

**Machias Select Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 27, 2025 @ 5 p.m.
At Machias Tele-Business Center**

In Attendance: Chairman Jake Patryn, Vice Chairman Ben Edwards, Michael Hinerman, Carole Porcher, Sandra Sinford; Town Manager Sarah Dedmon, Police Chief Keith Mercier, Finance Director Nicholas MacDonald, Tora Johnson, Paul Sylvain, Sharon Mack and Frank Weston.

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

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: On a motion by Micheal Hinerman, second by Carole Porcher, the board

VOTED to accept the Public Hearing Minutes August 13, 2025 and Select Board Meeting Minutes August 13, 2025 as presented. Sandra Sinford abstained from voting.

ITEMS TO BE SIGNED:

WARRANTS: On a motion by Sandra Sinford and second by Ben Edwards, the board

VOTED to approve the warrants as listed:

Payroll - 8/15/2025 #19 for \$31,324.02, 08/15/2025 #20 for \$2,134.45, 8/22/2025, #23 for \$53,515.13, 08/22/2025 #25 \$2,040.19.

Accounts Payable - 8/15/2025 #21 for \$720,129.83, 08/15/2025 #22 for \$7,430.68, 8/22/2025 #24 for \$170,473.19, 08/22/2025 #26 for \$1,979.41.

School - 8/22/2025 payroll #76013 for \$111,192.60, 8/22/2025 Payables #76018 for \$30,225.82.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Airport Planning/Engineering RFQ:** Sarah Dedmon stated that three firms: Jacobs, Dubois and King, and Gayle (sp) - had submitted bids for engineering services at the airport. She outlined the board's options as: award the bid, rebid the services, or put it out to various companies. She said there is no town money attached to the project. It is run by the FAA through grant funds and is usually a five-year

contract. She said that the next five years are key to the overall Capital Improvement Plan for the airport. After a brief discussion the board decided to have Sarah Dedmon set up a meeting with all three bidders for a formal presentation.

2. Fireworks Rescheduling: The board acknowledged that there was a great deal of public feedback when the Blueberry Festival fireworks had to be cancelled due to severe drought causing a great fire risk. Sarah Dedmon said there are several options, including following the annual Christmas Parade or on New Year's Eve, or rolling over the funds to the 2026 fiscal year. The board agreed with a suggestion by Jake Patryn to poll the community as to which option they would prefer. He said if the poll option works well, it could be used for other issues.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. 48 Fremont Street: Jake Patryn said that the board had reviewed the property's payment history, stating that only one payment on sewer and taxes had been made by owner Frank Weston since 2020. The property was foreclosed on in 2023 and the eviction process began on July 22, 2025. Jake Patryn said the payment history was unacceptable and recommended that the town continue with the process and not sell the property back to Frank Weston. Frank Weston appealed to the board to allow him to pay all the back taxes and sewer fees and give him time to make repairs and upgrades. He said he would then sell the property in the spring. The repairs would give him a higher selling return than selling it in its current condition. He was informed that it was too late as the eviction process is underway. On a motion by Sandra Sinford, second by Carole Porcher, the board unanimously

VOTED to not sell the property at 48 Fremont Street back to Frank Weston, and to allow the disposition process to carry on and move forward according to state law.

Town Manager's Update:

1. Sarah Dedmon announced two free flu shot clinics by the Machias Ambulance Service, Sept. 7, 2025 and Oct. 2, 2025 for all town employees.
2. A water heater leaked into five rooms in the police dept offices and has been repaired.
3. Rudman and Winchell attorneys informed the town that the Tele-Business Building no longer has any encumbrances left from an easement on the original grant.
4. The town is looking for a crew car that can be left at the Machias Airport and used by visiting pilots to access the community.
5. The Machias Ambulance Service is currently putting out bids for its next ambulance.
6. Bids are going out for winter sand and fuel oil
7. Friday, August 29, 2025 at 1 p.m. is the bid opening for the roof replacement at the Water Treatment Facility.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman, the board

VOTED at 6:12 p.m. to go into an executive session in accordance with MRSA Title 1 Chapter 13 Section 405, paragraph 6D.

On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Mike Hinerman the board **VOTED** at 6:43 p.m. to exit the executive session.

ADJOURN: On a motion by Ben Edwards, second by Carole Porcher, the board **VOTED** at 6:43 p.m. to adjourn.