

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, March 23, 2015
5:30 p.m.

- A. Salute to the flag. Done.
- B. Roll Call. Present were Albert Veneziano, Jack Ducharme, Paul Fortin, Cyp Johnson, Mike Edgerly.
- C. Consent Agenda.
 - 1. Warrants dated: #30 (03/09/15 - \$83,486.42). Payroll Registers dated: Week #10 (03/05/15 - \$20,318.57), #11 (03/12/15 - \$17,323.76), #12 (03/19/15 - \$25,620.84). Selectman Edgerly made a motion to approve. Selectman Ducharme seconded. Motion carried.
 - 2. Discuss application for a license to operate Beano from the American Legion Post 39. Selectman Fortin made a motion to approve the license. Selectman Ducharme seconded. Motion carried.
 - 3. Discuss application for a license to operate Sealed Tickets from the American Legion Post 39. Selectman Johnson made a motion to approve the license. Selectman Fortin seconded. Motion carried.
- D. Discuss meeting minutes of March 9, 2015. Selectman Fortin made a motion to approve the minutes. Selectman Ducharme seconded. Motion carried.
- E. Old business (Selectmen's Concerns from immediately preceding meeting). None.
- F. Items of Communication.
 - 1. Town Manager Curtis sat in on the Taxation Committee's public hearing to support two bills: 1) bill from the Town of Bucksport asking for tax relief (similar to the bill introduced by Madison and Skowhegan) and 2) bill from Backyard Farms to allow them to have the same exemption on fuel taxes that other large manufacturers have. Legislative update: there seems to be support in committee for mill towns to reset the valuations of the towns to reflect the loss of valuations from their mills. Legislation hopes to reset the valuation immediately to allow the state funding for education to come sooner. The Department of Education has spoken in opposition primarily because all the state funding formulas have been sent out to all the school systems in the state and the administrative work load to recalculate and reissue those formulas to affected RSU's that would result if passed. An amendment was offered to say we want the valuations to be reset but we're willing to reset them next year allowing the Department of Education to figure it out before they send out the formulas. The deadline is April 10th so we should know more by then.
 - 2. DOT plans to do some work on Route 43 this summer. They sent us an agreement that we would allow heavy equipment on our roads during this time. Road Commission and Town Manager have looked at the agreement. Selectman Ducharme made a motion to approve the request from the Department of Transportation. Selectman Fortin seconded. Motion carried.
 - 3. Town Manager attended the school board meeting. They did not set a date for the two boards to meet; they wanted to wait until mid-April as they are just now beginning their budget process.
 - 4. Connecting fiber to Highway Garage – they've identified what is needed and the colors of the fiber that they need to connect. On Target should be finished in the next couple weeks.
 - 5. MMA conducted a risk management safety audit of all departments – highway and fire passed inspection. Police, Library and Admin came through with no problems with the exception of some

paperwork issues. They checked our documentation for safety in the Rec Department – we'll need to work on the punch list they'll send us.

6. Town Manager Curtis spoke with Calvin Ames on electricity rates – PUC standard offer is \$6.54; MEW is \$7.75. When adding delivery costs, MEW rates are lower. MEW can compete with CMP on medium and large users.

G. New Business.

1. Discuss Waste Management Contract. Waste Management is offering a three year agreement for the rates previously negotiated: MSW – \$79.88/ton at the front gate will go down to \$65.50; \$90/ton at the back gate will go down to \$85. Cardboard credit offer went down from \$40/ton to \$20/ton; and contract years two and three will reflect a 1% increase. If we don't follow this new contract, we would continue to pay at current rates, The proposed budget reflects the new contract price. Town is due for annual price increase September 1st – might be able to waive that increase. They would still need something in writing to go month-by-month after July 1st. Selectman Fortin stated that at the last ambulance meeting, Selectmen talked with Anson and Starks about their interest in a transfer station – it was very high. Both Towns felt the Trotting Park was a great location for a transfer station. He recommends having the Ambulance committee work with the towns of Anson and Starks to see where we can go with it. Selectman Fortin asked if Waste Management would agree to an “out” clause at the back gate should we build our own transfer station. Selectman Veneziano asked about the waste coming through the front gate – can it be audited. Town Manager Curtis received a list of customers from our commercial haulers. Bolsters pays the tipping fee at Waste Management because they will not dump between towns. Waste Management assures us that they pick up only Madison customers then dump. Three River's, Somerset and Gregory's have the largest number of customers – they can pick up all of Madison customers in one load. Pine Tree, Central Maine Disposal and Casella's have mostly commercial customers. Waste Management is willing to audit the front gate when we ask them to. Town Manager will talk with Waste Management about closing the back gate should we build our own transfer station to see how it would affect our contract. Cardboard tonnage is about 100 ton, so we'd be losing approximately \$2,000. Road Commissioner Mantor said that highway uses the Trotting Park for their winter sand and they have permission to lower the road. He's not sure how a transfer station will work. These conversations will be held at the next Ambulance meeting - April 22nd.
2. Discuss Highway Joint Purchase (street sweeper with Skowhegan). HP Fairfield no longer offers street sweepers for rent. The Town of Skowhegan has approached HP Fairfield about buying the street sweeper they used to rent. They would like to know if we will agree to lease this sweeper (\$4,500 has been the rental fee for years) – pay \$4,500 out of this year's budget and if approved at Town Meeting (ours and theirs), we would pay next year's rental by July 15th, a total of \$9,000 within a few months to help Skowhegan to be able to afford to purchase the street sweeper. Selectman Fortin made a motion to move forward with leasing a street sweeper from the Town of Skowhegan. Selectman Johnson seconded. Motion carried.
3. Discuss Road Commissioner base salary. When running for elected office (Road Commissioner/Town Clerk), people ask what the pay is. We can give a rough idea on Town Clerk's position but not the Road Commissioner. Board agreed base salary should be \$45,000 - \$50,000 depending on experience.
4. Discuss bulk diesel purchase. Fuel oil usage estimates – 14,550 gallons used at a price of \$3.29/gallon-lock in price last year. Price has gone down to \$2.25/gallon. Selectman Johnson feels we should put this out for bid. The Board agreed. Diesel fuel – to get a lock in price, number of gallons does matter – need 30,000 to 35,000 gallons. Town Manager proposes we drop the price in the proposed budget to \$3.25/gallon – may get it as low as \$2.90/gallon. If we had the school or the Town of Anson, the highway department and the ambulance service, then we could use those numbers to go out to bid. Board agreed.

5. Discuss Quitclaim Deeds. There are three deeds – 1) Randy and Jackie Woodworth, 19 Naomi Avenue (map 31, lot 86). Selectman Ducharme made a motion to approve the quitclaim deed. Selectman Johnson seconded. Motion carried. 2) Cindy Bossie, 26 Perkins Street (map 19, lot 47). Selectman Fortin made a motion to approve the quitclaim deed. Selectman Ducharme seconded. Motion carried. 3) Ashley Belden, 103 East Madison Road (map 004, lot 050-004). Selectman Johnson made a motion to approve the quitclaim deed. Selectman Ducharme seconded. Motion carried.
6. Discuss Request for Proposals on Assessing. Town Manager Curtis drafted an RFP of which the Board had amended. The Board had the final draft for this meeting. Questions/answers can be posted on the website. Selectman Edgerly suggested that all questions be answered in an addendum to the proposal. There are 45 licensed assessors in the state, Town Manager to send out RFP by email. Selectman Ducharme asked if the Town needs to advertise this RFP in the paper. Board agreed to run an ad. Selectman Fortin made a motion to go out for Tax Assessing services. Selectman Edgerly seconded. Motion carried.
7. Review 2015-2016 proposed budget. Town Manager Curtis indicated that the budget does not include any cost of living increases for staff, legal costs - \$20,000 budgeted under Administration – no amounts have been apportioned to individual departments. Department heads said they have no control over legal costs so it shouldn't be budgeted in their budgets. The Board agreed to charge legal expenses out of the Administration budget and manually track costs (spreadsheet) by department.

There are no Capital projects in this budget. There is money in TIF that can be dedicated to River Road. Carryover items - \$175,000 in capital was to go to Heald Street. Weather permitting we hope to do sidewalk improvements and the final work on Ingalls Street by the end of June.

Town Manager discussed layout of warrant articles – total expenses, less approved revenue from TIF, equals total to be raised by taxation. Board agreed to use this format.

Town Manager Curtis said he does not anticipate any surplus this year. We have not borrowed from the line-of-credit and we'll know by mid-May if we need to borrow from it. Selectman Fortin asked if we knew what the revenue was for the last quarter from last fiscal year. Town Manager did not have that information but would get it. Unexpended capital project balances that would be available to carry over to next fiscal year were mentioned. Selectman Fortin suggested that if there is any money in carryovers that's not a TIF road should go back into the General Fund. We'll finish Ingalls Street and do storm drains.

Town Manager went through the cover sheet. Administration - if looking for savings in Admin, you would be looking at removing positions. Public Works has been reduced in large part by a reduction in price for diesel fuel. Winter Roads budget, which is mostly salt and calcium will be paid for out of TIF. Library reduction is primarily heating fuel costs. Cemetery budget decreased because 1) not putting as much money into documenting the cemeteries and 2) trimmed money from the mowing by using the mowing contract price. Community programs budget – General Assistance budget reduced from \$20,000 to \$15,000. Service organizations – a couple organizations did not put in a request so they were not included in the budget. Spectrum Generations submitted a request for funding today. The Board agreed to include them in the budget. Town Manager will contact organizations and request the number of Madison residents served and a copy of their budget. Town-owned property savings is in fuel oil for the Old Point Ave building. Moving TIF allowable expenses to the TIF account and other cost saving measures amount to a total savings of \$200,000 in the proposed budget.

For the next meeting, Board would like information on Ingalls Street, 4th quarter historical revenue, capital plan around the TIF money and carry overs. Board suggests meeting with department heads to brainstorm other ways to find savings. The Board is looking for \$350,000 to \$400,000 in cuts. Town Manager said to find the savings that the Board is looking for we are now talking about eliminating positions. Selectman Edgerly suggested we use the line of credit before we look at slashing positions.

Selectman Fortin said if department heads can provide the service with one less person then we need to look at that. Selectman Edgerly would like to know what the fund balance will be as of June 30. Selectman Ducharme would like to know what our obligations will be for July, August and September.

- H. Selectmen's Concerns. Selectmen Edgerly, Fortin, Ducharme and Veneziano had none. Selectman Johnson asked about using the closet in room 102 for Emergency Management. Town Manager Curtis said the room needs to remain open for public use. There is a locked closet that they could store equipment in. Marc Leslie gave the Town Manager a list of minimum equipment that is required such as radios. Between Fire, Police, and Highway, Town Manager felt we can address these issues.
- I. Citizen's Concerns. None.
- J. Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter (Police) pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A). Selectman Ducharme made a motion to go into executive session. Selectman Fortin seconded. The Board went into executive session at 7:37 p.m. The Board came out of executive session at 8:37 p.m. Selectman Ducharme made a motion to have the Town Manager change the Manager's proposed budget to a line item for Police Department for contracted services in the amount of \$480,728 for the 2015-2016 budget. Selectman Fortin seconded. Motion carried.
- K. Adjournment. Selectman Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Selectman Ducharme seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.