

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/ADVISORY BOARD
OLD POINT AVENUE FACILITY, MADISON, MAINE
Wednesday April 4, 2018 at 5:30 PM

Note: A light meal will be provided

- A. **Roll Call:** Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm. Selectmen Al Veneziano, Jack Ducharme, George Elias, Paul Fortin and Ron Moody were present. Advisory Board Members Lynn Andrews, Dana Berry, Patrick Dolan, Jeff Drew, Jeff Foss, Jim Ireland, Michelle LeBlanc, Ken Moore, Lew Oulette, Rob Shibley, Robin Turek, Jean Veneziano and Cathy Wilson were present. Town Manager Tim Curtis, Road Commissioner Glen Mantor, Town Clerk Kathy Estes, Finance Director Tammy Carrier and Librarian Julie Forbus were also in attendance.
- B. **Elect a Chairperson to the Advisory Board:** Motion by Robin Turek to nominate Jeff Drew as Chair of the Advisory Board, seconded by Jim Ireland. Motion to cease nomination by Dana Berry, seconded by Ken Moore. Motion to cease nominations carries 13-0. Motion to elect Jeff Drew as Advisory Board Chair carries 12-0 (J Drew abstained).
- C. **Operational Budgets:** Town Manager Curtis made presented a summary of this year's budget process to date. Overall non-capital spending is up 2.5% mostly due to pay increases and health insurance increases. The most pressing issues will to determine how much money to spend on capital projects (paving), and how much money to bring forward from undesignated fund balance to reduce taxes.

The Town Manager also mentioned factors such as the ongoing abatement appeal from Madison Paper Industries which could cost the Town hundreds of thousands of dollars, and he encouraged all in attendance to participate in the school budget process which begins with the informational meeting on April 30, 2018.

Finally, Town Manager Curtis discussed capping or closing the budget articles for Town Meeting. Closing the articles means that the amount cannot be raised by Town Meeting but can be lowered. For many years the Town has used open articles but many participants believed they were closed. After verifying that Anson, Skowhegan, Norridgewock and Fairfield all use closed articles at their Town Meetings, The Town Manager recommended capping the articles this year, especially if there is no difference in the budget recommendation from the Selectmen and Advisory Boards.

1. **General Government:** Administration (01-01); Planning Board (01-02); Code Enforcement Office (01-03); Boards and Committees (01-04) Elections (01-05); Assessing (01-08): Motion to recommend \$575,295.00 for General Government by Selectman Fortin, seconded by Selectmen Ducharme. Motion carries 5-0. Motion to recommend \$575,295.00 for General Government by Advisory Board member Robin Turek, seconded by Dana Berry. Motion carries 13-0.

Select Board Chair Veneziano asked if the boards wanted to vote to leave the articles open or closed. Motion by Selectman Moody to cap the article at \$575,295.00, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0 (Selectman Elias abstained). Ms. Turek from the Advisory Board motioned to cap the article at \$575,295, seconded by Mr. Berry. Motion carries 13-0.

2. **Public Safety:** Ambulance (05-01); Police (05-03); Fire Department (05-06); Animal Control (05-08); Street Lights (05-15); Hydrants (05-20): Motion to recommend \$929,380.00 for Public Safety by Mr. Ducharme, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion carried 5-0. Motion by Advisory Board member Jeff Foss to recommend \$929,380.00 for Public Safety, seconded by Ms. Turek, motion carries 13-0.

Motion by Selectman Fortin to cap the article at \$929,380.00, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0 (Selectman Elias abstained). Ms. Turek from the Advisory Board motioned to cap the article at \$929,380, seconded by Mr. Foss. Motion carries 13-0.

3. **Other Government:** Storm water (10-01); Waste Disposal (10-10): Motion to recommend \$248,000.00 for Other Government by Mr. Moody, seconded by Mr. Fortin. Selectmen Elias, who also serves on the board of directors for the Sanitary District indicated that the District was going to be invoicing the Town for services immediately in the coming year rather than holding the invoices until after July 1. As such Mr. Elias recommended adding to the recommended amount for Storm Drain maintenance. Town Manager Curtis said his recommendation was based on conversations that he had with Sanitary District personnel and two AMSD board members who attended a joint meeting with Anson representatives on Tuesday April 3, 2018. Mr. Curtis said nothing was mentioned to him about changing the traditional pattern of paying once per year for services rendered. Motion carries 4-1 (Mr. Elias opposed). Motion to recommend \$248,000.00 for Other Government by Ms. Turek, seconded by Advisory Board member Ken Moore. Motion carries 13-0.

Motion by Mr. Fortin to cap the article at \$248,000.00, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0 (Selectman Elias abstained). There was some confusion among the Advisory Board members as to whether they should vote to cap the article or find a way to leave it open. Town Manager Curtis clarified that technically the Selectmen have the final say as to whether an article is capped. Since this is a new process for both boards, the Advisory Board's previous votes to cap General Government and Public Safety were merely procedural. Motion by Robin Turek to cap the article at \$248,000.00, seconded by Mr. Foss. Motion carried 13-0. The Town Manager apologized for the confusion. Going forward only a vote to cap or not by the Selectmen would be necessary.

At this time Chairman Veneziano called for an intermission at 6:45pm. The meeting resumed at 7:00pm

4. **Public Works:** General Operations (15-01); Winter Roads (15-05); Summer Roads (15-10): Motion by Mr. Fortin to recommend \$598,525.00 for Public Works, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion carried 5-0. Motion by Mr. Berry to recommend \$598,525.00 for Public Works, seconded by Mr. Moore. Motion carries 13-0.

Motion to cap the article at \$598,525.00 by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0 (Selectman Elias abstained).

5. **Parks / Recreation:** Preble Avenue (20-01); Recreation (20-02): Motion to recommend \$73,950.00 for Parks/Recreation by Mr. Ducharme, seconded by Mr. Fortin. Motion carries 5-0. Motion by Ms. Turek to recommend \$73,950.00 for Parks/Recreation, seconded by Advisory Board member Michele LeBlanc. Motion carries 13-0.

Motion to cap the article at \$73,950.00.00 by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0 (Selectman Elias abstained).

6. **Cemeteries:** Forest Hills (25-01); Cemeteries, other small (25-13): Motion to recommend \$21,900.00 for Cemeteries by Mr. Moody, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Town Manager Curtis noted that the Selectmen have previously allocated \$12,000.00 from interest earnings in the Perpetual Care account to offset the cost of mowing Forest Hills, resulting in a significant decrease in the budget line this year. This process is in line with what is outlined in the Town Ordinance on cemeteries (Chapter 26). Motion carries 5-0. Motion to recommend \$21,900.00 for Cemeteries by Ms. Turek, seconded by Mr. Moore. Motion carries 13-0.

Motion to cap the article at \$21,000.00 by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0 (Selectman Elias abstained).

7. **Community Service:** (Community Programs) Contract Services (35-01); Misc. Government Expenses (35-10); General Assistance (35-01); Library (35-05); Service Organizations (35-10): Motion to recommend \$175,735.00 for Community Service by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Town Manager Curtis outlined some of the changes in the Library budget, and a slight increase in General Assistance. A representative from Spectrum Generations spoke to the services they provided and thanked the boards for their support. Motion carries 5-0. Motion to recommend \$175,735.00 for Community Service by Ms. Turek, seconded by Mr. Foss. Motion carries 13-0.

Motion to cap the article at \$175,735.00 by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0 (Selectman Elias abstained).

8. **Town Owned Property:** Old Point Avenue (40-01); Main Street (40-02); Town Signs (40-07); Boat Landing (40-08); Weston Avenue (40-10): Motion to recommend \$25,275.00 for Town Owned Property by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 5-0. Motion to recommend \$25,275.00 for Town Owned Property by Ms. Turek, seconded by Mr. Foss. Motion carries 13-0.

Motion to cap the article at \$25,275.00 by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0 (Selectman Elias abstained).

9. **Capital Expenditures:** Public Works (60-01); Road Surface Projects (60-02); Fire Department (60-09). Town Manager Curtis outlined several options for Road Paving Projects ranging from a total of \$87,000 to \$282,000. The Manager's recommendation was to raise \$176,375.00 for paving, \$55,000.00 to go toward the purchase of a new plow truck, and \$4,000 for capital spending at the East Madison Fire Station. Total manager's capital recommendation \$235,375.00. Motion to recommend \$235,375.00 for Capital Expenditures by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 5-0. Motion to recommend \$235,375.00 for Capital Expenditures by Ms. Turek, seconded by Advisory Board member Patrick Dolan. Motion carries 13-0.

Motion to cap the article at \$235,375.00 by Mr. Ducharme, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion carries 5-0.

The Town Manager's final recommendation was to use \$300,000.00 from undesignated fund balance to reduce taxes. Motion to recommend \$300,000.00 from undesignated fund balance by Mr. Ducharme, seconded by Mr. Fortin. The Town Manager said the amount in undesignated fund balance as of June 30, 2017 was approximately \$1,450,000.00. The use of this money would make things tighter but the Town Manager believes it is manageable. The use of these funds would bring a total budget increase of .6% to the taxpayers. Motion carries 5-0. Motion to recommend \$300,000.00 from undesignated fund balance by Mr. Berry, seconded by Ms. Turek. Motion carries 13-0.

Motion to cap the article at \$300,000.00 by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0 (Selectman Elias abstained).

D. Selectman/Advisory Concerns: None

E. Citizen Concerns: None

F. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:57pm.