

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 February 26, 2018 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, George Elias, Paul Fortin and Ron Moody were in attendance. Road Commissioner Glen Mantor, Treasurer/Clerk Kathy Estes, Finance Director Tammy Carrier, Head Librarian Julie Forbus, Fire Chief Don French and Town Manager Tim Curtis were also present.
- C. **Consent Agenda:** Warrants Dated: # 23 (2/12/18 - \$335,536.60). Payroll Registers: # 7 (2/15/18 - \$15,098.37) # 8 (2/22/18 - \$12,477.30). Motion by Mr. Fortin to approve, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion carried 5-0.
- Approval of Liquor License for Avalon Enterprises Inc (Somerset Abbey):** Motion by Mr. Ducharme to approve, seconded by Mr. Elias. Town Manager Curtis explained that this was both an extension of the current license and the permission to serve alcohol at their outdoor events this summer. Motion carried 5-0.
- D. **Discuss acceptance of meeting minutes of February 12, 2018:** Motion to approve by Mr. Elias, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion carried 5-0.
- E. **Old Business (Selectmen's Concerns from immediately preceding meeting):** None
- F. **Items of Communication:** Town Manager Curtis has offered Susan Hathaway a temporary position as alternate Code Enforcement Officer beginning Monday March 5, 2018. As such the board would have to make the necessary appointments. Motion by Mr. Fortin to appoint Susan Hathaway as alternate Code Enforcement Officer, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Mr. Moody to appoint Susan Hathaway as alternate Plumbing Inspector, seconded by Mr. Elias. Motion carries 5-0.

Motion by Mr. Moody to appoint Susan Hathaway as alternate Health Officer, seconded by Mr. Elias. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Curtis updated the board on the status of property on Naomi Avenue. The Town has secured a contractor to finish the clean up but the contractor would not work unless there are assurances about the camper on the property. After conferring with the Sheriff and attorney Ken Lexier the Town Manager sent letters today giving 21-Day notice to remove personal property from the site. That would put the start time for demolition at approximately March 26, 2018.

The School Board has set dates for their budget process. Monday April 30 for the Informational Meeting, Monday May 7 for the Validation Meeting and Tuesday May 15 for the Referendum vote. Town Manager Curtis noted that he would be on vacation from April 30 through May 7 but would be back in town for a meeting after the Validation meeting on the 7th. If the board met after the school meeting then the Selectmen would be able to sign the warrant for the Town Clerk to post on May 8th to give the proper

notice for the referendum. The consensus of the Board was to meet on May 7 at 730 at Madison Junior High.

Barbara Santiago with the People Who Care Food Cupboard has sent a letter to her board notifying them that 2018 will be her last year as director of the Food Cupboard.

The Wesserunsett Arts Council has asked municipalities to sent letters of support for the Somerset County Rural Cultural Plan that was recently completed. Town Manager Curtis has participated in some meetings regarding the development of the plan and recommends support. There is no financial obligation to the Town. Motion to support by Mr. Moody, seconded by Mr. Elias. Motion carries 5-0.

In doing some related work, the Town Manager determined that the Town Ordinances that pertain to local parks (Chapters 667, 285 & 308) need to be updated to include the name and location of the newest parks.

The board of directors for the Anson/Madison Water District voted to abate \$750 from the bill of \$1596 to the Town for usage in the last quarter at the Old Point School. The Town Manager is getting quotes on removing some of the oldest toilets.

G. New Business

1. **Public Hearing to Discuss Proposed Changes to Animal Ordinance (Chapter 148):** Chairman Veneziano opened the public hearing at 6:40pm. Town Manager Curtis said there had been no changes to the proposed ordinance updates since the last meeting. The public hearing was declared closed at 6:42pm. Motion to put the proposed changes on the Town Meeting warrant by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carried 5-0.
2. **Discuss Proposed Changes to Cemetery Ordinance (Chapter 26):** After the public hearing at the last board meeting, the Town Manager recommended changes to the wording on page four regarding benches and other objects. The new proposed language says no objects shall be erected without a complete base that keeps grass or weeds from growing underneath. In addition, the location of such objects must be approved by the Town Sexton. The consensus of the board was to accept the new language for 26-5:C. Motion to put the proposed changes on the Town Meeting warrant by Mr. Elias, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion carries 5-0.

Town Manager Curtis asked if the board was prepared to make a change in charges for purchasing grave lots. At the previous meeting it was proposed to increase the charge from \$250 to \$400 per grave. Motion to accept the changes as submitted by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Elias. Town Manager Curtis noted that these changes would become affective July 1, 2018.

Mr. Curtis also recommended that the board move to eliminate Chapter 532 (Cemeteries) from the Madison Code of Ordinances since it contains redundant information to Chapter 26 (Cemeteries, Town). Motion to put the recommendation to eliminate on the Town Meeting warrant by Mr. Elias, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries 5-0.

3. **Review Foreclosed Properties/Quit Claim Deeds:** Town Manager Curtis reviewed the list of current and pending foreclosures for non-payment of taxes. He anticipates a total of 7 properties to be sold at auction in the spring.

There have been payments made on previously foreclosed properties resulting in the need for the Board to approve quit claim deeds.

Motion to approve a quit claim deed to Robert LeBlanc for property at 41 Hardy Street by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion to approve a quit claim deed to Sandra Larlee for property at 96 Nichols Street by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion to approve a quit claim deed to Brian Kenyon for property on Sugarloaf Lane by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion to approve a quit claim deed to Kevin McCarty & Doreen Pinkham for property at 1229 Lakewood Road by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Review of Proposed FY2019 Municipal Budget with members of the Advisory Board: Town Manager Curtis began the discussion with a recap of budget considerations including the Town valuation, revenue sharing, homestead exemptions, and state aid to education. The proposed municipal budget increase is \$493,000.00 including capital projects. If the County portion and School Budget were to remain flat the potential tax rate increase would be \$1.41 per thousand.

Mr. Fortin asked if there was money from TIF that could be allocated. Town Manager Curtis said he had already factored that in to the equation. Mr. Fortin asked about the implications of the ongoing tax abatement appeals. The Town Manager says there are currently two appeals, one from former Madison Paper and the other from Somerset Acquisitions, and the Town expects to receive an abatement request from Eagle Creek. Depending on the outcome of those requests/appeals the Town could be responsible for paying back several hundred thousand dollars.

Head Librarian Julie Forbus presented the Library budget which is a proposed net increase of \$5,215.00 mostly from increases in wages due to mandated increases in minimum wage. Julie provided a summary of the grants that the Library has been able generate over the years, plus the money generated from fees/copies.

Fire Chief Don French presented the Fire Department Budget which is a proposed net increase of \$2,275.00 mostly due to wages. Don also asked for \$4,000 in capital to upgrade tires on one of the fire trucks and to repair doors at the Company #2 Fire Station in East Madison.

Road Commissioner Glen Manton presented the Public Works/Highway Department budget which is a proposed net increase of \$46,775.00. The increases would fund a part time worker during the winter months, contracting a mowing machine, and setting aside funding for special projects.

The Department Heads also recommended \$333,075.00 in capital spending which would include setting aside \$55,000.00 to go toward the purchase of a new plow truck to replace the 1995 model. The last time the Town purchased a new plow truck was 2008. \$248,000.00 was recommended for paving work on several town roads. The capital spending also included \$8,000.00 for a copier, \$4,000.00 for Fire Department and \$1,000.00 for Library. Head Librarian Julie Forbus talked about the need to update the handicapped access ramp.

Town Manager Curtis asked the Board for some direction on the budget. Selectmen Moody said he is not sure how much of an increase the taxpayers from Madison can take. Selectmen Fortin thought it would be easier to pass a budget with a 2% increase rather than 6% to 20% with capital. He mentioned that 6 years ago the Town was hoping to see a tax rate under \$16.00 and now it appears it may be as high as \$24.

H. **Selectman Concerns:** None

I. **Citizen Concerns:** None

J. **Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to 1MRSA 405 (6) (A) (Town Manager Evaluation):** Motion by Mr. Fortin to enter executive session, seconded by Mr. Elias. Motion carries 5-0. The Board entered executive session at 7:59pm.

The Board exited executive session at 8:55pm with no action taken.

K. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:56pm.