

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
March 29, 2017 at 5:30 PM

- A. Roll Call: Select Board Chair Al Veneziano called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. Selectmen Veneziano, Jack Ducharme, Paul Fortin and Ron Moody were present. Mike Edgerly was absent. Advisory Board members Robin Turek, Jeff Drew, Jim Ireland, Jeff Foss, Lynn Andrews, Cathy Wilson, Ken Moore, Michelle LeBlanc, Lewis Ouillette, Jean Veneziano, Tim Worster, Rob Shibley and Doug Denico. Dana Berry and Margi Brown were absent.
- B. Elect a Chairperson to the Advisory Board: Motion by Jim Ireland to elect Jeff Drew as Chair of the Advisory Board, seconded by Ken Moore. Motion carries 12-0 (Jeff Drew Abstained)
- C. Operational Budgets: Town Manager Tim Curtis gave an overview of financial trends over the past ten years to set the stage for the evening's budget discussion. Mr. Curtis highlighted the major increases to the proposed budget and the possible opportunities to save money.
1. **General Government:** Administration (01-01); Planning Board (01-02); Code Enforcement Office (01-03); Boards and Committees (01-04); Elections (01-05); and Assessing (01-08): Motion by Selectman Ducharme to recommend \$569,435.00 for General Government, seconded by Selectman Fortin. Motion carries 4-0. Motion by Doug Denico to for the Advisory Board to recommend \$569,435.00 for General Government, seconded by Jeff Foss. 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 by Selectman Ducharme to recommend \$909,655.00 for Public Safety, seconded by Selectman Fortin. Mr. Veneziano and Mr. Ducharme explained the increase in ambulance costs has resulted from the lack of revenues from private payers and from Medicare/MaineCare. The public safety budget figure also includes a lowering of the policing budget by paying for 4 deputies in coverage rather than 5. Motion carries 4-0.

Motion by Doug Denico to for the Advisory Board to recommend \$909,655.00 for Public Safety, seconded by Jeff Foss. Jeff Drew offered an option to raise the amount to \$959,655.00 to provide voters at Town Meeting with a choice to provide coverage with 5 deputies. Jean Veneziano asked if that could be added at Town Meeting rather than at the Advisory Board level. There was some debate over whether that was the case. Town Manager Curtis reminded the boards that last year the Moderator at Town Meeting said that additions could be made through amendments from the floor which was the case when an attempt to add \$38,000 to Community Services for Curbside Recycling failed in a close vote. Based on last year it was the Town Manager's opinion that if a resident wanted to add more to the police budget to fund 5 deputies that could be done during Town Meeting. Selectman

Moody asked that the Town Manager get clarification on that from Ernie Hilton, who moderated last year's town meeting.

Several members of the advisory board said they are generally not in favor of cutting costs for public safety, but the way the policing model has worked for the past 18 months things seem to be working well. Since the Sheriff has been able to provide coverage with 4 deputies for the past year and a half and the Town has been paying for 5 and getting reimbursed, then it would make sense to move forward with the lower cost model. Advisory Chair Jeff Drew explained that if the board wanted to recommend a number higher than \$909,655.00 then they would have to vote down the motion on the floor. The motion to recommend \$909,655.00 passed 13-0.

3. **Other Government:** Storm water (10-01); Waste Disposal (10-10): Motion by Selectman Ducharme to recommend \$228,000.00 for Other Government, seconded by Selectman Fortin. Motion carries 4-0. Motion by Doug Denico to for the Advisory Board to recommend \$228,000.00 for General Government, seconded by Tim Worster. Motion carries 13-0.

The meeting recessed at 6:51 and resumed at 7:12

4. **Public Works:** General Operations (15-01); Winter Roads (15-05); Summer Roads (15-10): Motion by Selectman Fortin to recommend \$575,900.00 for Public Works, seconded by Selectman Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0. Motion by Robin Turek to for the Advisory Board to recommend \$575,900.00 for Public Works, seconded by Tim Worster. Road Commissioner Glen Mantor explained the toll that this winter has taken on equipment and the increase in public work budget is for equipment repair. Jeff Foss and Rob Shibley both mentioned that the Madison Highway Department does an outstanding job caring for the roads. Motion carries 13-0.
5. **Parks / Recreation:** Preble Avenue (20-01); Recreation (20-02): Motion by Selectman Fortin to recommend \$73,000.00 for Parks/Recreation, seconded by Selectman Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0. Motion by Cathy Wilson to for the Advisory Board to recommend \$73,000.00 for Parks/Recreation, seconded by Doug Denico. Motion carries 13-0
6. **Cemeteries:** Forest Hills (25-01): Motion by Selectman Ducharme to recommend \$32,750 for Cemeteries, seconded by Selectman Fortin. Motion carries 4-0. Motion by Robin Turek to for the Advisory Board to recommend \$32,750.00 for Cemeteries, seconded by Jeff Foss. Jeff Drew asked if this amount was just for Forest Hills. Town Manager Curtis said the budget covers the mowing of all cemeteries and a sexton and maintenance for Forest Hills. Motion carries 13-0
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 by Mr. Ducharme to recommend \$165,870.00 for Community Service, seconded by Mr. Fortin. Town Manager Curtis explained that this category included the Library and asked if Librarian Julie Forbus had any comments. She explained that the budget was pretty straightforward but there would be some cost savings in the software that is shared with the school system.

The Town Manager reminded the boards that the number of Service Organizations had been reduced from 12 to 3 two years ago in order to save funds. When the Town Office receives

requests from those organizations it replies in a letter that explains the Town's financial struggles, but representatives are welcome to attend meetings. Bob Marin with Spectrum Generations was the only representative in attendance and offered an explanation of their services. Mr. Marin explained that Spectrum provides the "Meals on Wheels" service to seniors who can't get out.

Michelle LeBlanc noted that the Town already supports Anson/Madison Senior Citizens for \$4500 per year. Town Manager Curtis said that is more of a support/resource for seniors who can attend functions. Mr. Denico mentioned that it may be worth looking at providing some services both for seniors who can and can't get out.

If the Town were to include support for Spectrum Generations it would have to raise an additional \$4,600 per their request. The motion to approve \$165,870.00 from the Selectmen failed with no votes in favor. Mr. Ducharme then motioned to recommend \$170,470.00 for Community Service to include \$4,600 for Spectrum Generations, seconded by Mr. Fortin. Motion carries 4-0. Doug Denico motioned to recommend \$170,470.00 for Community Service, seconded by Robin Turek. Motion carried 13-0.

8. **Town Owned Property:** Old Point Avenue (40-01); Main Street (40-02); Weston Avenue (40-10): Motion by Selectman Ducharme to recommend \$25,200.00 for Town Owned Property, seconded by Selectman Fortin. Motion carries 4-0. Motion by Robin Turek to for the Advisory Board to recommend \$25,200 for Town Owned Property, seconded by Tim Worster. Town Manager Curtis noted that there are a lot of upgrades that have been done to the lighting at the Old Point facility this year which took most of the budget for this year, and there are more items that need to be done but it appears that the Selectmen are committed to upkeep for the building. Motion carries 13-0
9. **Capital Expenditures:** Road Surface Management (60-02): Motion by Selectman Ducharme to recommend that voters re-allocate \$175,000.00 from Heald Street Reconstruction to Road Surface Projects, seconded by Selectman Fortin. Motion carries 4-0. Motion by Robin Turek to for the Advisory Board to recommend that voters re-allocate \$175,000.00 from Heald Street Reconstruction to Road Surface Projects, seconded by Jeff Foss. Previously in the meeting the Town Manager had provided a list of proposed road projects and equipment purchases that would be provided at Town Meeting. Motion carries 13-0.

D. **Selectman/Advisory Concerns:** Selectman Fortin thanked the Town Manager and the Department Heads and staff for the work put into crafting the budget and the advisory board members for their commitment to the public process.

E. **Citizen Concerns:** None

F. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm