

BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS

JULY 12, 2023

A meeting of the Machias Board of Selectpeople was called to order at 6:03 PM by Chairman Jake Patryn. In attendance were Board members Carole Porcher, Ben Edwards, and Michael Hinerman; Town Manager Bill Kitchen; Secretary Cathy Lord; Ambulance Chief Ryan Maker; Stephen Simmons, William Merritt, Cody Reynolds, Jim Jackson, Jason Prescott, Meghan Prescott.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Michael Hinerman, seconded by Ben Edwards, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2023 Board meeting.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Carole Porcher, seconded by Ben Edwards, the Board VOTED:

To approve payroll warrant #107 in the amount of \$31,035.22; to approve payroll warrant #109 in the amount of \$9,723.62; to approve payroll warrant #1 in the amount of \$15,593.02; to approve payroll warrant #2 in the amount of \$461.75; and, to approve payroll warrant #4 in the amount of \$24,830.93 .

On a motion by Carole Porcher, seconded by Ben Edwards, the Board VOTED:

To approve accounts payable warrant #108 in the amount of \$324,406.38; to approve accounts payable warrant #110 in the amount of \$16,147.50; to approve accounts payable warrant #111 in the amount of \$5,000.00; to approve accounts payable warrant #3 in the amount of \$39,169.17; and, to approve accounts payable warrant #5 in the amount of \$62,830.40 .

On a motion by Michael Hinerman, seconded by Carole Porcher, the Board VOTED:

To approve school warrant #063023 in the amount of \$381,288.13 and to approve school warrant #071423 in the amount of \$478,733.48 .

3. APPOINTMENTS TO THE MACHIAS PLANNING BOARD

Mr. Kitchen advised the Board that there are currently two vacancies on the Machias Planning Board. He noted that two people, Mr. Jim Jackson and Mr. Ryle Mortland, have expressed an interest in serving on that board. Mr. Patryn noted that the members of the Machias Planning Board are appointed by the Board of Select-people as specified by municipal ordinance enacted in 1975.

On a motion by Carole Porcher, seconded by Ben Edwards, the Board VOTED:

To appoint Jim Jackson and Ryle Mortland to the Machias Planning Board with their appointments to expire in 2028.

The members of the Board signed appointment papers for the two new members of the Machias Planning Board.

4. BOARD OF APPEALS STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Mr. Kitchen noted that he had distributed copies of the Board of Appeals standard operating procedures for the Board's review. He pointed out that if the Board would like to have the Code

Enforcement Officer discuss the operating procedures this can be arranged. Ms. Porcher noted that the document is very hard to understand since there is much complicated language in the procedures. Mr. Edwards agreed that the document is very difficult to read and that he would like to have more time to digest the contents of the document. Mr. Kitchen told the Board that there is no great rush and he will allow the members of the Board more time to thoroughly read the document.

5. BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE'S MEETING DISCUSSION

Mr. Patryn noted that the Board's July 26th meeting is scheduled in the same week as the annual town meeting. He noted that the Board does not historically meet the week of the town meeting.

On a motion by Carole Porcher, seconded by Ben Edwards, the Board
VOTED:

To forego the July 26th Board meeting due to the scheduling of the annual town meeting.

6. ADULT USE RETAIL MARIJUANA ORDINANCE DISCUSSION

Mr. Kitchen told the members of the Board that now that they have had time to think about adult use marijuana he would like to hear their comments on the topic. Mr. Patryn said that it was important to hear from the general public and from existing business owners. He noted that he has been looking at ordinances from other municipalities and that the Board will definitely take awhile to tackle this issue. Mr. Edwards agreed with Mr. Patryn and he added that there are a lot of things to consider with adult use marijuana. Mr. Edwards noted that he has talked with many citizens about the issue and he pointed out that Machias does not have zoning in place to assist with controlling the process. He said that he would like to have the opportunity to sit down with marijuana store owners to thoroughly discuss the issue. Mr. Edwards pointed out that ordinances vary widely and that he would want to look at towns that have gone through several retail marijuana ordinances since marijuana was legalized. Ms. Porcher commented that the Board needs adequate time to investigate the issue.

Mr. Patryn pointed out that there are still problems and concerns with the medical marijuana ordinance and that this conversation needs to also be held. Mr. Edwards suggested that the Board should take up both medical and retail sales together. Mr. William Merritt said that he wants everyone to be able to state their opinion. Mr. Jason Prescott agreed. Mr. Patryn said that the Board will give the topic its due diligence and wants to consider everyone's opinion. Mr. Kitchen noted that the Maine Office of Cannabis Policy will be holding a listening and question session at UMM on July 26th at the Performing Arts Center.

7. MACHIAS AMBULANCE SERVICE

Ambulance Chief Ryan Maker advised the Board that both ambulances are back in service. He informed the Board that there were eighty-nine calls for assistance in June and he noted the categories of the calls. Mr. Maker told the Board that the power-lift has been ordered that was discussed and approved for purchase at their last meeting.

Mr. Maker asked if the Board would consider that during a twelve-hour shift the fourth person on duty could be an EMT (usually is a paramedic). Mr. Kitchen commented that a drawback would be that four people would have to be paid during a twelve-hour shift. Mr. Maker noted that this would increase the revenue of the ambulance service since more transfers could be taken. Mr. Kitchen suggested a trial period to see if the revenue increases. Mr. Edwards commented that it is necessary to increase revenue and that a ninety-day trial basis would assist the Board. It was the unanimous decision of the Board to proceed with the ninety-day trial.

8. WARRANTS FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

Mr. Kitchen distributed copies of the town meeting warrant articles for the Board to review and sign so they can be send to the printer. Mr. Kitchen noted that the warrant articles are the culmination of the Board's and Machias Budget Committee's work.

9. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Michael Hinerman, seconded by Ben Edwards, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 PM.