

## BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS

MAY 14, 2021

A meeting of the Machias Board of Select-people was called to order via the Zoom platform at 3:00 PM by Chairman Josh Rolfe. In attendance were Board members Paula Johnson-Rolfe and James Jackson; Town Clerk Sandra Clifton; Finance Director Meghan Dennison; Deputy Town Clerk Jane Bell; Bill Kitchen, Sarah Craighead Dedmond.

Mr. Rolfe noted that the Board is meeting to discuss the circumstances created with the 5/13/21 resignation of Christina Therrien from her position as town manager. He noted that the Board advertised the position and has been actively seeking candidates to fill the position since Ms. Therrien gave her resignation several weeks ago. Mr. Rolfe pointed out that a committee to review applications had been put in place.

Mr. Rolfe commented that there are several items that do need attention such as the CDBG grant application and the airport fuel farm. Mr. Kitchen reported that Jerold Goldman's office did recommend that the \$180,000. grant application be forwarded to the senate and he noted that he had worked with Ms. Therrien on a package to pursue additional grants to fund municipal projects. Mr. Kitchen told the Board that he would continue to keep these projects moving forward. Ms. Dennison advised the Board that the fuel farm contracts have been signed and mailed. Mr. Jackson said that he would discuss the CDBG grant application with the applicant and discuss with them the next steps in the process. Mr. Jackson also advised the other members of the Board that he would be working on the town's ten year plan with the town's consultant and making sure progress is being made on this work.

Mr. Rolfe suggested that the Board should think about hiring an interim town manager to assist the town until a permanent manager is hired. He asked that the members of the Board think and take into consideration anyone they believe could fill in to provide support in the absence of a town manager. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe said that she agreed with the concept of the interim town manager and that everyone on the Board should try to think of someone who could fill in temporarily and also spread the word around that the Town is looking for someone to act as an interim town manager. Mr. Rolfe advised the other members of the Board that they will meet on May 18th at 6:00 PM to further discuss hiring an interim town manager. The other members of the Board agreed.

The Board briefly discussed compensation for an interim town manager. Mr. Rolfe suggested that the ad for the town manager's position be run locally again. The Board discussed suggestions of using Facebook, Linked-In, and Indeed as advertising venues (Mr. Rolfe said that he would examine costs of using these services and report to the Board). Mr. Rolfe also suggested that the ad be revised if needed. Mr. Rolfe said that he would e-mail people on the review committee to establish communication.

Ms. Clifton told the Board that "we are drowning at the town office". She advised the Board that it may be necessary to close the town office early in order to allow everyone to catch up with the work. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe pointed out that the Board needs any suggestions from the three people in the town office and that the Board would listen to any reasonable suggestion as how to get through this situation without a town manager including the need to close early or open later. Mr. Rolfe expressed his and the Board's appreciation with everyone stepping up in order to get through this difficult time; he added that "the Town will get through this".

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 PM.