

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
Meeting Room Old Point Ave School
Monday August 8, 2016
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, Paul Fortin, Mike Edgerly and Ron Moody were present.
- C. Consent Agenda:
- Warrants Dated: #41 (6/30/16 - \$8,148.86); #2 (7/25/16 - \$534,509.50); #3 (7/25/16 - \$3,160.23); #3 (7/25/16 - \$3,160.23); #4 (7/25/16 - \$50,679.59); Payroll Registers #30 (7/28/16 - \$13,007.35); #31 (8/4/2016 - \$12,801.27): Motion from Mr. Fortin to approve, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion carries 5-0.
- D. Discuss acceptance of meeting minutes of July 25, 2016: Motion to approve by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Edgerly. Town Manager Tim Curtis noted that there was a discrepancy with figures on item G. 1. The carry forward figure should read \$237,355 rather than \$237,655. Motion carries with edit 5-0.
- E. Old business (Selectmen's Concerns from immediately preceding meeting):
- Quit Claim Deed: Motion from Mr. Fortin to approve a quit claim deed for 49 Hidden Acres Drive, seconded by Mr. Edgerly. Motion carries 5-0.
- F. Items of Communication: The Town Manager updated the board on the change in Animal Control Officer with the Sheriff approving two deputies to perform the ACO duties in their off hours. Deputy Lafrenier and Deputy Libby will be splitting the hours.

The DEP permitting process is underway for the repairs to the Wesserunsett Dam in East Madison. The Town Manager had hoped it could be done through a permit by rule, but it seems it will be a more lengthy process.

The Board was reminded of the need to return update disclosure forms and Freedom of Access training forms to the Town Clerk.

The two remaining tax acquired properties have been listed with Agent Adrien Harris, if they are not sold before the next auction they will be included.

Nominations are due to Somerset Public Health by September 1 if the board wishes to recommend anyone for local health awards.

The Town Manager shared an advanced authorization form from Bangor Savings that would include the signatures of the Town Treasurer, Town Manager and Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. There is no current need to draw on the line of credit, but the board agreed it would be prudent to have the signatures in place.

Current Checkbook Balance is \$720,000 which indicates an increase in revenues from the last meeting and is adequate to make the school budget payment of \$414k by the end of the month.

Tax Liens will be processed tomorrow (Tuesday) on approximately 170 properties, by comparison last year the Town placed liens on 209 properties.

G. New Business

1. Department Head Reports (Highway, Fire, Police): Road Commissioner Glen Mantor reported that most paving projects have been completed and Bard Paving used a few hundred tons less material than anticipated. The Highway Crew will be completing the shoulder work over the next few weeks. Selectmen Fortin commented that the mowing on the sides of the road has been very good this year, and he says the Russell Road looks better than it has in years.

The Town Manager reported that Fire Chief Donny French is recovering from surgery and is back at work, but no report was available.

The Police Report for July was available but some changes in their reporting system will cause some changes to the Madison report in the future. Mr. Fortin asked for a definition of a call for service because it seemed as if those numbers were high. Madison Division admin Sharon Carey explained that there were a number of options in the computer for calls for service and that they do receive both incoming and outgoing calls several times an hour through the day.

2. Appoint back up Code Enforcement Officer: Motion from Mr. Fortin to appoint Leo Mayo as alternate Code Enforcement Officer, alternate Plumbing Inspector and alternate Health Officer, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion carries 5-0.
3. Discuss Property Maintenance: The Town Manager had asked for a philosophical discussion of property maintenance and reviewed the enforcement of the ordinance since 2012. There had been a total of 38 violations over the past 4 years. Two of those violations went court and one fine of \$15,000 had been issued.

Town Manager Curtis asked the board if they thought the overall appearance of the Town had improved. The consensus of the board was that it seemed that it was kind of two steps forward and one step back, with some properties being improved but others falling into disrepair.

Mr. Curtis asked the board for direction as to how much time and focus the Town Manager should give toward property maintenance. Currently the Town Manager does some preemptive work by sending letters to residents who may be in violation. The consensus of the board was that they expect the Town Manager to handle concerns from residents and let the Code Enforcement Officer determine if it is a code violation.

Finally, a concern was raised during the public hearing process in the spring about people who may not be in a financial situation where they cannot repair or maintain their homes. The consensus of the board is to use a common sense approach to allowing people a reasonable amount of time to improve their property.

Bankruptcies also cause difficulties in property maintenance due to the fact that finding the people who are responsible for maintenance is very difficult due to legal red tape.

4. Discuss Matching Grant Program: The Town Manager brought two requests from local businesses that had received grant awards and completed their projects. Motion from Mr. Ducharme to approve the funding for \$5,000 to Campbells Building Supply for a paving project. Seconded by Mr. Fortin. Motion carries 5-0. Motion from Mr. Fortin to approve funding of \$5,000 to Logland for an expansion project and installation of wood fired heater, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 5-0.

The Town Manager reminded the board that these payouts come out of the budgeted amount in the Economic Development budget, funded by TIF. These payouts in addition to the other \$23,900.00 worth of awards outstanding will leave a limited supply of funds for another round of applications. As such the Town Manager recommended waiting until next spring or summer to open another round of the Matching Grant Program. It was the consensus of the board to review after March of 2017.

5. Discuss Recommendation(s) for Additional State Aid: This topic had been discussed during the Board of Assessors meeting earlier in the evening and is included in the Assessors Board Minutes. There were no further comments or concerns from the Board of Selectmen.

H. Selectmen's Concerns: None

I. Citizen's Concerns: None

- J. Executive Session to discuss poverty abatement request pursuant to 1 MRSA Section 405 (6) (F). Motion from Mr. Edgerly to enter executive session, seconded by Mr. Fortin. Motion carries 5-0, the board entered executive session at 7:11pm.

Board came out of executive session at 7:35pm. Poverty Abatement Request #1 was denied by the Selectmen. Poverty Abatement Request #2 was denied by the Selectmen. The board directed the Town Manager to notify both applicants in writing.

- K. Adjournment. Motion to adjourn at 7:36pm