

# BOARD OF SELECTPEOPLE - TOWN OF MACHIAS

NOVEMBER 8, 2023

A meeting of the Machias Board of Selectpeople was called to order at 6:04 PM by Chairman Jake Patryn. In attendance were Board members Carole Porcher, Sandra Sinford, Ben Edwards, and Michael Hinerman; Town Manager Bill Kitchen; Secretary Cathy Lord; Ambulance Chief Ryan Maker; Police Chief Keith Mercier; Stephen Simmons, Paul Sylvain, Mary Angarola, David Clark.

## 1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Carole Porcher, seconded by Ben Edwards, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2023 Board meeting.

## 2. WARRANTS - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Michael Hinerman, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board VOTED:

To approve payroll warrant #31 in the amount of \$18,586.28; to approve payroll warrant #33 in the amount of \$24,034.30; to approve payroll warrant #34 in the amount of \$984.55; to approve payroll warrant #36 in the amount of \$27,290.04; and, to approve payroll warrant #38 in the amount of \$25,194.23 .

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

To approve accounts payable warrant #32 in the amount of \$113,844.12; to approve accounts payable warrant #35 in the amount of \$84,600.59; to approve accounts payable warrant #37 in the amount of \$579,145.78; and, to approve accounts payable warrant #39 in the amount of \$458,183.62 .

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

To approve school warrant #102023 in the amount of \$325,364.82 and to approve school warrant #110323 in the amount of \$337,736.75 .

## 3. UPDATE ON FREE STREET PROPERTY

Mr. Kitchen reported to the Board that the property owner and the caseworker involved with the owner had a bid of \$5000.00 for removal of the collapsed portion of the building located at 7 Free Street. He reported that the caseworker has been reaching out to other agencies for this type of funding assistance. Mr. Kitchen noted that he will continue to pursue options.

## 4. CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST

Mr. Kitchen advised the Board that he recommends not holding the annual home/business Christmas decorating event this year due to a lack of interested participants. Ms. Sinford noted that the Town can wait a couple of years to see if more people become interested in the decorating contest.

## 5. POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Chief Mercier reported that one officer is attending the police academy, he reported on the downtown trick-or-treat event, and he reported on the ATV Ride event on 11/4.

## **6. AMBULANCE SERVICE UPDATE**

Ambulance Service Chief Ryan Maker reported that 112 calls for service have been received over the last month and that there were 32 transfers (120 transfers for the year). He reported that \$102,204. was billed out for the month and that the ambulance account has a balance of \$371,108. Mr. Maker advised the Board that the newly purchased ambulance is in the process of being outfitted.

## **7. OTHER BUSINESS**

A. Kitchen reported on the installation of a new baler at the transfer station. He noted that United Hydraulics performed the installation at a quote of \$6500. He noted that it was unwieldy and inefficient to get another company to work on the unit that would allow the transfer station to be up and running as soon as possible. Mr. Patryn recommended this company for the installation, and he noted that this company was chosen for the installation since they were familiar with the equipment. Mr. Kitchen discussed the installation of three-phase power to the transfer station with the Board.

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

To accept the estimate from Border Electric of \$6350.00 to install three-phase power to the baler at the Bay Area Transfer Station.

Ms. Porcher cautioned that the Board has been by-passing the town's bid policy recently. Mr. Edwards noted that the Board is sidestepping the formal procedure a lot; he added that he understands the concerns but that the Board needs to be cautious.

B. Ms. Sinford expressed concern that a citizen has had problems contacting the Animal Control Officer. She added that there should be a more timely response from the town employee.

C. Mr. Kitchen updated the Board on the dike project. He noted that he was assured by representatives of the Maine Department of Transportation that it would take seven days to install the temporary metal bridge and that there would be adequate notice of the dike shutdown. Mr. Patryn cautioned that signage should be placed by the MDOT to alert drivers of the by-pass.

D. Mr. Kitchen advised the Board that the MDOT has been vacuuming storm drains.

## **8. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Michael Hinerman, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board  
VOTED:

To adjourn to executive session at 6:42 PM as allowed under MRSA 405 6F to discuss confidential records.

Note: Mr. Maker and Mr. Simmons attended the executive session

On a motion by Michael Hinerman, seconded by Sandra Sinford, the Board voted to adjourn the executive session at 7:15 PM.

## **9. MEETING CANCELLATION**

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

To forego the scheduled 11/22/23 Board meeting.

Mr. Edwards reminded everyone that the Board will meet on 11/29/23 at 5:00 PM for a marijuana ordinance development workshop.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Ben Edwards, seconded by Michael Hinerman, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 PM.