

Machias Select Board Minutes
July 8, 2026
At The Machias Tele-Business Center

Attending: Chairman Jake Patryn, Ben Edwards, Mike Hinerman, Carole Porcher and Sandra Sinford, Town Manager Sara Dedmon, Finance Director Nicholas MacDonald, SCEC's Tora Johnson, Paul Sylvain of the MVNO, Recording Secretary Sharon Mack.

Jake Patryn called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

MINUTES:

1. On a motion by Carole Porcher, second by Ben Edwards, the board **VOTED** to accept the minutes of 6/10/2026 as presented. Sinford abstained.
2. On a motion by Carole Porcher, second by Ben Edwards, the board **VOTED** to accept the minutes of 6/23/2026 as presented.
3. On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Sandra Sinford, the board **VOTED** to accept the minutes of 6/15/2026 as presented.
4. On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Carole Porcher, the board **VOTED** to amend and accept the amended Meeting of the Select Board and Budget Committee minutes of 4/16/2026, to reflect that the board discussed rather than determined an action regarding 4% salary increases, and corrected the library budget recommendation from \$32,000 to \$26,000.

NEW BUSINESS

1. SEWER ABATEMENT - David Lambert of 22 North Street, requested a sewer abatement due to a broken radiator when he was not at home. On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Sandra Sinford, the board

VOTED to grant the abatement in an amount to be determined based on his normal average use.

2. PUBLIC WORKS ROOF - The board reviewed pictures of damage to the roof at the Public Works Garage and Sarah Dedmon explained that it was discovered the roof is actually metal siding, not standard roofing

material. Repairs are estimated to be \$5,000 and would be a silicone seal, and replacement with metal roofing would be \$21,000. Sarah Dedmon said she would seek grants for the project, and the board discussed the age of the building. Nick MacDonald said there are funds leftover in two previous Public Works loan accounts that could be used. On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Carole Porcher, the board

VOTED to issue Requests for Proposals for both repair and replacement options for the Public Works Garage roof.

3. HEATING/COOLING CENTER – Sarah Dedmon explained that the town has installed a generator large enough for the entire Tele-Business Building using a grant late town manager Bill Kitchen obtained and she was seeking approval to use the building as necessary for a townwide heating/cooling center, daytime use only. She stated she will mesh with the County Emergency Management Office, and work with Healthy Acadia and the Community Caring Collaborative for volunteers. On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman, the board

VOTED to approve the use of the Tele-Business Building as a heating and cooling center when necessary.

TOWN MANAGERS UPDATE –

1. Sarah Dedmon said at least 25 people attended this week's Comprehensive Plan Visioning Session at UMM and it was very constructive. She said the plan committee will be on Monday, July 20, 2026 to discuss land use ordinances and issues.
2. Sarah Dedmon said she would like to hold a workshop with the select board to identify priorities for the new fiscal year. She suggested it be held at the next board meeting.
3. Sarah Dedmon is seeking a planning grant for the Grove Street park area to construct a 100' x 150' multi-purpose court that could be used for pickleball tournaments and summer basketball adult leagues. She has identified a fencing solution to provide safety from traffic passing by the park. Jake Patryn said the addition of bleachers could make the courts a real community gathering space.

OTHER

1. Ben Edwards said he met with the UMM Board of Visitors and would like to start a process of bridging the gap between UMM and the town. He will ask UMM to send a representative each quarter to the board meetings to keep both entities updated.
2. Jake Patryn said that with passage of the marijuana moratorium, the board needs to begin work on a companion ordinance. He stressed that public input would be key and noted that there have been changes in state law that need to be taken into consideration when creating the ordinance. He will be scheduling a work session.
3. Nick MacDonald stated that the Internet upgrade is complete and there will be cost savings.
4. Tora Johnson stated that SCEC is wrapping up a housing opportunity project funded by the state and that Machias is a high-priority location. She also met with Downeast Institute regarding water quality monitoring and will begin looking at non-point sources of pollution.

On a vote by Mike Hinerman, second by Carole Porcher, the board **VOTED** to adjourn at 7:23 p.m.