

BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS

MAY 22, 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, James Whalen, and Glenn Davis; Town Manager Christina Therrien; Secretary Cathy Lord; David Clark, Mary Angarola, Jim Jackson, Ed Pellon, Todd Rich, Sally Ward, Dallas Ward, Jacob Van de Sande, Bob Berta, Elizabeth Nichols-Goodliff, Kurt Andresen.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Whalen, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the May 8, 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 #92 in the amount of \$10,996.19; to approve municipal warrant #93 in the amount of \$206,470.46; to approve municipal warrant #94 in the amount of \$13,888.67; and, to approve municipal warrant #95 in the amount of \$69,835.02 .

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

To approve school warrant #47 in the amount of \$299,887.72 .

3. HING GARDENS MACHIAS - LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL

The Board reviewed a liquor license renewal application submitted by the owner of Hing Gardens Machias. Ms. Therrien told the Board that there have been no complaints or negative comments regarding this restaurant.

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

To approve a liquor license renewal for Hing Gardens Machias.

4. AMERICAN LEGION POST #9 - LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL/SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT

The Board reviewed a liquor license renewal and application for a special entertainment permit submitted by the American Legion Post #9. Ms. Therrien advised the members of the Board that the Legion holds various activities on the premises under its special entertainment permit.

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

VOTED:

To approve a liquor license renewal and special entertainment permit for the American Legion Post #9.

5. SEWER PROJECT LOAN EXTENSION

Ms. Therrien informed the Board that approximately \$220,000. remains in leftover funding from the sewer loan/grant; she asked the Board to extend the loan for a year since these funds can only be utilized for sewer projects.

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

VOTED:

To authorize the extension of the sewer loan for one year.

The members of the Board signed documents authorizing the one year extension.

6. PLANNING BOARD OPEN POSITION

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that Mr. Joe Gurney whose seat on the Machias Planning Board expires this year is interested in serving on the Board in one of the alternate positions. Mr. Rolfe asked that the open seat on be advertised to see if there is anyone interested in serving on the planning board.

7. ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER CONFIRMATION

Ms. Therrien informed the Board that an application for the animal control officer's position was received from Michael Congelosi who expressed interested in providing services for dogs. She also noted receipt of an e-mail from Mary Angarola who is interested in volunteering her services in helping cats in Machias. The Board discussed having Ms. Angarola and Mr. Congelosi work together in a cooperative relationship to provide animal control services.

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

VOTED:

Based on the recommendation of the Town Manager, to appoint Michael Congelosi as Animal Control Officer with the understanding that Mary Angola will volunteer to assist with animal control services for cats in Machias.

8. SCHEDULE FOR MEETINGS

The Board agreed to hold their reorganizational meeting immediately after the annual town meeting scheduled on June 12th

9. EVENT REQUEST - LAMPS

Representatives of LAMPS (Lubec Area Musicians' Philanthropic Society), Elizabeth Nichols-Goodlife and Kurt Andresen asked the Board for permission to hold an event, the Machias Blueberry Jam, at Bad Little Falls Park on the evening of August 17, 2019. Ms. Nichols-Goodliff explained that the event will feature local musicians who will play from 6:00 PM to 12:00 AM during the chemical-free event. Ms. Therrien suggested that she check with the Blackly Ball organizer on plans for that event. Mr. Andresen explained that LAMPS covers the liability insurance needed for the event. Ms. Nichols-Goodliff said that she would also contact Bill Burke to see if the event could be covered under Bold Coast Sea & Sky Festival liability. Ms. Therrien outlined needs for security and posting of the footbridge for traffic to ensure public safety. It was the consensus of the Board to tentatively agree to allow LAMPS to use Bad Little Falls Park on the evening August 17th with the understanding that permits are obtained and safety concerns are addressed.

10. INFORMATION ON INDUSTRIAL PARK LOT SALE PRICE

Mr. Todd Rich (Wireless Partners LLC) discussed the purchase of a lot in the Machias Industrial Park with the Board. He explained that a letter of intent will be sent to the Board outlining his company's intent to purchase Lot #14 in the amount of \$32,000. Mr. Rich noted that his company would pay for the purchase expenses and also pay \$500. towards the town's costs of selling the lot. He advised the Board that the letter of intent will also outline a proposed six month window to complete the project of building a cell tower on the land. Ms. Therrien noted that the lot was assessed at \$28,000. and the sale would potentially add \$3000. in tax revenue to the Town. The Board discussed selling the lot. It was the consensus of the Board to accept the terms of the purchase to be outlined in Mr. Rich's letter of intent and to proceed with the steps involved with selling Lot #14 to Wireless Partners LLC as proposed by Mr. Rich.

11. UPDATE ON REDEMPTION CENTER PURCHASE

Mr. Jacob Van de Sande explained that he wanted to provide the Board with information on the proposed purchase of the Main Street redemption center building. He advised that the hazardous materials report on the property has been completed; he informed the Board that some asbestos was found in the siding and trim boards and in the tar coating on the building's foundation. Mr. Van de Sande said that there was an estimate of \$4000. for removal of the asbestos. Mr. Van de Sande also added that an environmental assessment of the property had been completed. Mr. Rolfe questioned what the next step in the purchase would be; Mr. Van de Sande said that he would be moving forward on the purchase now that these two assessments had been completed with no major problems found to stall completion of the purchase. Mr. Rolfe thanked Mr. Van de Sande for his update to the Board.

12. FUND BALANCE INFORMATION

Ms. Therrien reminded the Board that they have information on the town's fund balance. Mr. Rolfe suggested that the Board could look at the information at the Board's reorganizational meeting in June.

13. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF BOARD FOR 2019

Mr. Rolfe noted that the Board had previously tabled goals and objectives for 2019.

14. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Ms. Therrien noted that the Board has a notice from the Machias Water Company advising of the annual shareholder's meeting on June 24th at 10:00 AM at the water company offices in Machias. Ms. Therrien pointed out that a member of the Board of Selectmen usually attends the meeting.

B. Ms. Therrien advised the Board of a sample letter for their review on the Fats, Oil, and Grease (FOG) Control Program.

C. Ms. Therrien advised the Board that she has notified the County of the availability of the telebusiness for purchase.

D. Mr. Whalen asked since the Board has found that the Town Manager has met standards of performance if this indicates this is now policy. Mr. Rolfe noted that the Board is not setting policy here.

E. Mr. Whalen pointed out that to date the Town has been billed \$51,350. for costs of trucking solid waste to Ellsworth. He questioned if/when the trucking would stop. Mr. Rolfe noted that the Board had budgeted for these costs since the spreading sites were not ready. Ms. Therrien added that trucking costs were budgeted on the basis of one year since it was known that the sites would not be available.

Mr. Whalen questioned if the Town should be looking for another site to use? Ms. Therrien explained that Machias is in a "holding pattern" since the State is not allowing any municipality to spread sludge at the present time. She added that Machias is waiting, as are other municipalities, for the State to make a decision. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe noted that the Board can invite Olver Associates to meet with the Board to discuss options and costs if the Town wants to consider alternatives to spreading.

Mr. Whalen stated his belief that all Machias taxpayers should pay for these costs. Mr. Davis said that he disagreed since sewer users are not asked to contribute to costs for leech fields and private sewer systems for property owners who are unable to connect to the municipal sewer system. Ms. Therrien pointed out that sewer rates/fees have not increased over the past year or for the upcoming year.

F. Mr. Whalen noted that information in a recent MMA bulletin points out that the State is pushing for solar power. He asked if the Board would consider putting together a working group to look at solar power alternatives. Mr. Davis suggested looking at grants for solar energy. The Board discussed Mr. Whalen's suggestion.

On a motion by James Whalen, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board

VOTED:

To start a working group on solar power options for Machias.

Mr. Rolfe noted that this would be a working group, not a board or committee and that the group would collect information and report its finds to the Board of Selectmen.

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by Glenn Davis, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM.