal warrant #77 in the amount of \$234,985.66; to approve municipal warrant #78 in the amount of \$19,646.47; to approve municipal warrant #79 in the amount of \$86,865.66; to approve municipal warrant #80 in the amount of \$11,126.20; to approve municipal warrant #81 in the amount of \$165,672.83; to approve municipal warrant #82 in the amount of \$13,838.85; and, to approve municipal warrant #83 in the amount of \$36,448.40 .

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board VOTED:

To approve school warrant #39 in the amount of \$227,962.88 and school warrant #41 in the amount of \$248,635.30 .

### 3. RAILROAD SIGNAL ARM RESTORATION PROJECT - PETER IRVING

Mr. Peter Irving advised the members of the Board of his interest in restoring the railroad signal arm located in the vicinity of the old railroad station; he noted that he has discussed the project with Sharon Mack. Mr. Irving explained that the signal arm is presently laying on the ground by the railroad station building; he noted that he hopes to repair the arm and place it in a fixed position by the station. Mr. Rolfe commented that this would be an excellent project and the other members of the Board agreed. Ms. Therrien told Mr. Irving that the Public Works Department could help in positioning the signal arm.

Mr. Pellon questioned what the vacant boxcar would be utilized as and Ms. Therrien noted that plans are to use the boxcar to house a bicycle repair area.

#### 4. INFORMATION - JACOB VAN DE SANDE - REDEMPTION BUILDING ON MAIN STREET

Mr. Jacob Van de Sande representing the Maine Coast Heritage Trust updated the Board regarding plans that he had previously spoken to the Board about for the riverside redemption center building. He explained that there would need to be a draft warrant article drawn up to accept the funding from Maine Coast Heritage Trust to purchase the building. Mr. Whalen suggested that the Town's attorney look at the article; Ms. Therrien noted that the Town's attorney would review the documents involved with the process of the acceptance of the funding. Mr. Whalen said that he thought it would be preferable to have the Town's attorney look at all the documents beforehand; he also suggested that Mr. Van de Sande provide the Town with a project timeline. Mr. Rolfe advised that a review of the article would not be necessary to get citizen approve to accept the funds and he recommended moving forward with the project in good faith anticipating review of the documents by the Town's attorney when appropriate. Ms. Therrien noted that the agreement involves the addition of no taxpayer dollars. Mr. Rolfe thanked Mr. Van de Sande for updating the Board of Selectmen.

#### 5. REPORT BY THE POLICE CHIEF - SPEEDING MEMO

Police Chief Grady Dwelley reported that the police department has been targeting the area from the hospital to the school zone on Court Street for speeding. He noted that two tickets for excessive speed were written and that the presence of the police has slowed drivers down; he estimated that speeding vehicles have decreased by 40% to 45% on Court Street. Ms. Therrien reviewed the data taken when the speeding trailer was set up. The Board discussed placement of the trailer in other areas of town. Mr. Rolfe thanked the Chief for his update.

#### 6. RESIGNATION OF ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board VOTED:

To accept Tony Wood's letter of resignation as Animal Control Officer effective 3/31/19.

Ms. Therrien informed the Board that she has reached out to Washington County regarding using their ACO and to the ACO of East Machias; she noted that both entities indicated little interest in the position. The Board discussed reaching out to people who might be interested in the position. Mr. Davis said that he would think about the position. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe recommended advertising the position to see if there is any interest as well as considering other people such as Mr. Davis.

#### 7. FATS/OILS/GREASE (FOG) PROGRAM

Ms. Therrien advised the Board of the effort to identify businesses which are dumping fats/oils/grease into the sewer system and a recommendation from the sewer department

to use the FOG program. Mr. Kitchen discussed the need to recognize that there is a problem, that this dumping is an issue, and that the dumping is costing sewer users money. Mr. Rolfe noted the need to address this issue and find out where the problem is coming from.

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

VOTED:

To approve using the FOG program as recommended by the sewer department.

## 8. REQUEST TO PAY PAST-DUE PROPERTY TAXES

Ms. Therrien noted that the Board has received a request from the Heirs of Myron Hatt/Donna Reed allowing payment of late taxes for property located at 6 Crossroad and accepting a payment of \$300. Ms. Therrien warned the Board of the liability issues involved if the Town takes the property. She noted that the payment covers the amount owed on the property. The Board discussed how to proceed.

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

VOTED:

To accept payment of \$300. for back taxes owed on property located at 6 Crossroad and release the property.

## 9. SPECIAL TOWN MEETING DATE

The Board discussed holding a Special Town Meeting on Tuesday April 23, 2019 at 7:00 PM. Mr. Rolfe asked Mr. Pellon to check his schedule to see if the Town could utilize the Pellon Center that night. The Board reviewed the four draft warrant articles for the Special Town Meeting agenda. Mr. Pellon asked that the Board look at licensing marijuana growers and Mr. Rolfe explained that the Town can propose a modification to the current municipal ordinance. Ms. Therrien suggested placing this on the June town meeting warrant. Mr. Rolfe suggested that the Board discuss adding the licensing of marijuana growers into the language of the medical marijuana ordinance at their April 24th meeting with the idea of looking towards the June annual town meeting for citizen action. Mr. Rolfe asked that the Town Manager add this to the Board's agenda.

The Board and the Town Manager discussed the status of the medical marijuana storefront located on Main Street. Mr. Rolfe noted that the proprietor flagrantly chose not to be licensed and would be operating in violation of the municipal ordinance. The Board discussed establishing a fine for the medical marijuana storefront known as "Jungle Joe" located on Main Street.

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

VOTED:

To establish a daily fine of \$2500. for violation of the Town of Machias medical marijuana ordinance by the medical marijuana storefront known as "Jungle Joe" located on Main Street.

Ms. Therrien noted that the proprietor will be served legal paperwork advising of the violation. Mr. Whalen suggested discussing the violation with the Town's attorney.

#### 10. BOARD GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Mr. Rolfe noted that the Board's goals and objectives and town manager evaluation is an on-going process.

#### 11. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Mr. Whalen asked about the attorney billing for legal work on a court case. Ms. Therrien noted that the judge awarded the decision to the Town and she read aloud the letter from the Town's attorney advising of the decision. Mr. Whalen observed that the legal proceeding took two years and cost the Town \$10,000. in legal costs.

On a motion by James Whalen, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 PM.