

## 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  
Meeting Room Old Point Ave School  
Monday October 17, 2016  
6:30 p.m.**

- A. Salute to the flag: Meeting was called to order at 630pm
- B. Roll Call: Selectmen Al Veneziano, Jack Ducharme, Paul Fortin, Mike Edgerly and Ron Moody were present. Town Manager Tim Curtis was also present.
- C. Consent Agenda: Warrants Dated: #10 (9/26/2016 - \$503,250.28); #11 (9/26/16 - \$2,070.78); Payroll Register's Dated: #39 (9/29/2016 - \$9,964.59); #40 (10/6/16 - \$10,361.77) #41 (10/13/2016 - \$9,693.16). Motion to approve by Mr. Ducharme, seconded by Mr. Fortin, Motion carries 5-0.  
  
Liquor License for VFW Harvell-Bishop Post 7865. Motion to approve by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Moody. Motion carries 5-0.
- D. Discuss acceptance of meeting minutes of September 26, 2016: Motion to approve by Mr. Fortin, seconded by Mr. Ducharme. Motion carries.
- E. Old business (Selectmen's Concerns from immediately preceding meeting): None.
- F. Items of Communication: Town Manager Curtis updated the board on repairs to lights at the Old Point School facility. Rooms 102 and 103 and the hallway had old fluorescent bulbs replaced with led fixtures. Nearly half of the cost will be covered by an Efficiency Maine Grant.

Town Manager Curtis reported to the Board that Phase I of the Dam Repairs at the East Madison Boat Landing are complete and the dam was returned to normal levels 2 weeks ago. The Town Manager has been in regular communication with Mark Doty with the Lake Association.

Former Selectman/Assessor Raymond Soucy has been recognized as a Spirit of America honoree for volunteerism, there will be a reception for Somerset County winners at the County Courthouse on Wednesday October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Curtis reminded the Board that he will be on vacation from 10/19-10/25.

With just one warrant for the month of October all expenses were rolled in, including the annual payment to the County and the monthly payment to the school budget. Current checkbook balance is \$1.9M with approximately \$109,000 in the TIF account which was used to pay for road work on Blackwell Hill and Old County Road.

### G. New Business

- 1. Department Head Reports (Code Enforcement, Highway, and Police & Fire): Code Enforcement Officer Bob Dunphy reported that year to date the office had issued 61 building permits, and 31 plumbing permits. That compares with 47 building permits in all of 2015 and 40 building permits in all of 2014.

Road Commissioner Glen Mantor reported on the total number of man and equipment hours spent on road work this summer on Blackwell Hill and Old County Road. The hours represent a savings of several thousand dollars' worth of shoulder work that was originally included in the bid to repave those roads. The Road Commissioner also updated the board on other projects such as fall leaf clean up, hauling winter sand, updating the road surface management report and widening River Road.

Selectman Edgerly asked the Road Commissioner about filling the area where the school district had removed trees on the corner of Nichols Street to create parking for Junior High athletic events. Glen said that there would be fill brought in. Code Enforcement Officer Dunphy reminded the Board that the school would have to get a permit to take any ditching fill into that area.

A report submitted by Fire Chief Don French outlined the calls for September and a number of repairs to equipment and vehicles. The Town Manager noted that Chief French had received a request for filling a dry well and that the policy was that the Town was not going to be involved in that for liability reasons and that it is still too dry to be effective anyhow.

Sheriff Dale Lancaster was present to answer questions regarding the report from the Madison Division of the Sheriff's Office. Selectmen Ducharme asked for rationale behind the number of miles driven in the month of September. Sheriff Lancaster noted that calls for service were up 8 percent over last year and that has contributed to additional mileage. Road Commissioner Glen Mantor also noted that the Highway Department benefits from the Sheriff's Deputies being on the road to report any immediate needs.

Town Manager Curtis shared a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the County to set aside a portion money refunded to the Town to be used for academy training for Madison Deputies. Of the \$481,000 given to the County for policing services in fiscal year 2015, \$79,500 was not spent. The MOU specifies that \$52,000 will be returned to the general fund of the Town and \$27,500 will be allocated for academy training.

Motion from Selectmen Ducharme to approve the MOU, seconded by Selectman Mr. Fortin. Mr. Fortin asked if the \$52,000 should be earmarked for future purchase of police cruisers. Other recommendations were to save it for future training expenses. Town Manager Curtis said the board did not need to earmark the money at this time, but could do so in the future. The Town Manager added that this MOU was an example of the good working relationship between the County and the Town. Motion carries 5-0.

2. Quarterly Budget Review: The Town Manager shared budget reports with the board through the first quarter of the fiscal year which ended September 30, 2016. Revenues were coming in on schedule and the Town had collected 51% of property taxes.

A spreadsheet showing checkbook balances over the past 15 months allowed the Board to see trends. The Town Manager said it appears the trend is going in the right direction as the balance at the end of October 2016 should be higher than it was in October 2015.

The expenditures year to date are trending at 25% where they should be at the end of the first quarter. The Town Manager added that the first draft of the annual audit should be ready for review by the end of the month and will schedule a meeting with the auditors for November with the Board. Selectman Fortin asked how the new auditors were working out. Finance Director Tammy Carrier said things were going very well.

Mr. Ducharme asked if there were certain line items that the Town Manager expected to have to increase in the next budget. Mr. Curtis said the legal line would have to be increased with the anticipation of spending money to defend the assessment of Madison Paper. There is currently about \$33,000 available to spend this fiscal year on legal fees.

Mr. Ducharme asked about the number of tons of WM that the Town has been charged for this quarter as opposed to the same period last year to see if there is an impact to the change in the town paying for curbside recycling pickup.

3. Discuss Updating Traffic Ordinance: Sheriff Lancaster had brought the Town Traffic Ordinance (Chapter 399) to the Town Manager's attention asking for direction from the Selectmen as the ordinance language had not been updated in nearly 20 years. There are references to 2 hour parking that is currently not enforced and several examples of signage that either doesn't exist or doesn't match the ordinance. The direction of the Board was for the Sheriff, Town Manager and Road Commissioner to work to come up with changes and recommendations that better reflect the Town's current parking and safety needs.
4. Discuss Setback/Permitting Ordinance: An article at last year's Town Meeting regarding changes to Chapter 165 was defeated. The Town Manager asked if the Board would like to rework the ordinance changes regarding setbacks and fines for building without a permit. The board was in agreement with the Code Enforcement Officer's recommendation that setbacks be increased from 5 feet to 15 feet. Town Manager Curtis reported that fences under 6 feet are exempt and do not have to be set back from the property line.

The consensus of the board was that the fine for working without a permit needs to be reworked. Currently the fine is double the fee which is \$20. The wording that was rejected at Town Meeting was 10% of project costs. Selectmen Edgerly clarified that the 10% was rejected by voters because it was considered too vague and could be too costly. The Board recommended that the Town Manager bring back options at a future meeting.

5. Discuss Mowing Bids: Town Manager Curtis reminded the board that in November the request for 3 year mowing bids will go out for cemeteries and Town owned property. After speaking with the Highway Department Mr. Curtis removed "The Pines", and the Pine Street Fruit Trees from the mowing bid, stating that the Highway Department will maintain those properties.

The ball fields on Preble Avenue will be maintained under the supervision of the Recreation Director and that property will not be included in the Town's bid for mowing services.

- H. Selectmen's Concerns: Chairman Veneziano added one more action item to discuss the hiring of an attorney to represent the Town in the abatement request from Madison Paper before the State Board of Property Tax Review. Selectman Fortin made the motion to hire David Silk with Curtis/Thaxter of Portland, seconded by Selectman Moody. Mr. Silk had interviewed before the board during a public session of an assessors meeting on October 17, 2016. Motion carries 5-0.

Mr. Ducharme asked about the placement of the radar speed sign. The Town Manager says he leaves that up to the coordination between the Highway Department and the Sheriff's Office. The Road Commissioner said the placement is depended on being able to secure the trailer and keep it safely out of the roadway. Town Manager Curtis said there had been a citizen request to locate the sign on Park Street and after that it will be stored for the winter at the Town Garage.

- I. Citizen's Concerns: None

- J. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:33pm.