

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 (104)
108 OLD POINT AVENUE
AUGUST 27, 2018
6:30 p.m.**

- A. **Salute to the flag:** Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm
- B. **Roll Call:** Selectmen Al Veneziano, Jack Ducharme, George Elias, Ronald Moody and David Savage were in attendance. Town Manager Tim Curtis, Road Commissioner Jeff Wright, Finance Director Tammy Carrier and Librarian Julie Forbus were also present.
- C. **Consent Agenda:** Warrants Dated: #4 (8/13/18 - \$ 283,142.57); Payroll Registers: #32 (8/16/2018 - \$10,421.24), #34 (8/23/2018 - \$11,345.81): Motion to approve by Selectman Elias, seconded by Selectman Moody. Motion carries 5-0.
- D. **Discuss acceptance of meeting minutes of August 13, 2018.** Motion to accept by Mr. Elias, seconded by Selectman Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0-1. Mr. Moody abstained since he was not present at the last meeting.
- E. **Old Business** (Selectmen's Concerns from immediately preceding meeting): Mr. Ducharme wanted clarification on the volleyball courts on Weston Ave. The Town Manager said the area is being seeded to grow grass to make it easier to ice over for the ice rink, but that there will still be the opportunity to play volleyball there next summer.
- F. **Items of Communication:** The Town Manager reminded the Board that the Town Office will be closed Monday September 3, 2018 for Labor Day, and that the next Select Board meeting on September 10 will be at the East Madison Fire Station.

Town Manager Curtis updated the Board on the status of the camper at 21 Naomi Avenue. The time to leave the premises is up and Ms. Bowring will be charged with trespassing.

The Town Manager spoke with Tracy Kniffen regarding the status of the loan balance of \$4,600 owed to the Town Revolving Loan Account. She has asked to have until the end of the year to pay. The consensus of the Board was to have the Town Manager send the Kniffen's a letter explaining that legal action will be taken if the loan is not paid in full by December 31, 2018.

Since the last meeting the Road Commissioner has taken steps on Ward Hill to alert motorists to the oncoming intersection. Rumble strips have been cut, flags put on the stop ahead signs and trees cut back on the west side to open up the intersection. The Town Manager said that in a conversation with DOT the number of accidents at that site had reached a level where the state will put the area on a list for safety measures.

The culvert has been replaced at Jones Brook on the Shusta Road. That area will be paved in a few weeks.

The work continues with attorney David Silk to prepare for the hearing before the State Board of Property Tax Review in October. There is a balance of approximately \$6500 to spend in the town's legal line for

the abatement with Madison Paper. The Town Manager suggests allocating a portion of the return from the County Policing Contract to cover the costs of the hearing.

Madison Anson Days proved to be a great success and the Town would like to thank a number of people for their efforts including, Shawna Albert and Lisa LaChance, Steve Austin, Rhonda Emerson, Robin Turek and Diane Pinkham, the staff at the Anson Town Office and Jim Peters for loaning the Town the street sweeper at no cost.

G. New Business

1. **Discuss Recommendations from Ordinance Review Committee** (Chapter 148-Animals): Town Manager Curtis shared findings from the two committee meetings. Since there is a process already in place for the Appeals Board to hear cases and grant variances it makes sense that the Appeals Board be given the authority to rule on matters pertaining to the Animal ordinance based on information provided by either Animal Control or Code Enforcement. This language could be added to the current Chapter 148 and the Appeals Board Ordinance (Chapter 7) could be amended to add language regarding the Animal Ordinance.

Mr. Moody asked what the process for appeal would include. The Town Manager said appointed officers like Animal Control or Code Enforcement would perform the first inspection and if they determine that a variance is necessary then the property owner can follow the process already outlined in Chapter 7 which includes a public hearing and notice given to all abutting land owners.

The Town Manager will work up some edits to the ordinances and bring back to the Board. Final approval will require a Town Meeting vote. Mr. Curtis will also be in touch with current Appeals Board members to make them aware of the changes.

2. **Discuss Town Meeting Warrant Articles:** For the past 12+ years the Select Board has been combining several departments into single warrant articles for Town Meeting. Apparently, this was started back in 2005 in an effort to streamline Town Meeting rather than taking every department one at a time. This year both the Library and Fire Department had planned on carrying forward unspent monies to pay for projects in the next fiscal year. But due to overspending on other lines there was not enough money remaining in the entire article to allow for all the carry forwards.

Fire Chief Don French and Head Librarian Julie Forbus have asked the Selectmen to consider having Library and Fire Departments singled out as their own articles which would provide them more freedom for budget and the ability to propose carry forwards for money that was underspent. It was the consensus of the Board to have the Town Manager work with the Town Clerk and Finance Director to draft some proposed changes to future Town Meeting warrants.

3. **Discuss MSAD59 School Board Vacancy:** The resignation of Kristie LeBlanc has left a vacancy on the School Board. Superintendent Bonnie Levesque has recommended that the position be filled by Tammy Carrier. Motion to appoint Tammy Carrier to fill the remaining term by Mr. Elias, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion carries 5-0.
4. **Discuss Planning Board Vacancies:** Former Planning Board Chair Jeff Drew has announced his intentions to step down from the board leaving two positions to be filled. At their August meeting, the Planning Board elected Mary Tomlinson as Chair and Brett Hagopian as Vice Chair. Newly appointed alternates Jean Veneziano and Gary Roy will join Mark Doty as full Planning Board members. Town Manager Curtis has spoken with Jerry Lynch about serving as an alternate and he is interested. Motion by Mr. Ducharme to appoint Jerry Lynch to serve as an alternate on the Planning Board, seconded by Mr. Elias. Motion carries 5-0.
5. **Discuss Cremation Section at Forest Hills Cemetery:** At the last meeting the Board had discussed allocating a certain section of Forest Hills as 'cremation only'. According to the newly updated

ordinance this section will have flat markers only, and no shrubs or planted flowers. Motion by Mr. Elias to designate section 1276-1300 at Forest Hills as cremation only, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Town Manager Curtis clarified this was the section down by the pond. Motion carries 5-0.

H. **Selectman Concerns:** Chairman Veneziano wanted to make sure that a letter of thanks was sent to all the volunteer coordinators of Madison/Anson Days.

I. **Citizen Concerns:** None

J. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm