

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
May 22, 2017
6:30 p.m.**

- A. **Salute to the flag:** Meeting was called to order at 630pm
- B. **Roll Call:** Selectmen Al Veneziano, Jack Ducharme, Paul Fortin and Ron Moody were present. Selectman Mike Edgerly was absent. Town Manager Tim Curtis, Road Commissioner Glen Mantor and Finance Office Tammy Carrier were also present.
- C. **Consent Agenda:** Warrants Dated: #29 (4/24/17-\$471,346.19), #30 (4/24/17 -\$1,755.86), #31 (5/8/17 - \$87,735.26); Payroll Registers: #18 (5/4/17-\$16,874.32), #19 (5/11/17-\$9,637.38), #20 (5/18/17-\$9,901.67): Motion to approve by Selectman Ducharme, seconded by Selectman Moody. Motion carries 4-0.
- D. **Discuss acceptance of meeting minutes of May 1, 2017:** Motion to approve by Selectman Fortin, seconded by Selectman Moody. Motion carries 4-0.
- E. **Old business (Selectmen's Concerns from immediately preceding meeting):** None
- F. **Items of Communication:** Town Manager Curtis wanted to follow up on a concern raised by Selectman Moody at the previous meeting regarding the condition of the property at 55 John Street. Code Enforcement Officer Bob Dunphy visited the site last week. He determined that the condition of the property may have an adverse impact on property values, but since most of the out buildings are pens for farm animals they are not covered under the Town's property maintenance ordinance. Mr. Dunphy will follow up with DHS to see if there are any sanitary conditions that may affect children who live there.

On Monday May 15, the Town Manager and Select Board Chair Veneziano met with Madison Electric Works Superintendent Calvin Ames and MEW Board Chair Steve Dean to discuss the Electric Works desire to change their charter to remove borrowing limitations. In a summary provided to the Selectmen the Town Manager said that Chairman Dean acknowledged that MEW needed approval of the Town before changing the charter and he took responsibility for the legislation moving forward without an official vote from the MEW board, or communication with the Town. There remains a difference of opinion regarding whether or not the rate payers or the tax payers are responsible for debt incurred by MEW. Calvin says they should have a legal opinion in writing in a few weeks. All parties agreed that any changes to MEW's charter would have to be approved by MEW's board first and then to the Selectmen for approval and inclusion on a Town Meeting warrant.

IGS Solar has received permission from DEP to develop an additional 26 acres in the business park for solar panels, adding ½ a Megawatt to bring the project up to a total of 5.3MW. Estimated construction costs are \$500,000 and work should start this summer. Town Manager Curtis said that the Board of Assessors will discuss the valuation of IGS property for taxation at the Assessors meeting scheduled for Monday June 26, 2017.

Town Manager Curtis mentioned that he had attended a meeting of the Anson/Madison Sanitary District last week where the AMSD Board discussed transfers or property and easements with Madison Paper which would allow the mill and UPM to finalize the transaction with Eagle Creek for the sale of the hydro-electric assets. An interesting note was that UPM still owns the landfill in Anson and would like the

Sanitary District to take that property. The Sanitary Board will have to consider how much money UPM would be willing to give with the deal for post closure monitoring for the next 30 years.

Notice appeared in the paper today that the Anson/Madison Water District is seeking bids for a new building. Mr. Curtis talked with Superintendent Mike Corson today who told him that their board is considering building a new office building on site and demolishing their current site. Mr. Corson said the AMWD board intends to use funds on hand so not to have to raise rates.

The School Budget passed at referendum on Tuesday May 16, by a vote of 99-49. During the polling the Marijuana Education Committee surveyed residents on what type of local regulation they would like to see in Madison. The results were 45% prohibition, 27% no regulation and 28% some regulation.

Town Manager Curtis was invited to speak to the Legislative Committee on Legalized Marijuana Implementation last Tuesday. He spoke about the Education Committee's work to survey residents about local regulation.

The Town owned properties at 51 John Street and Sugarloaf Lane are now listed with Hearth and Home Realty. Mr. Curtis said he has inquiries into the attorney's offices that are discharging the bankruptcies of Peters and Thomas to find out the status of those properties and he is waiting to hear back on the status of the property at 497 Main Street.

With help from the Madison Business Alliance and MEW approximately 40 US flags are flying in and around the village area on MEW utility poles.

Town Manager Curtis said the cemeteries are looking good for Memorial Day. There is one down tree that needs to be removed at Forest Hills and the Highway Department is aware of it.

Finally, the Town Manager shared a list of projects that Highway will be working on this spring/summer. With Peter Paine recovering from surgery, the crew will be shorthanded this summer. Chairman Veneziano asked that a hole near the entrance of the Recreational Ball Fields off of Preble Ave be filled. The Road Commissioner said he would make sure it gets done.

G. New Business

- Open Paving Bids:** The deadline for receiving bids for paving projects was 4pm on May 22, 2017. The Town Manager opened bids from eight (8) companies and recorded the bid price per ton of material. The Board took no action. The Road Commissioner and the Town Manager will bring recommendations at the next meeting. The bids per ton were as follows: Bard Paving \$60 rural, \$72 in town. Fine Line Paving \$76.50, Thibedeau Contractors \$63.00, Pike Industries \$78.00, Wellman Paving \$61.77 rural, \$64.77 in town, Hopkins Paving \$70 rural, \$72 in town, Manzer \$71.90 rural, \$82.90 in town, and B&B Paving \$62.
- Liquor License Extension Somerset Abbey (Outdoor Beer Garden June 3 & July 21):** Town Manager Curtis and Sheriff Lancaster met with Somerset Abbey owner Stacy O'Brien who explained the layout for their summer concert series. The tent is already in place along Clark Street next to the Post Office and the O'Brien's estimate maximum seating for 292 people. During the events the area will be closed off by a snow fence and the only entrance will be from the Main Street side.

Since the posting of the Select Board agenda Somerset Abbey has requested an extension of their liquor license for 3 additional dates to allow for sales of beer and wine outside during the concerts. The Sheriff said he would put another deputy on to be in uniform and a visible presence at each concert.

Motion by Mr. Ducharme to grant a liquor license extension to Somerset Abbey for an outdoor beer garden for June 3, July 21, July 29, August 6 and August 14, seconded by Mr. Fortin. Chairman Veneziano asked about parking. Stacy O'Brien mentioned that Somerset Abbey has permission to use

the lot across the street behind the former Cumberland Farms building. Mr. Moody asked about the types of music. Stacy explained that there will be blues, rock, country and blue grass. Town Manager Curtis said the volume of the rock band could be an issue. Tom O'Brien said he would control the volume and he does not want these events to put an end to the work they have done to build an audience the Abbey venue.

3. **Discuss Quit Claim Deed (Young Street):** The property owner from 20 Young Street has paid his 2014 taxes and is no longer in foreclosure. Motion by Mr. Fortin to issue a quit claim deed to James Holland at 20 Young Street, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0.
4. **Discuss Cemetery Deed (Prescott):** Former Madison resident Jack Prescott wishes to deed over his plot at Forest Hills Cemetery to the Town of Madison for any use they deem fit. Motion from Mr. Fortin to accept transfer of ownership of three graves located at Forest Hills Cemetery Section 33, Lot 962 to the Town of Madison from Jack Prescott, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0.
5. **Review MSW/Recycling Costs:** Town Manager Curtis compiled a comparison of Municipal Solid Waste & Recycling figures from the Waste Management billing statements through the first three quarters of the fiscal year. Overall the total costs are up slightly from \$131,163.64 in FY16 to \$132,737.60. An increase of 1.1% which is almost negligible since the contract costs increase 1% each year regardless. Concerns expressed at last year's Town Meeting were that without the Town's financial support of curbside recycling there would be a spike in the waste stream. That doesn't seem to be the case. It is difficult to track how many residents are taking their recyclables to the Skowhegan Transfer Station.

Town Manager Curtis sent a copy of the report to Mary Tomlinson, chair of the MSW & Recycling Committee, who commented in an email that the loss of the Town's financial support of curbside recycling was a detriment to the overall recycling program in Town.

6. **Discuss changes to Drug-Free Workplace Policy:** Based on recent trainings and workshops regarding changes in the legal status of marijuana, the Town Manager asked Tammy Carrier to research updates to the Town Personnel Policy to include specific language regarding medical and recreational use of marijuana. The Board reviewed the first draft.

Mr. Curtis said a copy of the draft was sent to union representative Rick Gilley for his review and he will get back to the Town Manager with any concerns he may have. The CDL license that is required for Highway workers falls under federal jurisdiction where marijuana is still an illegal drug.

Mr. Curtis stressed that this was not in reaction to any issues with any employees that this was simply a proactive measure based on recommendations from other towns.

7. **Discuss & approve non-budget articles for Town Meeting:** After an initial review at the previous meeting, the Town Manager confirmed the proper wording for re-appropriating funds for articles 13 & 14. Since the Planning Board has not finished updates to Site Review the Town Manager asked for the board's direction as to whether or not to include it in the warrant. It was the consensus of the board to hold a meeting on Monday June 5th to hold a public hearing on the proposed Site Review changes. As such article 26 will be on the Town Meeting Warrant to see if voters will be willing to approve the changes.

The Town Manager also suggested adding a warrant item to authorize the Board to extend the line of credit for one more year if needed. The Board reviewed that language which would be article 27. Motion by Selectman Fortin to approve non budget articles #14 through #27 for the Town Meeting Warrant, seconded by Selectman Moody. Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday June 12 at 7pm. Motion carries 4-0.

The Town Manager then shared handouts that are being prepared for Town Meeting. The topics included the impact of the closing of Madison Paper and explanation of the major budget changes and the proposal to re-appropriate money dedicated to Heald Street Reconstruction for other capital projects. There were also additional handouts for the Economic Development (TIF) budget and staff salaries. Selectman Ducharme asked if the Town Manager should be more general in the discussion of the loss of value from Madison Paper since the exact numbers will not be known until later in the summer.

- H. **Selectman Concerns:** Mr. Fortin asked if the School Budget included language that would allow any additional funds from the state to pass through to offset taxes. Town Manager Curtis said he understood the languages says the School Board may do that but it does not happen automatically. Mr. Fortin stressed that the Town should keep an eye on that.

In regards to Madison Electric Works, Mr. Fortin wanted more clarification on the issue of who is responsible for debt incurred by MEW. He recommended contacting people in the commercial loan business to see if there is a difference in their mind as to whether the rate payers backed the loan rather than the tax payers.

Mr. Fortin complimented the Town Manager for his willingness to attend several of the other board and committee meetings in the town and county and thanked him for the good communications he brings back to the Selectmen.

- I. **Citizen Concerns:** None

- J. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.