

BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS

AUGUST 28, 2019

A meeting of the Machias Board of Selectpeople was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Josh Rolfe. In attendance were Board members Paula Johnson-Rolfe, Bill Kitchen, and James Jackson; Town Manager Christina Therrien; Secretary Cathy Lord; David Clark, Mary Angarola, Bruce Smith, Lynette Bubar-Smith, Sharon Mack, Georgia Kendall, Sarah Bridges, Katie Sell.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2019 Board meeting.

2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board

VOTED:

To approve municipal warrant #11 in the amount of \$10,272.09; to approve municipal warrant #12 in the amount of \$159,226.37; to approve municipal warrant #13 in the amount of \$12,922.46; to approve municipal warrant #14 in the amount of \$33,729.34; to approve municipal warrant #15 in the amount of \$10,922.93; to approve municipal warrant #16 in the amount of \$164,425.36; to approve municipal warrant #17 in the amount of \$18,387.32; and, to approve municipal warrant #18 in the amount of \$642.52 .

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board

VOTED:

To approve school warrant #7 in the amount of \$292,908.26 .

3. SEWER DISCHARGE - ACCOUNT #518

Ms. Therrien explained to the Board that there was an error in billing on Sewer Account #518 (Karen Miller, One Swanville LLC) which needs to be discharged in the amount of \$77.00 .

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board

VOTED:

To authorize a sewer discharge of \$77.00 for Sewer Account #518 due to an error in billing.

4. FUEL OIL AND PROPANE - BID OPENING

The Board opened bids submitted for the purchase of fuel oil.

Bids: Dead River: \$2.1834 per gallon delivered based on rack price

Fraser Oil: \$2.138 per gallon delivered based on rack price

RH Foster: \$2.199 per gallon delivered based on rack price

Taylor Fuel: \$2.20 per gallon delivered based on rack price

J & K Fuel: \$2.14560 per gallon delivered based on rack price

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board

VOTED:

To award the bid for fuel oil to Fraser Oil as low bidder at \$2.138 per gallon delivered based on rack price/differential price/delivery price.

The Board opened bids submitted for the purchase of propane fuel.

Bids: RH Foster: \$1.399 per gallon delivered

Dead River: \$0.9932 per gallon delivered

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board

VOTED:

To award the bid for propane to Dead River as low bidder at \$0.9932 per gallon delivered based on rack price/differential price/delivery price.

5. WINTER SAND - BID OPENING

The Board opened bids submitted for the purchase of winter sand.

Bids: Hanscom Construction: Option #1 bid of \$9.75 per cubic yard

Option #2 bid of \$7.50 per cubic yard

Jonesboro Sand & Gravel: Option #1 bid of \$11.50 per cubic yard

Option #2 bid of \$7.50 per cubic yard

By Us Company: Option #1 bid of \$8.35 per cubic yard

Option #2 bid of \$5.60 per cubic yard

Option #3 bid of \$7.35 per cubic yard

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board

VOTED:

To award the bid for the purchase of winter sand to the low bidder By Us Company.

6. TAX ABATEMENT REQUEST - REAL ESTATE ACCOUNT #757

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that a property owner (Malcolm Donovan - Account #757) is requesting a tax abatement in the amount of \$278.48 due to a tax assessor error because of the assessment of additional acreage to the property owner. Ms. Therrien noted that the tax assessor corrected the mistake on this account for 2019 and issued an abatement of \$305.97 to correct the tax bill for 2018 but she explained that Maine tax law provides that municipal officers may only abate taxes for up to three years after the date of commitment in the case of an irregularity or illegality. The Board discussed how to proceed. Mr. Rolfe noted his dismay that a taxpayer is penalized for a mistake clearly made by the tax assessor. Ms. Therrien explained that property owners are responsible for checking their tax bills. Mr. Rolfe continued to note his unease even though he pointed out that there was nothing further that the Board could do to rectify this mistake.

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board

VOTED:

To abate the 2017 property taxes on real estate account #757 in the amount of \$278.48 in accordance with 36 M.R.S. Subsection 841.

7. LOAN PROPOSAL BID OPENING - SCHOOL BUS & ROOF

Ms. Therrien noted that the Town advertised bid specifications for loan proposals on the sum of \$89,300. for the purchase of a new school bus and on the sum of \$105,000. for the roof replacement on the Machias Memorial High School gym. She advised the Board that only one bid was received in response to the loan package. A member of the Board opened the bid received.

Bid: Machias Savings Bank - 3.24% on the MMHS roof replacement (3 years)

- 3.24 % on the bus purchase (5 years)

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board

VOTED:

To award the bid on the purchase of a new school bus and the roof replacement for the gym to Machias Savings Bank at the rate of 3.24%.

8. PRESENTATION BY HEALTHY ACADIA - TOWN SMOKING POLICY

Representatives of Healthy Acadia gave a presentation on the consideration of a tobacco policy for the Town of Machias. Ms. Georgia Kendall reviewed statistics of smoking, she advised the members of the Board that they could consider three different levels of policy to implement, and she distributed informational brochures.

Ms. Therrien advised the Board that she found nothing referring to a smoking policy in the town's established policies. Mr. Rolfe suggested that it could be an opportune time to consider a model policy; he asked that this item be kept on the Board's agenda for continuing discussion. Mr. Rolfe noted that the Board may reach out to Healthy Acadia again based on the Board's decision to develop a town smoking policy. Mr. Rolfe thanked Healthy Acadia for the presentation and information.

9. RESIGNATION - SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

The Board reviewed a letter of resignation submitted by School Resource Officer William Sternbergh.

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board

VOTED:

To accept Mr. Sternbergh's resignation as School Resource Officer with regret.

Ms. Therrien suggested the possibility that the Board could look at contracting with the County and sharing resources in refilling this position. Mr. Rolfe commented that the Board would need to approach this suggestion with caution since the school resource officer position is funded fully by Machias taxpayers. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe added that there could be issues of liability with partnering with the County on this position which should be discussed with the sheriff.

10. CIVIL WAR SOLDIER STATUE - REPAIR QUOTE

Ms. Therrien reviewed the quote from Building Envelope Specialists for repairs and cleaning of the Civil War soldier statue on the grounds of Porter Memorial Library. She noted that the quote is for \$36,617.05. The Board reviewed the quote. Ms. Sharon Mack noted that many other towns also have this statue and she suggested checking with other municipalities to see what these towns have done for repairs/work for their statues. The Board agreed to ask the Town Manager to check with other towns and look at other options.

11. ICE SKATING RINK APPROVAL - SOUTH SIDE FIELD

Ms. Therrien advised the members of the Board that the Chamber of Commerce is asking permission to place the ice skating rink at the South Side Field for the winter skating season. Ms. Mack reviewed the Chamber's plan to establish the forty by twenty foot rink on the town's field during the winter. The Board discussed the request.

On a motion by Bill Kitchen, seconded by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, the Board

VOTED:

To allow placement of the ice skating rink at the South Side Field for a municipal ice skating rink.

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by Bill Kitchen, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM.