

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 AVENUE FACILITY, 108 OLD POINT AVENUE, MADISON
Monday, January 12, 2015
6:30 p.m.**

- A. Salute to the flag. Done.
- B. Roll Call. Present were Jack Ducharme, Cyp Johnson, Paul Fortin, and Mike Edgerly (arrived late). Albert Veneziano was absent.
- C. Consent Agenda.
 - 1. Warrants dated: #20 (12/22/14 - \$37,344.55), #21 (12/22/14 – \$3,189.74). Payroll Registers dated: Week #52 (12/21/14 - \$17,819.04), #53 (12/22/14 - \$21,076.30). Selectman Johnson made a motion to approve the warrants. Selectman Fortin seconded. Motion carried.
 - 2. Discuss application from Tardiff-Belanger Post 39 The American Legion for a License to Operate a Game of Chance – Cards. Selectman Johnson made a motion to approve the license. Selectman Fortin seconded. Motion carried.
- D. Discuss meeting minutes of December 22 & 30, 2014. Selectman Fortin made a motion to accept the minutes. Selectman Johnson seconded. Motion carried.
- E. Old business (Selectmen’s Concerns from immediately preceding meeting). None.
- F. Items of Communication.
 - 1. Working with Fairpoint and Somerset IT on the telephone conversion. We have a problem with the phones at the highway garage. MEW has enough fiber optic cable to run a line to the Town Garage to improve the signal.
 - 2. We have the opportunity to change how we pay Waste Management to get online invoices and remit payment electronically. It would save the Town \$5 per invoice – in the last quarter of the year, we had 32 invoices from Waste Management – a potential savings of \$150 during that time. Selectman Ducharme stated that we’re going to start doing that.
 - 3. The Bureau of Motor Vehicles came in to do an audit. They said we have to pay the Bureau of Motor Vehicles their fees weekly instead of the bi-weekly schedule that we’re currently on. The statutes allow for one signature on the warrant, it’s the same statute as for payroll. We will implement this change.
 - 4. The semi-annual Selectmen’s meeting schedule was noted.
 - 5. Summit sent current natural gas pipeline data which needs to be opened – Code Enforcement will need to open it using GIS/ARCVIEW software.
 - 6. The minutes reflecting the Board approval to authorize the Fire Department grant didn’t specify where the funds were coming from. Selectman Fortin made a motion to take \$5,153 from TIF. Selectman Johnson seconded. Motion carried.
 - 7. Lee Bragg, Bond attorney, stated that we need to pass a post issuance compliance policy that tells what we’re going to do with funds and how we’re going to repay the line of credit. He sent us some proposed language. No action needs to be taken tonight.
- G. New Business.
 - 1. Conduct a public hearing to discuss the Special Entertainment Permit application of Avalon Enterprises DBA Somerset Abbey. The owners of Somerset Abbey, Thomas and Stacey O’Brien were present.

The O'Brien's recently bought the congregational church and they intend to put on music events, jazz ensembles and comedy nights. Most events will be from the hours of 7 pm to 10 pm. They will also offer the church for weddings and receptions. They have an existing business doing event planning so this is not a new line of work for them. She addressed parking – they have 12 lots, there's 16 spaces by the basketball court, 60 along Main Street, 25 on Weston Avenue, 25 on Pleasant Street and Reny's. There's additional parking at the Main Street Park/Playground and behind St Sebastian Church. The Code Enforcement Officer thought they might need to go through Site Review. The Board will wait to hear the outcome of the Planning Board, Fire and Police Chiefs and the Code Officer before granting the permit. It was noted that there is no time frame that the Board needs to work within to render a decision.

2. Department head reports: Police, Recreation, Code Enforcement Officer. Police Chief Moores reports the stats on activity within the department, reported that a cruiser hit a deer-repairs have been made to the vehicle. Selectman Fortin asked about drug problems in Town. Chief said we have a serious prescription drug problem. It was noted that mileage is up on the cruisers during severe cold weather. Recreation - Chris LeBlanc wasn't present. Selectman Ducharme reported that the ice rink is open as of today. Renovations are not complete on the warming hut but the hut has power. Danny McKenney will be sprucing up the building. Code Enforcement: Robert Dunphy reported that all junkyards and burned out buildings are in court proceedings. The constitutionality of the burned out building ordinance has been challenged. The Board asked Mr Dunphy to get a legal opinion from Maine Municipal Association. Mr. Dunphy reported that the Town's Emergency Management Director, Roger Lightbody Jr, would like to step down. Marc Leslie is interested in the position. Marc was present and discussed his qualifications and training. The Board indicated that Mr. Lightbody should put his resignation in writing. Once received, the Board will put it on the next agenda.
3. Elect public official to Somerset County Budget Committee. The County needs one nomination from Madison. The Board would like to wait until the new Town Manager comes on board. They declined to make a nomination and asked County Commissioner Dunphy to hold off until February 1st.
4. Discuss Personnel Policy. Selectman Fortin made a motion to enact the policy. Selectman Johnson seconded. Nancy Gove asked about the effective date on the proposed pro-rata share for health insurance listed on page 17 which currently states an effective date of January 1, 2015 - would the Board be willing to change it to the effective date of the new policy. A correction in the next paragraph to the word "heald" should be "health". She was also concerned about giving longevity bonuses to only full time employees, exempting permanent part-time and seasonal full-time employees from this benefit. Selectman Ducharme said the Board wanted to reward the full time employees for their years of service. Maddy Pierce questioned the longevity for part-time stating that there's value in those employees. There were no other comments. Selectman Fortin amended his motion to approve the Personnel Policy as written with two changes: changing the effective date for health insurance deductions to 1/12/15 and to correct the misspelled word "heald" to "health". Selectman Johnson seconded. Motion carried.
5. Discuss Channel 11 Budget with Board representative. Bruce Bristow, representing Channel 11, stated that Channel 11 is using Emerson & Associates for their bookkeeping and payroll effective January 1, 2015. The increase in contract services is now reflected in their budget. Channel 11 made some cuts to their budget. Overall, there is a 1.5% increase over last year. Selectman Ducharme asked about the pending unemployment claim – did they work it out so that Madison is going to get paid? Bruce stated that Madison should pay the claim as it comes in, and once monthly the other two towns (Anson & Skowhegan) will pay a percentage of the claim back to Madison. The percentage used will be based upon the subscribership in each member town. Madison should send an invoice to the other two towns. Selectman Fortin made a motion to approve the budget for 2015/2016 at \$68,200. Selectman Edgerly seconded. Motion carried three in favor, one abstained – Selectman Johnson, as he is a Board member for Channel 11.

6. Conduct six-month Budget review. The Board reviewed the budget report. Tammy Carrier stated that the only line in jeopardy of going over is the telephone line which is due to the conversion. Nancy asked if the telephone could be funded from the TIF. Selectman Fortin suggested moving funds from the TIF account on a quarterly basis. The Board agreed to move TIF funds quarterly.
 7. Discuss Citizen Request for Time Extension on Foreclosure. Kathy Estes said the foreclosure date is January 26, 2015. The citizen has asked for a 60 day extension to come up with the funds to pay the 2012 taxes. Kathy Estes stated that the Town will own the property after the 26th of January. Selectman Fortin asked about the liability on a property we foreclosed upon? Kathy Estes stated that it is a grey area. Selectman Fortin asked for clarification on liability. Kathy will call MMA to get an opinion on the liability. Nancy Gove mentioned that the homeowners have the right to apply for a poverty abatement.
 8. Discuss Economic Development Project List. Tim Curtis listed the current projects and the amount of time spent on them – general office support – calls and walk-ins, answering emails, website/electronic sign, maintenance of electronic sign (about 2.5 hours/week); grant management (1 hour/week) – note: Tim is the only person who is setup to draw down federal funds at the moment; committee representation (2 hours/week); tourism development; TIF accounting review; transfer station and feasibility study. Tim updated the Board on other commitments he has made through his consulting business but stated that on average, he would have about 15 hours per week to give toward Town of Madison related projects. Selectman Ducharme suggested transitioning general office support (website and electronic sign) and cutting committee representation. Tim explained the value to serving on various committees. Selectman Fortin suggested that securing more grants over the next few years would be beneficial. Projects that will benefit the citizens (like the transfer station) is desirable. The current balance in the TIF account is \$750,000.
 9. Sign Corrective Municipal Quitclaim Deed for Thomas Street property. The Board signed the deed.
- H. Selectmen’s Concerns. There were none.
- I. Citizen’s Concerns. None.
- J. Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter (Town Manager) pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A). Selectman Edgerly made a motion to go into executive session. Selectman Fortin seconded. The Board went into executive session at 8:34 pm. The Board came out of executive session at 8:57 p.m. Selectman Fortin made a motion to hire Eugene Conlogue from Presque Isle to be Town Manager at a salary of \$60,000/year plus benefits. Town Manager to start February 1st. Selectman Johnson seconded. Motion carried.
- K. Executive Session to discuss Labor Negotiations pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(D). Selectman Fortin made a motion to go into executive session. Selectman Edgerly seconded. The Board went into executive session at 8:59 p.m. The Board came out of executive session at 9:25 p.m.
- L. Adjournment. Selectman Fortin made a motion to adjourn. Selectman Johnson seconded. The Board adjourned at 9:26 p.m.