

BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS

RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

A meeting of the Machias Board of Selectpeople was called to order at the Machias Town Office and via the Zoom platform at 8:08 PM by Chairman Josh Rolfe. In attendance were Board members Paula Johnson-Rolfe, James Whalen, James Jackson; and Leslie Haynes; Secretary Cathy Lord; Town Clerk Sandra Clifton; Finance Director Meghan Dennison; Code Enforcement Officer Betsy Fitzgerald; Fire Chief Joey Dennison; Mary Angarola, Sarah Craighead Dedmond, Bruce Smith, Sarah Newell.

1. APPOINTMENT PAPERS - DESIGNATION OF AUTHORITY

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

To assign appointment duties of the town manager to Code Enforcement Officer Betsy Fitzgerald.

2. NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD

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

To nominate Josh Rolfe as Chairperson of the Board of Selectpeople.

3. NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD

On a motion by Josh Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board
VOTED:

To nominate Paula Johnson-Rolfe as Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Selectpeople.

4. DISCUSSION OF MEETING SCHEDULE AND FORMAT

Mr. Rolfe asked the Board if they wanted to continue to hold meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 6:00 PM? It was the consensus of the Board to continue holding scheduled Board meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

Mr. Rolfe asked the members of the Board about the format of meetings - meeting in person or to continue to use the Zoom platform. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe suggested that people be allowed to choose the option either to participate in person or via the Zoom communication platform. She noted that the Zoom platform allows more people to participate which was a goal of the Board when they were discussing the televising of Board meetings to the public. Ms. Johnson-Rolfe also pointed out that there are times when she cannot personally be at a meeting but she could attend and participate remotely using Zoom. Mr. Rolfe said that the Board could do both; he noted that using Zoom allows citizens to participate and listen to Board meetings which is something discussed several times by the Board at previous meetings.

5. APPOINTMENTS BY THE BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE

On a motion by James Jackson, seconded by James Whalen, the Board
VOTED:

To appoint Christina Therrien as Town Manager.

On a motion by James Jackson, seconded by James Whalen, the Board
VOTED:

To appoint Town Manager Christina Therrien as Tax Collector, Treasurer, Welfare Director, Harbormaster, Airport Manager, and Road Commissioner.

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

VOTED:

To appoint Betsy Fitzgerald as Licensed Plumbing Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer.

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by Leslie Haynes, the Board

VOTED:

To appoint Lani Reynolds, James Whalen, Christina Therrien, James Sparaga, David Rier, Michael Radeka, Jennifer Peters, Andrea Patterson, William Kitchen, Benjamin Edwards, David Olsen, and William Blaine to the Machias Airport Committee.

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

VOTED:

To appoint J. Douglas Guy as Certified Tax Assessor.

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

VOTED:

To appoint Vicki Boone, Angela Fochesato, Dan Gardner, Kehben Grier, Katherine Mahon Holmes, Christina Therrien, Denise Cilley, Eric Jones, James Whalen, Lisa Schaefer, Sandi Malagara, Nancy Mirman, Gail Peters, and James Jackson to the Machias Downtown Revitalization Committee.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

A. The Board briefly discussed problems with drivers failing to stop at the intersection of the East Kennebec Road and the Kennebec Road. Mr. Haynes noted that as a resident living near the intersection he sees that the majority of drivers are not stopping at the stop sign. The Board discussed options such as using a sped bump to slow drivers.

B. The Board briefly discussed problems at the intersection of Broadway and Court Street. Ms. Angarola expressed concern that stopping traffic in a four way stop is not the answer to the problem. Mr. Rolfe noted that the MDOT gave an extensive presentation on what they found at the intersection and their recommendation for the four way stop. Mr. Rolfe noted that the Town has not received any further notification from MDOT.

C. The Board discussed operations at the town office in the absence of the Town Manager. Ms. Clifton commented that town office personnel are able to conduct business as usual at the town office. Mr. Rolfe noted that the Board will discuss compensation for town office personnel due to additional responsibilities.

D. Mr. Rolfe noted that an extension for public comment/testimony on the Machias Water Company's rate request has been filed.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

VOTED:

To adjourn to executive session at 8:55 PM to discuss a personnel matter in accordance with MRSA Title I Subsection #405 6A.

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

VOTED:

To adjourn the executive session at 10:02 PM and reconvene into open session.

On a motion by Paula Johnson-Rolfe, seconded by James Jackson, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 PM.