

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
JUNIOR HIGH AUDITORIUM
Monday December 19, 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, and Mike Edgerly. Selectman Ron Moody was absent. Town Manager Tim Curtis was also in attendance.
- C. **Consent Agenda: Warrants Dated:** #15 (11/28/16 - \$523,296.92); #16 (11/28/16 - \$2,187.43);

Payroll Registers: #48 (12/1/16 - \$15,690.64); #49 (12/8/16 - \$11,561.56); #50 (12/15/16 - \$11,695.93):
Motion to approve by Mr. Edgerly, seconded by Mr. Fortin. Motion carries 4-0.

Harvell Bishop VFW Post request for Game of Chance: Motion to approve by Mr. Ducharme, seconded by Mr. Fortin. Motion carries 4-0.
- D. **Discuss acceptance of meeting minutes of November 28, 2016:** Motion to approve by Mr. Ducharme, seconded by Mr. Edgerly. Motion carries 4-0.
- E. **Old business** (Selectmen's Concerns from immediately preceding meeting):
- F. **Items of Communication:**

Town Manager Curtis thanked the Board for signing a letter which recognizes the contributions of former police officer Joe Mitchell, who passed away on December 17, 2017.

Foreclosure Notices were sent to approximately 50 residents last week. The Town will foreclose on unpaid 2014 property taxes on January 17, 2017.

Current checkbook balance is \$1,100,000, approximately \$200,000 ahead of the same time last year.
- G. **New Business**
1. **Review Proposed Moratorium Ordinance on Retail Marijuana Establishments:** Town Manager Curtis reviewed a question and answer sheet prepared for the meeting, explaining the need for a moratorium, and outlined options the Town may want to consider.
 2. **Public Hearing on Proposed Moratorium Ordinance on Retail Marijuana Establishments:** Chairman Veneziano opened the public hearing at 6:40pm. There were approximately 20 people in attendance. Resident Alvin Webb said he feels that marijuana is no worse than alcohol and tobacco and he sees no difference in an establishment selling marijuana products and a company like Irvings selling alcohol.

Another resident voiced concern about a moratorium saying it would delay a business from establishing something new pertaining to marijuana sales and that would make it harder for people who want to do

business in Madison. He said that the Selectmen should have been more forward thinking in regards issues like this.

Selectman Ducharme commented that the Board has discussed medical marijuana when that law was being passed. At that time the Selectmen did not want to add any regulations to what the State had in place. Mr. Ducharme says the difference with this referendum is that it is not as clear as to what the State will do for regulation and what the role of the Municipality will be. He said a moratorium will give time for the Town to see what the State will do. It is the Board's responsibility to provide safe development in the Town.

Selectman Fortin said the Board of Selectmen have been forward thinking and that is why they are considering a moratorium to wait and see what the State does. Mr. Fortin invited people in the audience to come to regular selectman meetings to see that the Board is trying get out in front of issues.

Town Manager Curtis asked the audience if there were any comments regarding the options of adding new ordinances.

Resident Stacy Jordan would like to see some site review that would create some safe zones that would keep retail establishments like social clubs from being right in front of a school.

Town Manager Curtis said that the Town's current site review process does not oversee home businesses so if an individual wanted to grow, use and sell marijuana from their home they will be licensed by the state but there is no law or ordinance against it in the Town.

Resident Paul Turek said the state will regulate home businesses but he is concerned that it will create a burden on the Sheriff's office and code enforcement as well. Mr. Turek supports the moratorium to allow for the Town to consider what kind of ordinances it should create and enforce.

Chairman Veneziano closed the public hearing at 7:00pm.

3. **Appoint Member to Somerset County Budget Advisory Committee:** Motion from Mr. Fortin to appoint Town Manager Curtis to the Somerset County Budget Advisory Committee, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 4-0.
4. **Discuss Municipal Mowing Bids:** Town Manager Curtis shared the bid summary for each of the three Town Mowing properties. It was the Town Manager's recommendation that the Board approve the low bids. Motion from Mr. Fortin to award the Forest Hills Cemetery Contract to York Lawn Care for \$16,000, the 10 other cemeteries to Bobby Bishop for \$10,800, and the contract for Town Owned Property to Boynton's Landscaping for \$7,605, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Chairman Veneziano voiced concern about moving away from McKenney and Sons since they had been very dependable even though they were not the low bid for Forest Hills. Selectman Edgerly asked if the contracts could be structured in such a way that payment is made after the work has been done. Mr. Ducharme asked if the contract language contains enforceable performance standards. The Town Manager said that the language is there but the Town Office has been lax in enforcement in the past, but there would be a plan to enforce standards going forward. Motion carries 3-1, Mr. Veneziano opposed.
5. **Discuss Highway Contract:** Updates to the Highway Department's Union Contract have been completed and accepted by the Highway workers. Motion from Mr. Ducharme to approve a three year extension to the contract as proposed, seconded by Mr. Fortin. Motion carries 4-0.
6. **Discuss Minimum Wage Increases effective January 1, 2017:** Town Manager Curtis shared with the Board that the impact of the approval of a new minimum wage will have a slight impact with some part time Library staff and with students who work with the summer and winter recreation programs.

Between Library and Recreation there will be an approximate increase of \$7,000 recommended in the new budget for 2017/2018.

7. **Discuss MPI Hydro Appraisal:** At the last Madison Board of Assessors meeting on November 28, the assessors approved the hiring of Maine General Appraiser Glen Walker to review the reasonableness of the 2016 valuation of Madison Paper Hydro Assets. The Selectmen will have to approve the spending of the funds. Motion from Mr. Ducharme to spend \$5,000 from the legal line for the review of the hydro assessment, seconded by Mr. Fortin. Mr. Fortin asked if they Town should wait a few weeks before hiring Mr. Walker, the Town Manager said it is his understanding that the lawyer would wait until next month. Motion carries 4-0.
- H. **Selectman Concerns:** Selectman Ducharme commented that recently Deputy Libby has graduated from the State Police Academy and the Board would like the Town Manager to draft a letter of congratulations.
- I. **Citizen Concerns:** None
- J. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:11pm