

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 26, 2015
6:30 p.m.**

- A. Salute to the flag. Done.
- B. Roll Call. Present were Jack Ducharme, Cyp Johnson, Mike Edgerly, and Paul Fortin. Albert Veneziano was absent.
- C. Consent Agenda.
 - 1. Warrants dated: #22 (1/12/15 - \$180,773.87), #23 (1/12/15 - \$104,542.28). Payroll Registers dated: Week #2 (1/8/15 - \$41,091.25), #3 (1/15/15 - \$18,711.72), #4 (1/22/15 - \$19,240.33). Selectman Johnson made a motion to accept the warrants as read. Selectman Edgerly seconded. Motion carried.
- D. Discuss meeting minutes of January 10 and 12, 2015. Selectman Fortin made a motion to accept the minutes. Selectman Edgerly seconded. Motion carried.
- E. Old business (Selectmen's Concerns from immediately preceding meeting). None.
- F. Items of Communication.
 - 1. Selectman Ducharme presented the Board a list of properties that were foreclosed upon.
 - 2. Summit provided a map of where natural gas pipeline is currently in Town.
 - 3. Bill VanTuinen provided a copy of proposed legislation having to do with TIF funds. LD 116 allows municipalities to use TIF funds not to exceed 50% of revenue for two years. Selectman Ducharme said that the Legislative Policy Council refused to support this.
 - 4. Liability insurance with respect to foreclosed property – Selectman Ducharme stated that if we allow people to remain on foreclosed property, there is no liability; the Town would assume liability if they leave for a period of at least 60 days and then return.
 - 5. Selectman Ducharme and Nancy Gove met with the Somerset County administrator and interim technology director to discuss a renewal contract, rewriting it in terms that both parties can understand and providing the services that we need, and the cost for services. In 2013, the County installed a new server computer at the Town Office which was never billed - \$7,800. We should be getting a bill. Selectman Ducharme said it was a budgeted item and the funds were carried forward. We have not received a bill from the County IT for the Fairpoint telephone conversion project. We'll have a catch up invoice and then the County will start billing us monthly for IT services.
 - 6. Board received a memo from Chief Moores for cameras. We had budgeted \$18,000 to buy cameras for the cruisers. The State Highway Safety has a program where they'll reimburse us 75% of funds spent up to \$5,000. Selectman Ducharme recommends purchasing the two cameras for the cruisers and get the reimbursement. The net expense to the town will be \$2,500. Selectman Fortin made a motion to purchase the cameras utilizing the 75% grant reimbursement program. Selectman Johnson seconded. Motion carried.
- G. Legislative Sentiment with Representative Brad Farrin. Brad Farrin, representing the House and Senate, presented Steve Foshay with a certificate recognizing his 30+ years portraying Santa Clause.
- H. New Business.

1. Department head reports: Highway, Fire, Economic Development. Glen Mantor reported that they've been caught up on the small storms and crews have been cutting brush on Weston Avenue. The trucks are all loaded up and are ready for this next storm moving in. The Fire Chief was not present to give a report. Tim Curtis, Economic Developer reported that we have received the \$97,000 in federal funds to pay for the SCBA units. We're waiting on an invoice on a compressor and an air filling station. Project updates: TIF – approximate balance in TIF account is \$750,000. Matching grant program – one remaining grant that hasn't been settled is through Maine Cedar Hot Tubs. Tim asked if the Board would offer a matching grant program in 2015. The consensus of the Board agreed to hold off until it is known if funds will be available to assist with general governmental obligations. Fiscal year expenses that are TIF eligible costs were discussed (40% of Town Manager salary, 5% of Finance salary and 14.25% of Public Works, Fire Department, Ambulance, and hydrants, street lights (14%), audit costs (14%) – an annual cost of \$192,703. Because we are 6 months into the new budget year, we could transfer \$96,000 from TIF into the General Fund. Salt and calcium purchases (100%), phones, website, IT and new fileserver (50%), public transportation can all be reimbursed from TIF. Tim also recommends moving 50% of the costs from Waste Managements' tipping fees (we pay the tipping fee for residents to use back gate and commercial haulers to use front gate. Commercial haulers charge a discounted rate to businesses and customers, thus we are subsidizing or granting funds to these businesses so they can lower rates to customers. These expenses fiscal year to date represent \$77,000. Selectman Fortin made a motion to approve transferring \$177,999.08 from TIF to the General Fund. Selectman Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.
2. Approve warrant language for Special Town Meeting on February 25, 2015. Selectman Fortin made a motion to approve the Special Town Meeting Warrant. Selectman Edgerly seconded. Motion carried.
3. Discuss Ice Rink Rules with Joe Hayden. Joe handed out proposed rules. Selectman Fortin asked if a section of the rink could be sectioned off for the small children learning to skate. Joe said no hockey games until after 6 pm. And to stay further away from the building. The kids look out for each other. Some of the little kids skate with a folding chair. They do have ice skates for kids to use. Windows need to be protected. Selectman Edgerly suggested speaking with Jeff Bess to weld in something. Joe suggested a fence by the building. Selectman Edgerly suggested putting in some benches. A railing was suggested. Joe thought maybe in the Spring we can look at enhancing the space. Selectman Ducharme mentioned putting up a sign with the ice skating specific rules on it – using the same look as the signs at the playground. Tim Curtis will work with Joe to get the signs made up.
4. Report from Economic Development on solid waste study and transfer station study. Tim Curtis reported on the feasibility of doing a transfer station within the Town of Madison. If we had a transfer station we can burn (some restrictions apply); we would have to include burning in our application to DEP. These same burning rules would apply to the Maine Forrest Service – they would have the right to come in and inspect the burning process. Tim talked with Linda Butler of DEP who said most municipalities opt out of burning because of the liability issues. Burning restrictions were discussed. Tim talked with Solon, Chris Roy who manages the Rockwood Transfer Station, visited the Belgrade and the China transfer station. Solon and Rockwood are smaller stations – spending about \$65,000/year maintaining and transporting via town trucks but does not include the tipping fee to Waste Management. Rockwood's budget is \$78,000/year to maintain and transport 350 tons of municipal waste. The Solon site is very much into recycling; they partner with Pittsfield in a municipal co-op with recycling – no cost for recycling. (We pay for our curbside pickup and take it to Waste Management and we pay \$25/ton for our recycling.) Solon handles about 300 tons of municipal waste per year. Larger sites – China is a very well run facility with an estimated participation rate of 40%, they have three employees and have a budget of \$280,000/year including tipping fees. Available landfills are Waste Management in Norridgewock or PERC up in Orrington. Belgrade has a nice large facility but was not a very well run facility, with 4 employees and a budget of \$529,000 to move about 1,000 tons of municipal waste per year. If we were to construct a site with roll offs, it would cost about \$250,000. We would be looking at \$100,000 to operate a transfer station, and does not including tipping fees. Commercial tipping fees will not change; we would still pay the cost - approximately

\$100,000. Mary Tomlinson, Chair of the Recycling Committee spoke about the recycling rate stating that when residents take recyclables to Waste Management, we do not get credit for that. Our actual recycling rate is probably higher. Tim Curtis stated that recycling is what drives a transfer station. It's not a cost saving measure – we're swapping one cost for another. Most of the transfer stations Tim visited were built with federal and state funds. We're paying about \$90,000 annually to use the back gate (800 tons at about \$95/ton) at Waste Management. The Town pays for the disposal of tires. If we had a transfer station, we could charge people to dispose of tires. Tim will send the Board a copy of the presentation. The Town pays Waste Management \$25/ton for recycling but receives \$40/ton for cardboard. Selectman Ducharme asked if the cost for curbside (\$40,000) would be considered a savings to the Town if residents brought their recyclables to the transfer station (we're not paying someone to go door to door to pick them up). Tim Curtis said that we'll save the \$40,000 but pay \$100,000 for someone to run a transfer facility. It's not as easy as replacing one for the other. If you bale cardboard, you can sell it to Casella's and make \$90/ton. We get \$40/ton for our cardboard; waste Management bales it and sells it for \$90/ton. Solon takes their cardboard and recycling to Pittsfield. They bale it and sell it. Solon doesn't pay \$25/ton for their recyclables, they give it to Pittsfield. Solon basically breaks even that way. We're paying \$25/ton for Chris Roy to drop off our recycling. Mary Tomlinson noted that we may not be comparing the same recyclables – single stream versus single sort. Looking into co-ops with other towns mentioned. Selectman Fortin discussed repurposing recyclables to eliminate those costs. We should consider what we're being charged for that is going to the back gate that would never see the back gate if we could repurpose it. We need to take a look at changing our policy on who pays for commercial haulers going to the back gate. We can't continue to do that. Selectman Fortin wanted to discuss solid waste and recycling again at our next meeting. Selectman Fortin asked Tim to take a look at Athens and Cornville.

5. Discuss budget process and timelines. Selectman Ducharme mentioned that we're coming into budget season. He asked Nancy to give the normal timeline: process starts in February with initial budget developed between department heads and Town Manager, budget presented to Selectmen and Advisory Board in March, monetary and non-monetary articles for Town Meeting Warrant developed in April, published in Town Report in May for June Town Meeting. Selectman Ducharme will coordinate with department heads to begin working on initial budget development.
6. Discuss Personnel Policy correction (page 12). Selectman Ducharme said that there was a disparity on page 12 under overtime, basically removing item #6. Selectman Johnson made a motion to recommend the removal of item #6 from the Personnel Policy. Selectman Fortin seconded. Motion carried.
7. Discuss appointment of Emergency Management Director. Mike Smith, EMA Director for the county was present to discuss the process and guidelines for local EMA directors. It was put out by MEMA in 2006. The local EMA director should have a close tie to Public Works. Roger Lightbody Jr has resigned the position. Marc Leslie is interested in serving and presented the Board his plan. He understands that there are no funds available at this time. There's no emergency operations plan for natural gas at Madison Paper or Backyard Farms. Plans need to be filed with the County and if we want to get any grants, we need to be in compliance with the state. Selectman Fortin made a motion to appoint Marc Leslie as Emergency Management Director for the Town of Madison effective immediately. Selectman Johnson seconded. Motion carried.
8. Discuss Poverty Abatement requests. The Board will discuss the application in Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(F). Selectman Edgerly made a motion to go into executive session. Selectman Fortin seconded. The Board went into executive session at 8:10 p.m. The Board came out of executive session at 8:30 p.m. Selectman Fortin made a motion to deny the poverty abatement request of Client 2015-1. Selectman Johnson seconded. The Board gave the applicant until March 1, 2015 to pay the 2012 taxes. Once paid, a quitclaim deed will be given. The applicants will then need to make a payment plan and stick to it to pay 2013 and 2014 taxes. Motion carried.

- I. Selectmen's Concerns. Selectman Edgerly had none. Selectman Fortin stated that the Board needs to be thinking about what to give for instructions to the Department heads on budgeting. Selectmen Johnson and Ducharme had none.
- J. Citizen's Concerns. None.
- K. Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter (Town Manager) pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A). Selectman Fortin made a motion to go into executive session. Selectman Johnson seconded. The Board went into executive session at 8:40 p.m. The Board came out of executive session at 9:25 p.m. Selectman Fortin made a motion to seek an interim Town Manager while the Board continues to search for a Town Manager and to continue to allow the department heads to run their departments with oversight from the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Edgerly seconded. Motion carried.
- L. Adjournment. Selectman Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Selectman Edgerly seconded. The meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.