

## 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 30, 2015 at 6:00 PM

- A. Roll Call. Present were Jack Ducharme, Mike Edgerly, Paul Fortin, Cyp Johnson and Albert Veneziano. Advisory Board members present were Calvin Ames, Robin Dimock, Jeff Drew, Ronald Moody, Kenneth Moore, Lewis Ouilette, Chris Roy, Roger Sabourin, Robin Turek and Cathy Wilson.
- B. Salute to the flag. Done.
- C. Elect a Chairperson to the Advisory Board. Chris Roy made a motion to nominate Ron Moody. Calvin Ames seconded. There were no other nominations. Motion carried.
- D. Operational Budgets.

Town Manager Curtis discussed the current budget, what has been spent and what is anticipated left to spend. Anticipated revenues were discussed. The current checkbook balance is \$2.5 million. Fourth quarter (April, May and June) revenue and TIF transfers would bring us to approximately \$3 million. Fourth quarter fiscal year expenses for the school and town would leave us a projected \$843,000 checkbook balance. There is no money to transfer over to reduce taxes this year. July and August operating expenses and projected revenue would net us a projected checkbook balance at the end of August at a negative \$330,000. Moving forward, we will have to borrow money or hold off on making the August payment to the school and include it with the September payment. Town Manager Curtis discussed the anticipated tax rate. He estimated \$9 million would have to be appropriated for county, school and municipal budgets. Estimated revenue sharing and additional revenues are expected to be \$1.185 million. The net amount to be raised by taxation would put our tax rate at somewhere between 21 and 22 mils. If we want to set a lower tax rate, we would need to come up with an additional \$464,000 between county, school and municipal. Town Manager recommends budgeting \$400,000 from the Line of Credit so that we'll have the funds to pay back the loan this next fiscal year. This would change our mil rate to about 22.5 to 23. Bill VanTuinen has been working with the Legislative subcommittee on Taxation. If passed, it would provide relief to the Town of Madison in the amount of about \$1.2 million but that would not take effect until next year.

  1. **TIF discussion.** TIF and Economic Development spending was approved by Town Meeting and therefore not part of the budget discussion. However this year about \$277,000 in TIF revenue is being put back into the municipal budget so we can lower taxes. Money to be spent and budgeted out of TIF was discussed. We get \$550,000 in TIF revenue annually and we have allocated it all. Draft warrant articles which show how TIF money will be allocated were reviewed with the Advisory Board. Town Manager does not recommend doing this for the life of the TIF but recommends it short term to get us through a tough economic situation.
  2. **General Government: Administration (01-01);** Town Manager Curtis said that personnel services is down about \$50,000 which reflects the elimination of two part-time staff positions at the Town Office (Assistant to the Assessors and the position of Assessing Clerk). There has been an addition to the budget for contracted assessing services. Selectman Fortin made a motion to recommend \$527,345.

Selectman Ducharme seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board: Calvin Ames made a motion to recommend \$527,345. Roger Sabourin seconded. Motion carried. **Planning Board (01-02);** Selectman Ducharme made a motion to recommend \$5,858. Selectman Fortin seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board: Roger Sabourin made a motion to recommend \$5,858. Calvin Ames seconded. Motion carried. **Code Enforcement Office (01-03);** Selectman Ducharme made a motion to recommend \$16,228. Selectman Fortin seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board: Chris Roy made a motion to recommend \$16,228. Roger Sabourin seconded. Motion carried. **Boards and Committees (01-04):** Town Manager stated that this reflects a change due to the fact that we will no longer be paying stipends to a Board of Assessors. Selectman Ducharme made a motion to recommend \$19,739. Selectman Fortin seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board – Roger Sabourin made a motion to recommend \$19,739. Jeff Drew seconded. Motion carried. **Elections (01-05);** Selectman Ducharme made a motion to recommend \$2,000. Selectman Fortin seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board – Calvin Ames made a motion to recommend \$2,000. Jeff Drew seconded. Motion carried. **Assessing Contract (01-08);** There are two sections to this budget: 1) assessing contract and 2) abatements. The Advisory Board asked how the Board came up with that number. They talked with a number of other towns who contract out their assessing services and talked with our current assessor's assistant, Bill VanTuinen. The two part-time assessing staff's wages were about \$50,000. RFP's are due back by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Selectman Fortin made a motion to recommend \$38,500. Selectman Ducharme seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board – Roger Sabourin made a motion to recommend \$38,500. Chris Roy seconded. Motion carried.

3. **Public Safety: Ambulance (05-01);** Selectman Ducharme made a motion to recommend \$72,825. Selectman Edgerly seconded. Selectman Fortin commented that it is a real struggle to get the bills (receivables) paid. If we can't come up with a solution to Medicare and Medicaid, that budget line will go up in the future. Motion carried. Advisory Board – Roger Sabourin made a motion to recommend \$72,825. Chris Roy seconded. Motion carried. **Police (05-03);** Selectman Ducharme made a motion to recommend \$481,000. Selectman Fortin seconded. Town Manager Curtis said that the amount signifies contracting with Somerset County to provide police services. Selectman Veneziano stated that we would keep 24 hour, 7 day coverage. Ron Moody asked where the public is given the option to vote another budget amount if they refuse the \$481,000. On Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, there will be a public hearing out discuss the police department. Selectman Fortin stated that if the contracted service doesn't work, we can transfer back the police force and the cruisers. The previous amount brought to the Board of Selectmen was \$569,845. Chris Roy asked if the Police Department can be offset by TIF. Town Manager Curtis said the State won't allow it. Chris asked about the patrol schedule. There will be no change to what we have now. The cruisers will say Somerset County Madison Branch or Division. There is no budgeted amount under capital for a cruiser. Chris Roy asked if the contract negotiations with the Police Department had been resolved. They have not. Chris asked what the anticipated savings would be from a labor contract if the County takes over. Board could not comment. Coverage outside of the Town of Madison was raised as a concern. Motion carried. Advisory Board - Jeff Drew recommended the Advisory Board abstain from recommending any monetary amount until the public hearing at the next Selectmen's meeting. Roger Sabourin seconded. The Advisory Board would need to meet after the public hearing. Chris Roy asked why we can't approve another number. Calvin Ames supports giving the Town Meeting voters a choice. Town Manager Curtis explained that the voters set the budget amount but the Board of Selectmen has the right to spend it as they see fit i.e. contract police services. Motion carried. **Fire Department (05-06);** Selectman Ducharme made a motion to recommend \$98,140. Selectman Fortin seconded. Town Manager said that this budget reflects some savings for this year only. Going forward, we would not be able to maintain this low of a budget if we do not receive the AFG or Assistance to Firefighters grant this year. Motion carried. Advisory Board – Roger Sabourin made a motion to approve \$98,140. Jeff Drew seconded. Motion carried. **Animal Control (05-08);** Selectman Fortin made a motion to recommend \$9,270. Selectman Ducharme seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board – Roger Sabourin made a motion to approve \$9,270. Calvin Ames seconded. Motion carried. **Street Lights (05-15);** Selectman Johnson made a motion to recommend \$55,000. Selectman Ducharme seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board – Roger Sabourin made a motion to recommend \$55,000. Chris Roy seconded. Motion carried. **Hydrants (05-20);** Selectman Ducharme made a motion to recommend \$187,209. Selectman Edgerly seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board – Roger Sabourin made a motion to recommend \$187,209. Calvin Ames seconded. Motion carried.
4. **Other Government: Public Health & Sanitary - Storm water (10-01);** Town Manager Curtis said that there is a \$10,000 increase which reflects work that Sanitary has put into Ingalls Street – money that will be reimbursed to the Sanitary District. Selectman Ducharme made a motion to recommend \$65,000.

- Selectman Johnson seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board – Calvin Ames made a motion to recommend \$65,000. Roger Sabourin seconded. Motion carried. **Waste Disposal - Solid Waste (10-10)**; Town Manager noted that the price reflects saving in tipping fees if we enter into a new contract with Waste Management. Selectman Fortin made a motion to recommend \$212,000. Selectman Ducharme seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board – Roger Sabourin made a motion to recommend \$277,000. Calvin Ames seconded. Motion carried.
5. **Parks/Recreation/Preble Avenue (20-01)**; Selectman Ducharme made a motion to recommend \$74,218. Selectman Edgerly seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board – Roger Sabourin made a motion to recommend \$74,318. Calvin Ames seconded. Motion carried.
6. **Public Works (15-01)**; Town Manager indicated that this budget does reflect some one time savings this year. Highway plans to do some work on River Road – a TIF approved road in the District. There are no capital expenses this year. There's a reduction in personnel services that reflects removing the third extra on-call person that they have for the winter. They have not used that third on-call person for the past three winters. Selectman Edgerly made a motion to recommend \$551,610. Selectman Ducharme seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board – Roger Sabourin made a motion to recommend \$551,610. Calvin seconded. Motion carried. **Winter Roads (15-05)**; Town Manager reported that salt and calcium can be paid for out of TIF funds. Selectman Fortin made a motion to recommend \$1,000 for Winter Roads. Selectman Ducharme seconded. Motion carried. This amount pays the Town of Solon who comes down South Solon Meeting House Road to turn around – they plow it for us. Advisory Board – Calvin Ames made a motion to recommend \$1,000. Jeff drew seconded. Motion carried. **Summer Roads (15-10)**; Selectman Ducharme made a motion to recommend \$23,500 for Summer Roads. Selectman Fortin seconded. Town Manager said that the largest reduction was in engineering. Motion carried. Gravel budget was cut. Work on the Kincaid Road was discussed. Advisory Board – Chris Roy made a motion to recommend \$23,500. Robyn Turek seconded. Motion carried.
7. **Cemeteries (25-01)**; Selectman Fortin made a motion to recommend \$22,000. Selectman Ducharme seconded. Motion carried. Advisory Board – Robyn Turek made a motion to recommend \$22,000. Calvin Ames seconded. Motion carried.

The Board recessed the meeting until Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> to resume budget discussions. The time of recess was not noted.