

Machias Selectboard Meeting  
Wednesday, June 10, 2026  
At Machias Tele-Business Center

Attending: Select Board Chairman Jake Patryn, Ben Edwards, Mike Hinerman, Sandra Sinford, Carole Porcher; Town Manager Sarah Dedmon; CFO Nicholas MacDonald; Town Clerk Sandra Clifton; Machias Ambulance Director Ryan Maker; Machias Transfer Station Manager Nichole Albee; Machias Fire Chief Joe Thompson; Machias Police Chief Keith Mercier and Lt. Tim Mace; SCEC Consultant Tora Johnson; Paul Sylvain of the MVNO; Recording Secretary Sharon Mack, Amanda Taylor, George Townsend; and Evan Hauk and Bob Berta on Google Meets.

Jake Patryn called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**MINUTES:** On a motion by Edwards, second by Porcher, the board **VOTED** to accept the 5/13/26 meeting minutes as presented.

On a motion by Edwards, second by Porcher, the board **VOTED** to accept the selectboard's amended minutes from the 4/16/26 minutes.

On a motion by Edwards, second by Porcher, the board **VOTED** to accept the 5/27 meeting minutes as presented.

**SIGNATURES –**

1. The board approved and signed a liquor license renewal for Pat's Pizza, 168 Main Street.
2. The board approved and signed a special entertainment permit for American Legion Post #9, 42 Court Street. Mike Hinerman abstained.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCE:**

The board heard a timeline and explanation for the grievance, which was held in public session by the request of the former ambulance employee, Amanda Taylor, who filed the complaint regarding her termination. After hearing from both Amanda Taylor and Ambulance Director Ryan Maker, the board determined that they needed time to read through the timeline and explanations and requested a copy of the documents referred to during testimony. On a motion by Carole Porcher, second by Ben Edwards, the board **VOTED** to table a decision, pending receipt of the requested documents, until 5 p.m. Monday, June 15, 2026.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**1. TRASH BAGS** - The board revisited the issue of whether to continue using town trash bags, which residents purchase. Nick MacDonald said new research showed that the average weight of a bag is actually less than the cost of the bag. The average filled bag is 13 pounds. Nick MacDonald said the town should continue the bag program but that in the future he recommends increasing the price per bag by 50 cents. He said that could result in \$3300 in new revenue. He said new discussions with Marion Townships transfer station and the Canadian company that accepts its waste are developing strong relationships and new ideas for increasing revenue.

**2. TOWN CLEAN UP DAY** - The board agreed that the estimate for this project could be \$15,000-\$20,000 and decided to ask voters at the annual town meeting their opinion. They also suggested getting schools and local organizations involved.

**3. 48 FREMONT STREET** - After a short discussion, on a motion by Edwards and second by Carole Porcher, the board **VOTED** to authorize the town manager to accept the offer of \$40,000 for the tax-acquired property from Mr. Michael Arsenault. Sarah Dedmon said the sale will more than cover all fees, taxes and other expenses incurred by the town.

**4. SPECIAL TOWN MEETING** - After setting a special town meeting at the town offices for 6 p.m. Thursday, June 18, 2026 to authorize overruns on the police, fire, and possibly airport accounts, Sarah Dedmon explained that human error caused a cruiser purchase to be missed in the budget and the police department will overrun its current budget by \$32,000. She said the method used to pay firefighters and some equipment expenses will cause the fire department to overrun by \$19,200. On a motion by Carole Porcher, second by Ben Edwards, the board **VOTED** to use \$5,000 from the select board's Contingency Account to offset the Police Department shortfall. Sarah Dedmon said there is an article in this year's annual town meeting warrant to give the board the ability to move money between accounts so this type of action won't be necessary if it is approved.

## **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:**

1. Sarah Dedmon reported that the Kitchen Concerts will be held each Thursday beginning June 18, 2026 at the new stage at Middle River Park. Performances will begin with a solo act at 5 p.m. followed by the main concert from 6-8 p.m.

2. Sarah Dedmon showed the board posters she is creating to increase tourism and promote the town as a destination.
3. Sarah announced a \$1,750 donation from Sunrise Opportunities to begin fencing the Grove Street Park playground. Fundraising will be needed to fully fund the project.
4. Sarah added that the Kitchen Kup Golf Tournament was very successful
5. The "Slow for Geese" signs will be installed on Grove and Water Streets to protect geese during hatching season.

**ADJOURN:** On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman, the board **VOTED** to adjourn at 6:24 p.m.