

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 AVENUE FACILITY, 108 OLD POINT AVENUE, MADISON**  
**Monday, January 27, 2014**  
**6:30 p.m.**

- A. Salute to the flag. Done.
- B. Roll Call. Present were Jack Ducharme, Paul Fortin, Cyp Johnson and Bruce Bristow. Albert Veneziano was absent.
- C. Consent Agenda.
  - 1. Warrants dated: #58 (1/13/14), #59 (1/13/14), # 60 (1/21/14). Selectman Bristow made a motion to accept. Selectman Fortin seconded. Motion carried.
- D. Discuss meeting minutes of January 13, 2014. Selectman Bristow made a motion to accept as written. Selectman Fortin seconded. Motion carried.
- E. Old business (Selectmen's Concerns from immediately preceding meeting). Selectman Bristow asked how the server conversion went. Town Manager said it went well. No other old business.
- F. Items of Communication.
  - 1. This week Bangor Payroll will be processing the payroll.
  - 2. Restricting the sand pile has been done – working well.
  - 3. County budget – 6 month review meeting will be Wednesday night – Town Manager will attend. In addition, SAD 59 is trying to establish a budgeting schedule – Town Manager will share dates with Board.
  - 4. Last Wednesday, Town Manager attended a public hearing on Revenue Sharing. The State's proposal is to take an additional \$40 million. Over 100 towns and cities were represented at the hearing to oppose this raiding of revenue sharing. The impact to the Town of Madison will be about a 1 mil decrease. Town Manager drafted a letter to the local legislative body and will pass out to the Board to review this evening.
  - 5. Bill VanTuinen attended a hearing on BETR/BETE last Wednesday and the proposal would require an appraisal and the impact that it could have on the towns and the revenues received from BETR/BETE. He attended a workshop this afternoon on this same subject.
  - 6. Town Manager reminded the Board of a meeting at Old Point Avenue on Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 to discuss Town Manager's performance – in executive session.
  - 7. We are getting more requests for use of Old Point Avenue facility: an EMT class is starting the end of the month, Bone Building class which meets three days per week and the Girl Scouts/Boys Scouts use the building fairly regularly. Town Manager had a request from KVCAP to use the building a couple days a week for a couple hours beginning in March – play time for children and education for families. Increased use, increases costs to heat, water, sewer, etc. We've developed some guidelines for use of building – turn lights off when leave, lock doors, etc.
  - 8. New server was installed over the weekend – some mapping issues – overall went smooth. Still need to hook up old server at the library which will eliminate the need for running a tape backup every night.
  - 9. Natural Gas update – they're under the river in Waterville/Winslow, they're pulling the pipe through under the river – should be done in next few days. As soon as that is completed, they will move the drill rig to Norridgewock. In Norridgewock, they may back up the hill more to get an angle and a

shallow grade to come out. They drilled through KMD and are pulling the pipe through that. There's one railroad crossing on Route 23 that they'll have to dig by hand and jack a culvert through and put a pipe inside it. They aren't in a position to offer when they might be in town.

10. Summit will be having a couple meetings in February – natural gas informational meetings – Mike Dugay will be coming up for the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup>. They are encouraging people who are interested to sign up and find out what's going on and what's available for assistance in financing, what people can do with Efficiency Maine and winterization. They may have some financing information on conversion or replacement of heating systems.
11. The lien process on property expired today. There are currently 21 properties where the liens have matured and we have foreclosed on them. No action on foreclosures until the end of February.

#### G. New Business.

1. Discuss contracts for Recycling, Ball Fields, Town-owned Property and Cemeteries for 3 years.  
Recycling – Our current contract went from 2011 to June 30, 2014. Currently we're paying \$40,000 per year for curbside recycling – single stream. Mr. Roy has agreed to extend the contract for another three years at no additional cost to the Town. Town Meeting voters approved a three year contract. The Board discussed term of the contract. Selectman Fortin has a concern with the amount of money it costs us to do recycling. The majority of the cost is the curbside pickup of residential customers. He asked if there were any other way to handle these recyclables where there is not a cost to the taxpayers. Town Manager said we had revenue this past year of \$4,067 in cardboard at \$40/ton vs having to pay \$78/ton – net savings of \$12,000. Single stream, we picked up 70.26 tons of which we pay \$25.35/ton or \$1,781 for single stream vs paying that same \$78/ton or \$5,529. Net savings there is \$3,740. Total saving of \$15,000 to not have recyclables go to the landfill but it comes at a cost of \$40,000 to pick them up. Selectman Fortin stated that with revenue sharing at risk and the uncertainty of the schools, should we commit to something for three years at that cost without taking another look at our options. The Town of Lincoln has a drop off box- not sure if it's manned but Selectman Fortin will find out. Selectman Bristow said that when the contract was last discussed, he had brought up a central pickup point – it was opposed because it created too much of a mess and people would leave bulky waste. If was located in a place where those things can't happen, he thinks it would work. Selectman Fortin made a motion to hold off on renewing the recycling contract while the board looks at other alternatives that might save money. Selectman Bristow seconded. Mr. Roy is willing to work with the Board on this. Chris Roy asked what will happen when his contract expires. Selectman Fortin said he would recommend extending the contract on a monthly basis. The Board was in agreement. Selectman Bristow suggested that we have this resolved before June; otherwise extend for minimum of 3 months. Motion carried.

Town-owned Property. Town Manager Berry said he expanded what we had for contract specifications. He would like to use a similar format for the ball fields too – list the items, what we expect – the number of times we think the property will need to be mowed and specifications as to what regular mowing means. Terms of this contract would run from April 1, 2014 through the mowing season ending November 2016, which will be three seasons. Town Manager talked to Maine Historic Preservation Society regarding the Pines. They said that as long as we don't go in there when it is wet, we can mow and treat the poison ivy. Town Manager has added this to the contract – to trim a couple times per year. Selectman Fortin suggested we spray round up down there to keep the weeds down – save on the trimming. Selectman Ducharme asked if we'll go out to bid on mowing. Town Manager confirmed that it would go out for a three year bid. It includes Weston Avenue -Town Office, the Pines, 55 Weston Ave, Main Street Parking Lot green space and playground, Pine Street Park, boat landing and the Old Point Avenue property. Ball fields will be bid separately. With a three year contract, we should save money. Cancelling the contract was discussed – items #8 and #9. Selectman Bristow made a motion to go out to bid on Town-owned Property per these specifications. Selectman Fortin seconded. Motion carried.

Cemeteries and Ball fields – Town Manager plans to use the same format – proposed contract language was not available for the meeting. Town Manager will bring new contracts for the Board to

review at the next meeting. Selectman Bristow mentioned that at a previous meeting, it was stated that Thomas Street field is part of the cemetery property. Property cannot be developed. He asked if we could put up a fence. Town Manager was unsure. Possible dog park was mentioned.

2. Department head reports.

Town Manager passed out operating expenses to date noting that it does not include the last payroll for the month of January. We should be at roughly 58% of expenses.

Police Department – Chief Moores reported that his budget is in good shape. Craig Dyer is in the Police Academy right now. PD is short 4 reserve officers. Town Manager noted the legal line on page 4, department code 05-30. Selectman Bristow asked about our call volume. Chief said it was up. Selectman Fortin asked how we are doing without an administrator (Dispatcher). Chief Moores stated that it's not good – not getting anything done. Town Manager said they're looking at hiring someone. Selectman Ducharme asked if we're dispatching during the day through the Police Department. Chief Moores indicated that we're answering the phones, but there's more clerical work that needs to get done. He's bringing in his officers from the road to do clerical work.

Highway Department – Glen Mantor discussed winter storm activity-working most weekends this month. We have a bill for another \$14,000 in salt (7 loads recently delivered) which is not shown on expense report. They've run grader for 9 days straight trying to remove ice buildup on roads. Selectman Fortin noted legal line. The grader bid was discussed – bid good until grader inventory is sold (had 4 of them when we went out for bid). Selectman Bristow asked about the building and roof. Glen reported the building is in good shape.

Town Manager is working with the auditors on a couple Capital Improvement adjustments from work on White Schoolhouse Road.

3. Discuss Revenue Sharing. Town Manager reviewed Revenue Sharing history, starting with 2009 to date. With proposed cuts to sharing, Town Manager estimated that we may lose about 1 mil in revenue sharing between what we received in 2009 to what the state is proposing for 2015. Town Manager wrote a letter to local legislators asking them not to cut revenue sharing. He is looking for the Board to sign it. Back in the fall, Skowhegan and Madison Assessor's invited the legislators to an informational meeting of which this subject was discussed. This letter will follow up on those same concerns. Selectman Ducharme asked the Town Manager to put in some language suggesting either increasing sales tax, or looking at some of the state programs a little harder. Selectman Bristow said a letter with suggestions will not make a difference; sending a letter that states how we feel is appropriate. Selectman Ducharme suggested we given them suggestions on raising revenues or cutting their budget. Town Manager will email a draft letter to the Board. This letter is similar in language to what other towns are sending to their representatives.

H. Selectmen's Concerns. Selectmen had no concerns.

- I. Citizen's Concerns. Mr. Denico suggested approaching the budget from an end point – picking a mil rate that people can live with and making the municipal budget fit into it. He suggested we let the school and county know what we're doing. SAD 59 using surplus to balance their current budget was discussed. They may have received more funding from the state reducing the need to tap into surplus this year. Town Manager will find out. Town's surplus is 2.2 million. Mr. Denico asked how the budget ended up for last year. The expense report shows that information – he should have that information. Town Manager will bring the expense report for June 30, 2013 to the Board for the next meeting. Selectman Ducharme noted that we have the past two fiscal years plus the proposed budgeted amount when going into budget process. However, he suggested that we have a chance to meet and look at the budget before meeting with the Advisory Board. Town Manager thought he would provide some information at the next meeting and get some feel from the Board as to what their thoughts are on the budget for 2014-2015. Then he can get together with the department heads and begin working on the budget. Selectman Ducharme asked the Town Manager to prepare for the next meeting: 1) the current year budget – actual expenditures y-t-d;

2) the three prior years. 2010-2011; 2011-2012; 2012-2013. Selectman Fortin asked that budget handouts be available to the public.

J. Executive Session to discuss labor negotiations pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (D). Selectman Bristow made a motion to go into executive session to discuss labor negotiations. Selectman Fortin seconded. The Board went into executive session at 7:53 p.m. The Board came out of executive session at 8:50 p.m. No action taken.

K. Adjournment. Selectman Fortin made a motion to adjourn. Selectman Bristow seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.