

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
EAST MADISON FIRE STATION
1110 EAST MADISON ROAD
SEPTEMBER 10, 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, Finance Director Tammy Carrier, Sheriff Dale Lancaster and Road Commissioner Jeff Wright were also in attendance.
- C. **Consent Agenda:** Warrants Dated: #5 (8/27/18 - \$521,031.53), #6 (8/27/18 - \$1,877.48); Payroll registers: #35 (8/30/18 - \$11,667.48): Motion to approve by Selectman Elias, seconded by Selectman Moody. Motion carries 5-0.

Catering Permits. Town Manager Curtis noted that there were two catering permits for events to be held October 6 & 7 at the Fairytale Gardens at 1619 East Madison Road. Motion to approve catering permits for Mason's Brewing and the Lakeshore House by Mr. Elias, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 5-0.

- D. **Discuss acceptance of meeting minutes of August 27, 2018.** Motion to accept by Mr. Elias, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion carries 5-0.
- E. **Old Business** (Selectmen's Concerns from immediately preceding meeting): None
- F. **Items of Communication:** Town Manager Curtis said that Madison Electric is looking into replacement costs for the lamp posts in the downtown area. The current models cannot be replaced as is. The Town will be looking for some grant dollars to replace 45 lamp posts.

RHR Smith has completed the gathering of information for the audit of the 2018 fiscal year. They hope to have a draft audit report ready by the first week in October.

G. **New Business**

1. **Department Head Reports:** The Fire Chief's report was submitted as information, it was noted that the Fire Department has received a \$43,000 grant from the Assistance to Firefighters Program (FEMA) to purchase a new set of extrication equipment (Jaws of Life).

Sheriff Lancaster reported that calls for service are up slightly over last year and reminded the Board that one deputy is still on military service. Selectman Ducharme had a question about patrols on Route 201, noting that he would rather see patrols in town near the schools than out on Route 201. Town Manager Curtis noted the number of traffic stops was up substantially and he asked if that was part of the Sheriff's overall plan for Community Policing. The Sheriff said it is a part of intentional enforcement. Year to date there have been 1333 traffic stops.

Selectman Moody asked about the number of felony crimes. The Sheriff said the County's clearance rate of solving crimes is above the state average and that has a significant impact on reducing the number of crimes against people.

Town Manager Curtis reported that Code Enforcement Officer Susan Hathaway would like to talk about direction for enforcing after the fact permits. At Town Meeting 2017, voters approved a fee of \$500 for a property owner that starts a building project without a permit. Recently a property owner in East Madison had a slab poured for a garage and came in for a permit after the fact. The consensus of the Board was to discuss in further detail at a future meeting.

Road Commissioner Jeff Wright updated the Board on ditching work on River Road. He mentioned that the chip seal coat had been applied to the Madison portion of the South Solon Meeting House Road. The chip seal is a new application and it is expected that residents will have questions/concerns.

Selectman Moody asked about finding some money for striping roads, stating that it is dangerous to have no lines in the middle. Town Manager Curtis said that as the paving projects are completed that he and the Road Commissioner will see if there is funding left over to dedicate to striping. Mr. Moody said that he would recommend budgeting for striping in the upcoming budget.

Mr. Elias asked about traffic on Pine Street. Town Manager Curtis said that the Town had asked RC Moore to use Pine Street instead of Main Street for the trucks that come to and from the Poland Springs plant in Kingfield. After monitoring the traffic this summer, the Town has now asked RC Moore to go back to using Main Street since the Road Commissioner plans work on Kennebec Street at the end of Pine and there are concerns about the high number of trucks on Pine Street during winter conditions. The Town Manager said RC Moore has been very accommodating.

2. **Review Plow Truck Bids:** Road Commissioner Wright reviewed the five bids that came in for plow trucks and related equipment. The Town has set aside \$170,000 for the purchase. Bids came in below that figure. After conferring with the Highway Department, the Road Commissioner recommended the bid from Freightliner of Maine for the truck and Viking for the plow and other necessary equipment.

Motion by Mr. Moody to accept the bid from Freightliner for \$85,212, seconded by Mr. Elias. Motion carries 5-0. Motion by Mr. Moody to accept the bid from Viking for \$68,837. Motion carries 5-0.

3. **Public Hearing to Approve State Minimums for General Assistance:** At 6:45pm Chairman Veneziano opened a public hearing to take input on the 2018/19 state minimums. Town Manager Curtis reported that there are only small changes from last year. Seeing no comments, Mr. Veneziano closed the public hearing at 7:00pm. Motion to approve the State Minimums for General Assistance by Mr. Ducharme, seconded by Mr. Elias. Motion carries 5-0.
4. **Discuss Pole Location Application from Consolidated Communications (Blackwell Hill Rd):** Northern New England Telephone and Central Maine Power are requesting approval of plans to replace 9 utility poles on Blackwell Hill Road. Motion to approve by Mr. Moody, seconded by Mr. Elias. Motion carries 5-0.
5. **Discuss Draft of Town Meeting Warrant Articles:** At the previous meeting the Town Manager suggested repositioning some departments to allow for more control over budgeting in areas like the Library or Fire Departments. Town Manager Curtis drafted some changes which would move Street Lights and Hydrants out of Public Safety and put them into Article 7 and change the name of Article 7 from Other Government to Public Utilities with Storm Drains and Waste Disposal. This would leave Article 6 with the appropriate Public Safety categories of Ambulance, Police, Fire and Animal Control.

The Library would be separated from Article 11 into a stand-alone Article 12. It was the consensus of the Board to have the Town Manager use this format for next June's Annual Town Meeting.

6. **Ordinance Review (148 Animals, 7 Appeals Board, 583 Fees):** The Town Manager shared proposed changes to the Animals Ordinance recommended by the committee to study a variance

process. Simply put, a variance can be authorized by the Appeals Board by adding that language to Chapter 7 (Appeals Board). In light of recent concerns over the changes to the Animal Ordinance the Town Manager recommended holding a public hearing before the Board voted whether to approve the changes and send the matter to the next Town Meeting.

Resident Cassandra Goodridge asked about her situation where she has chickens on a small property on Madison Ave. Town Manager Curtis said that would be a good example of a property that should be reviewed by the Animal Control Officer or Code Enforcement Officer to see if it complies with the ordinance.

The consensus of the Board was to hold a public hearing on the changes to the Animal Ordinance at a future meeting before voting to send to Town Meeting.

The Town Manager also recommended that the Board support the proposal to strike Chapter 583 from the Code book since fees should be set by the Selectmen rather than being in the code which would require a Town Meeting vote to change. Motion by Mr. Elias to remove Chapter 583 from the Code of Ordinances, seconded by Mr. Savage. The Town Manager clarified that Chapter 583 only refers to fees for items processed at the Town Office such as photo copies and tax maps, as well as returned checks, notary fees and vital records searches. Motion carries 5-0. An article will be placed on the Town Meeting warrant.

H. **Selectman Concerns:** None

I. **Citizen Concerns:** Cassandra Goodridge asked if the Town had thought about having a holiday house lighting tour during Christmas time. The Town Manager said he would forward that request to the Towns' Christmas Celebration Committee.

J. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:12pm