

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN OF MADISON  
June 27, 2017  
MINUTES**

**Selectmen Present** –John Arruda, Robert J. King, Jr., Josh L. Shackford

**Others Present** – Police Chief Colby; Public Mark Graffam, Buzz Coleman, Don Burnham, Barry Boucher, Bruce Gove, Jo Goodwin Rogers and Thomas Rogers; Administrative Assistant Linda Shackford; Madison TV Videographer Carol Dandeneau

**Where and When Posted** – Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on December 19, 2016.

**Meeting Called to Order** – By the Chairman at 5:30 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion** by King, seconded by J. Shackford to approve the minutes of June 13, 2017 as written, the motion passed **3-0**.

**APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:**

**Motion** by King, seconded by J. Shackford to approve the Manifest of June 26 - 30, 2017 in the amount of \$218,400.15. The Manifest breakdown is as follows: \$81,646.23 for accounts payable; \$24,934.70 for payroll; \$7,823.22 for payroll liabilities; and \$103,987.00 for Madison Elementary School. Motion passed **3-0**.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – There were none.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS**

**Mark Graffam – Abatement** – Graffam asked for an appointment with the Board regarding his abatement request for property at 23 Adelboden Way. The value of his land was increased to \$7,200 from \$4,300 with the 2015 update. Graffam wanted his value to be returned to \$4,300 in an abatement request. The abatement was granted by the assessor with a new value of \$4,500. Graffam stated that the assessor’s customer service was atrocious and the whole process was too long and involved. Graffam stated that there have been no sales in the area to warrant such a value. L. Shackford informed the Board that the assessor was contacted and he stated that the \$4,500 value is fair. If the applicant disputes this it will be necessary to apply to the Board of Tax and Land Appeals. Graffam asked the Board to approve the abatement for the “bogus” amount based upon an assessment of \$4,500 citing too much time and effort still being put into this abatement, adding he will look to see what the bigger picture in this whole process is.

**Motion** by Arruda, seconded by King to approve the abatement for the amount of \$58.94. The motion passed **3-0**.

**Ledge Pond Road** – Buzz Coleman was in attendance along with abutters on Class VI Ledge Pond Road Don Burnham and Barry Boucher. The abutters are concerned about the encroachment of the excavation pit near Ledge Pond Road which is the access to their property. Coleman approached the table for discussion. Arruda cited a letter received from the abutters and has spoken with the Road Agent. The Road Agent and his assistant has been out to the property and do agree the area looks intimidating. Arruda asked if the road has been moved. Coleman responded, yes, and it has been improved upon and

straightened. Arruda asked about future excavation plans in the area. Coleman does plan to keep excavating in the area adding that a berm has been created 4' above the road.

Burnham expressed his concerns that the excavation is coming within 20' of Ledge Pond Road and speaks of a real chance of losing the pond, the road and access to the properties and access to the town owned 35-acre piece of conservation land. Coleman stated that the pit is recognized by the State of NH with all permits in place; Coleman agreed that there is one spot that the pit is close to the road. Coleman added that there a berm in place and efforts are being made to correct it. There is a plan to restore the vegetation in time, which could be ten years, which will be when the pit could be closed. Coleman stated that the floor of the pit is above the water level of the pond and it will not go beyond that. Burnham wants to see a stability report to support that claim. Burnham added that he would also like to see copies of the Alteration of Terrain permit. Arruda asked Coleman to produce documents regarding the permitting of the pit. Burnham asked if the excavation can be stopped until it is known to be stable and all permits in order. Arruda pointed out that a Class VI road is owned by the Town and shouldn't be moved. King expressed his concern about the road and the encroachment on it and would like to do some research on how it has changed. King stated that this Board cannot stop Coleman without an order and suggests seeking out the Planning Board and suggests that Burnham address his request for performing tests on the area with that Board too.

Burnham requested inspection reports that have been made by the Planning Board and Selectmen that are, according to the excavation regulations, to be made annually along with any of Coleman permit filings.

Arruda suggested getting in touch with Mary Pinkham-Langer with the NH DRA gravel department and update her on this discussion.

**363 Danforth Lane Survey** – The Town acquired 363 Danforth Lane through tax deeding in April of 2014. Abutters have been noticed as it is the intention of the Board to reconfigure the convoluted lot with the input from abutters. Several letters have been received stating ideas of what the abutters would like to see. Arruda suggested to take the letters and use them as basic recommendations to the surveyor. The surveyor could come up with a plan that will give all lots road/frontage access and work within the parameters of what the Town wants to do. There will probably be boundary line adjustments and some payments ultimately required to end up with the new configuration. The information gathered will be forwarded on to Wes Smith at Thaddeus Thorne Survey and a time frame for completion obtained.

**Review Properties up for 2014 Deeding** – The Board reviewed the list submitted by the Tax Collector. The Board will wait to have potential properties for taking reviewed by the Code Officer when the taking date gets closer.

**Tree Removal Estimate** – There are approximately 12 trees that need to be removed around the Town Hall building that include near the rear parking lot and in the area of the Veteran's Monument. Road Agent Chick obtained two estimates:

- Barry's Tree Service for 11 trees - \$4,000.00
- S.H. Dewitt DBA Forevergreen Tree Service for 12 trees - \$3,600 – \$4,200.00

The Board reviewed the drawdown to find which line to use to pay for this project. It was decided that it will come from the General Government Buildings Maintenance line. The Board accepted the lower bid.

**Motion** by Arruda, seconded by King to accept the estimate from Forevergreen Tree Service. The motion passed **3-0**.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Carroll County Commissioner Letter** – The letter discussed at the June 13 meeting was reviewed and signed after Arruda read it aloud. **Motion** by Arruda, seconded by King to sign the letter explaining to the Carroll County Commissioner that their request for bi-annual tax payments put the town in a poor financial position. The motion passed **3-0**.

**Antique Fire Truck Bid** – Elwin King informed the Board that a committee consisting of Elwin King, Jesse Shackford III and Chris Lyman has been formed and hoped to sign the Bill of Sale tonight. **Motion** by Arruda, seconded by King to complete the sale of the Antique Fire Truck. The motion passed **3-0**. Elwin King was the only committee member present, the other members will come sign the Bill of Sale copies tomorrow. Elwin King stated the truck will be in the Old Home Week parade this year and will also be in the Ossipee and Tamworth 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades. The payment of \$1.00 in cash was accepted by the Board.

**Selectman Shackford's List** – No items

**Selectman Arruda's List** – Arruda stated that the TAN will not be used because cash flow has begun with the billing of the first tax bill and was closed today by the Treasurer. There was a minimal cost of \$50 to put the TAN in place.

**Selectman King's List** – Regretfully, swim lessons have been cancelled for this summer because no one applied for the instructor's position. Hopefully, we will have someone for next year.

**Assistant's List** – L. Shackford proposed to the Board that in lieu of paying Avitar Associates \$65.63 an hour for entering the assessing Data Verification items that she would do the same for less per hour. Even with over-time at \$32.06 an hour, which would not consistently occur as she works an average of 38 hours a week. This would also help to make L. Shackford more familiar with the properties and assist tax payers by explaining changes that have been made to their assessments. **Motion** by Arruda, seconded by King to approve L. Shackford doing the Data Verification entering. The motion passed **2-0-1** with J. Shackford abstaining.

**Japanese Knotweed** - Graffam and the Board shared their latest knowledge about the invasive weed noting that no real fool proof method can be found to rid property of the weed.

## SIGNATURE ITEMS

Manifest

Payroll & Accounts Payable Checks

Tax Collector Abatements: 129-017 \$116.00

228-042 \$13.00

204-021-001 \$26.00

Tax Abatements: 000-00C \$4,623.49

114-046 \$58.94

109-078 \$29.06

248-033 \$127.29

115-034 \$83.48

235-001 \$944.51

112-10-44 Denied

Application for Veteran's Credit: 256-063 Ellis

Oath of Office – Full Time Police Officer Jamie Mullen

**7:15 PM** – Arruda made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by J. Shackford, and so voted **3-0**.

**NEXT SELECTMEN’S MEETING** – The next Selectmen’s Meeting will be on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the lower level of Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford, Administrative Assistant  
Recording Secretary