

## TOWN OF MADISON - PUBLIC NOTICE

The Inhabitants of the Town of Madison are hereby notified of a public meeting. The time, place and purpose of which are as follows:

### MINUTES BOARD OF SELECTMEN Old Point School Meeting Room Monday February 8, 2016 7:00 p.m.

- A. Salute to the flag. Meeting was called to order at 7pm
- B. Roll Call. Present were Chairman Al Veneziano, Vice Chair Jack Ducharme, Paul Fortin and Cyp Johnson. Selectman Mike Edgerly was absent.
- C. Consent Agenda: Warrants dated: #20 (1/25/2016 - \$520,609.72) #21 (1/25/16 - \$3,092.00); Payroll Registers: #4 (1/28/16 - \$11,559.82), #5 (2/4/16 - \$11,334.58). Motion to approve by Mr. Ducharme seconded by Mr. Fortin. Motion carries 4-0.
- D. Discuss acceptance of meeting minutes of January 25, 2016: Motion to approve by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Motion carries 4-0.
- E. Old business (Selectmen's Concerns from immediately preceding meeting): None
- F. Items of Communication:

Town Manager Curtis updated the board that RFP's had gone out to 20 accounting firms for 3 year bids for auditing. Also four letters to past due personal property owners went out this week.

Town Manager Curtis confirmed that the board would meet as assessors prior to the next Selectmen's meeting on February 22 at 530.

Town Manager passed out an email indicating that Bee Line Cable would be building out in the northern part of Madison over the next year. He also showed an email from DECD that showed approval for the Town's request to have Blackwell Hill Road included in work that can be paid for from TIF funds.

Mr. Curtis updated the Board on the 2016 State Valuations noting Madison's decrease of over \$135,000,000. The board will discuss ramifications at a later meeting under budget discussions.

Mr. Curtis noted that the Speed Limit Signs ordered in December are on back order.

The Town Manager wanted to confirm with the board as to whether they would be considering all municipal requests that come to the Town. The consensus of the board was to stay the same as last year but they asked the Town Manager to send them a list of all the requests to date.

Mr. Curtis said Starks Selectman Paul Frederick would like to attend the March 14<sup>th</sup> Madison Selectman meeting. Mr. Frederick is considering running for County Commissioner. The board was concerned with the appearance of supporting a candidate and would rather not put him on the agenda, though Mr. Frederick would be welcome to attend the meeting.

The Checkbook Balance stands at approximately \$643,000 and the TIF account balance is \$475,000. It appears we will have enough to pay the school bill on time as second half tax revenues begin to come in over the next 45 days.

## G. New Business

1. Department Head Reports: Highway, Fire & Police: Due to the weather the Road Commissioner was not in attendance. All three reports were accepted as information. Highway is working on moving River Road over 60 feet along Lloyd's gravel pit. That work continues as weather allows. The written report from Deputy Fire Chief Dan Bosworth noted three building fires and three chimney fires in January, and the board reviewed the report from the Madison Division of the Somerset County Sheriff's Office. Mr. Fortin expressed concern about the number of miles being put on the cruisers. The Town Manager said he would discuss with the Sheriff when they meet Wednesday to discuss the Police Budget for the upcoming year.
2. Discuss addendum to Fireside Café liquor license: The State has approved a liquor license for the Fireside Café but in the application outdoor seating was over looked. Mr. Fortin motioned to approve a letter saying that the Board has no objection to serving beer and wine to outdoor patrons under the same provisions of the current license. Seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0.
3. Appoint new member to fill vacancy on the Advisory Board. The Town Manager has received a request from resident Lynn Andrews to replace Bethany Driggs on the Advisory Board. Motion by Mr. Fortin to appoint Lynn Andrews, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Motion carries 4-0. The Town Manager mentioned that there is another opening on Advisory as Roger Sabourin asked to be taken off the board.
4. Discuss Timeframe for 2016 Matching Grant Program: The Town Office has received some inquiries as to the next round of applications. The Town Manager recommends a June 20<sup>th</sup> deadline for applications with awards made on June 27<sup>th</sup>. That way the funding would come from the 2016/17 Economic Development Budget. The Board agreed with that timeframe.
5. Discuss Tax Acquired Property: The Town Manager reviewed a list of properties foreclosed on by the Town at the end of January. There are three mobile homes which are no longer in existence and should be abated. There is one abandoned mobile home that should be auctioned off.

There are a number of properties which are land only such as 53 acres off Adams Road, 17 acres off Ward Hill Road and three sites on Sugarloaf Lane.

The Town Manager discussed three properties which are may be violations of the Town's Property Maintenance Ordinance. (51 John Street, 84 Pine Street, and 32 Naomi Ave).

The remaining seven property owners are currently negotiating with the Town Manager as to how to proceed. The Board recommended that the Town Manager seek legal advice from MMA to make sure that he could proceed on a case by case basis or if all cases had to be treated the same.

6. Review Ordinance Public Hearing Schedule for February 22: The Town Manager showed the five handouts prepared for the public hearing and suggested that the meeting begin with public hearings for all five changes, taken one a time. There will be a very light agenda otherwise.

H. Selectmen's Concerns: Mr. Johnson wanted to review the process of setting fines for Property Maintenance Violations. Recently the Town was awarded a judgment in the case of a Property Maintenance issues that has gone on for several years. As part of the judgement the town was allowed to assess a fine up to \$38,000. The Town Manager and Code Enforcement Officer settled on a fine of \$15,000. Selectmen Johnson said he would like to see the Town move quicker in these cases so not to accrue such a large fine. Mr. Johnson said he would like to see the Town be able to abate the property and clean it up and send the property owners the bill. Selectman Fortin said one of the purposes of the

ordinance is to protect property values and he agreed that the focus should be on getting the property cleaned up, but he has concerns with sending town employees on to private property to clean things up. Selectman Ducharme said it is important to keep all resources such as fines and the ability to abate properties available to the Town.

- I. Citizen's Concerns: None
- J. Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 (6) (A). Town Manager performance review. Motion from Mr. Ducharme to enter executive session, seconded by Mr. Johnson. Motion carries 4-0. Entered executive session at 7:57pm.

Board came out of executive session at 8:43pm. No action taken

- K. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:44pm.