

Note: Before beginning the meeting, those assembled stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS

AUGUST 10, 2022

A meeting of the Machias Board of Select-people was called to order at 6:05 PM by Chairman Paula Johnson-Rolfe. In attendance were Board members Sandra Sinford, Carole Porcher, and Jake Patryn; Town Manager Bill Kitchen; Secretary Cathy Lord; Police Chief Keith Mercier; Bruce Smith, Ben Edwards, Tyler Dunbar, Jim Jackson, Lois Jackson, Crystal Canney.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Carole Porcher, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2022 Board meeting.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Sandra Sinford, seconded by Carole Porcher, the Board
VOTED:

To approve municipal payroll warrant #7 in the amount of \$24,033.13; to approve municipal payroll warrant #9 in the amount of \$12,741.41; and, to approve municipal payroll warrant #11 in the amount of \$461.75 .

On a motion by Sandra Sinford, seconded by Carole Porcher, the Board
VOTED:

To approve municipal accounts payable warrant #8 in the amount of \$77,958.31 and to approve accounts payable warrant #10 in the amount of \$27,224.50 .

On a motion by Sandra Sinford, seconded by Carole Porcher, the Board
VOTED:

To approve school warrant #72922 in the amount of \$386,992.50 .

3. LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION - PAT'S PIZZA

Ms. Johnson-Rolfe noted that Pat's Pizza has submitted a renewal application for a liquor license with no changes to the renewal license. The members of the Board reviewed and signed the application.

On a motion by Carole Porcher, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board
VOTED:

To approve and sign a liquor license renewal submitted by Pat's Pizza.

4. TRANSFER STATION - PURCHASE OF BALER

Mr. Kitchen advised the Board that he has a quote on the purchase of a re-built Selco baler for the recycling center. He distributed copies of the quote for the Board to review. Mr. Kitchen noted that the baler is needed to bale cardboard and plastics which can then be sold. Mr. Kitchen advised the Board that a new baler would have a purchase price of over \$70,000. He told the Board that the current baler was purchased in 1994 when it was already over ten years old and is very old with some safety issues. Mr. Kitchen told the Board that the quote is in the amount of \$30,352. (includes installation) and he explained that both Mr. Shoppee and the Recycling Center Director recommend the purchase of the baler.

Mr. Kitchen advised the Board that the purchase would be allocated from the transfer station enterprise account. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe noted that she would like to see the status of this

account. Mr. Patryn noted that it is preferable to look at the financial status of accounts before making a purchase. Mr. Patryn asked about the operating status of the current baler and Mr. Kitchen noted that the baler is working poorly and there are some issues with safety. Ms. Sinford commented that there are several concerns with the baler at the facility such as the equipment is old and there are concerns that the equipment has not been maintained properly with regular service. Ms. Sinford cautioned that the equipment is needed and that it may not be advisable to wait another two weeks before the Board meets again to act on the purchase. Mr. Edwards noted the problem with the facility not being able to recycle and he expressed concern that recyclable materials could end up in the trash if the Town does not have the ability to bale the materials. Mr. Kitchen noted that the prices for cardboard and plastics has increased and a new baler would be much more efficient. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe noted that the baler could be installed on September 15th. Mr. Kitchen explained that the company is located in Maine and can provide service on the baler.

On a motion by Jake Patryn, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board
VOTED:

To approve the purchase of a baler in the amount of \$30,352. from United Hydraulics Inc.

5. POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Chief Mercier reported on vehicle maintenance, blueberry festival preparation, up-coming police trainings, a fill-it cruiser event, and plans to increase traffic enforcement.

6. TELE-BUSINESS CENTER OFFICE RENTALS

Mr. Kitchen reported that he had talked with renters regarding six-month leases at the tele-business center and that the renters were agreeable to proceed at six month increments. Mr. Patryn noted that it should be reasonable to see some progress regarding the concept of moving the town office within this time period. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe commented that she would really like to see progress in moving the town office. Mr. Patryn suggested looking at options with the use of the current town office, looking at actual numbers to sell or rent the property on Court Street, and gathering the information to work on the advisability of moving the town office. Mr. Kitchen suggested that a small committee could be formed to look at the options which would include two members of the Board. Mr. Edwards recommended that a financial analysis would be the most important thing to address. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe pointed out that the current town office is not adequate for the town's needs; she noted that the present building has no expandable space. Ms. Porcher suggested that a date be set for this committee to report back to the whole Board. Mr. Edwards added that the committee could figure out a date with Mr. Kitchen to report back to the Board. Ms. Sinford noted that the goal is to look at the future for town growth.

7. SCHOOL REFERENDUM

Mr. Kitchen noted that the school referendum on the additional classrooms is at the Machias Town Office with voting from 8 AM to 8 PM on September 13th.

8. SAFETY ISSUE

Ms. Sinford commented that it is dangerous for drivers turning onto Dublin Street from Prescott Drive due to the height of the vegetation growing on the adjacent property. Ms. Sinford asked the Town Manager to reach out to the realtor listing the property to get the portion of the property obstructing drivers' line of sight mowed.

9. SAVE OUR FISHING PRESENTATION

Ms. Crystal Canney representing Protect Maine's Fishing Heritage Foundation gave a presentation on efforts to protect Maine coastal waters from large scale foreign investment in

aquaculture. She explained that her group is recommending to municipalities that they look at enacting moratoriums addressing the issue of foreign influence in coastal Maine waters.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Mr. Edwards updated the Board regarding efforts to grow at the municipal airport to address PFAS. He advised the Board that the license was received too late this year and that the planting will occur next spring.

B. Mr. Jackson noted that there was a water main break on Court Street and he asked Mr. Kitchen to address the water company paving over the area of the break.

C. Mr. Kitchen informed the Board that the fuel farm at the airport will be in operation in August.

D. Mr. Kitchen reported that construction of the entrepreneurship building on Main Street is progressing.

E. Mr. Kitchen reported that a building located on upper Main Street will be converted into apartments. He noted that business owners in the vicinity of the building expressed concern that the Town owns the parking spaces located in front of the building.

On a motion by Carole Porcher, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 PM.