

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF MADISON
March 21, 2023
MINUTES**

Selectmen Present – Michael A. Mauro, John Arruda and Adam Price

Others Present –Town Administrator Linda Shackford; Town Clerk/Tax Collector/ Fire Chief Michael Brooks; Chief Robert King, Jr.; Officer Michael Mosher; Foreman Justin Chick; DPW Dave Swift; Librarian Sloane Jarell; Rec Program Joy Gray; MadTV Videographer Aysia Morency; other members of the public

Where and When Posted – Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on December 20, 2022.

Meeting Called to Order – By Mauro at 4:30 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mauro led all in attendance in reciting the Pledge.

Vote to Indemnify the Board of Selectmen per RSA 31:105 – Mauro read aloud:

RSA 31:105 Indemnification for Damages states: A city, town, county, village district or precinct, school district, chartered public school, school administrative unit, or any other municipal corporation or political subdivision may by a vote of the governing body indemnify and save harmless for loss or damage occurring after said vote any person employed by it and any member or officer of its governing board, administrative staff or agencies including but not limited to selectmen, school board members, chartered public school trustees, city councilors and aldermen, town and city managers, regional planning commissioners, town and city health officers, overseers of public welfare, and superintendents of schools from personal financial loss and expense including reasonable legal fees and costs, if any, arising out of any claim, demand, suit, or judgment by reason of negligence or other act resulting in accidental injury to a person or accidental damage to or destruction of property if the indemnified person at the time of the accident resulting in the injury, damage, or destruction was acting in the scope of employment or office.

Motion by Mauro, seconded by Arruda to indemnify the Board of Selectmen as they presently sit per RSA 31:105. The motion passed **3-0**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Arruda, seconded by Price to approve the minutes of March 7, 2023 as written. The motion passed **3-0**.

APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:

Motion by Arruda, seconded by Price to approve the Manifest of 20-27, 2023 in the amount of \$290,904.13. The manifest breakdown is as follows: \$27,598.62 for accounts payable; \$33,604.67 for payroll; \$9,853.54 for payroll liabilities; \$19,847.30 for NHRS and \$200,000 for MES. The motion passed **3-0**.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were none.

DISCUSSION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS:

Appointment of Selectmen to Boards and Committees: The Board decided the following appointments:

<u>BOARDS</u>	<u>APPOINTMENT</u>
PLANNING BOARD	Price
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	Mauro
JOINT LOSS COMMITTEE	Mauro
MUNICIPAL RECORDS COMMITTEE	Mauro
AGING COMMITTEE	Arruda
BROADBAND COMMITTEE	Bill Lord
ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE	Arruda
REC COMMITTEE	Price

Appointment of Members to Committees, Commissions, Boards and Councils: The Board reviewed the list of potential members and made appointments as follows:

Board/Committee/ Commission/Council	Position	Requesting to be Appointed or Reappointed	Appointment Made
ZBA	Regular	Drew Gentile	Yes
	Alternate	Marc Ohlson	Yes
Conservation Comm	Regular	Marcia McKenna	No
	Regular	Robert Stone	No
	Alternate	Ted Slader	Yes
	Regular	Josh Shackford	Yes
	Regular	Mike Brooks	Yes
MadTV	Regular	Doug McAllister	Yes
Rec	Regular	Joy Gray	Yes
	Alternate	Amelia Saras	Yes
	Regular	Susan Hirtle	Yes
	Regular	Emma Carlson	Yes
	Regular	Cheri Stackpole	Yes
Vet Monument Committee	Regular	Paulette Lowry	Yes
	Regular	Eric Edwards	Yes
	Regular	Henry Forrest	Yes
	Regular	Franklin Jones	Yes
	Liaison	Mike Brooks	Yes

MWV Economic Council	Regular	Ted Kramer	Yes
Veterans Support Committee	Regular	Sharon Schilling	Yes
	Regular	Cheryl Harris	Yes
	Regular	Paulette Lowry	Yes
	Regular	Gary Palmer	Yes
	Regular	Gary Bent	Yes
	Alternate	Ken Sweet	Yes

The Board agreed to sign the oaths out of session.

2023 Budget – Mauro began by explaining that Town Meeting voted to reduce Article #2 by \$73,343.00. This amount needs to be deducted from Article #2 and reported to NH DRA line by line. Shackford informed the Board that the insurance line has already been spent and the noted due line has funds committed to pay in August. The Board went line by line and discussed reductions:

ARTICLE #2	2023 Proposed at Town Meeting	Reduce Line Amount	2023 Adjusted
Animal/Pest Control	\$2,500.00	\$200.00	\$2,300.00
<i>*Brooks' suggestion equated to one box of dog tags.</i>			
Assessing	\$38,345.00	\$5,000.00	\$33,345.00
<i>*Shackford does not anticipate any BTLA cases in 2023.</i>			
Building Inspection	\$51,750.00	\$500.00	\$51,250.00
<i>*The amount from the maintenance line was taken with consideration that the code car is fairly new and may not need extensive maintenance.</i>			
Conservation Commission	\$4,400.00		\$4,400.00
Direct Assistance	\$10,150.00	\$2,000.00	\$8,150.00
<i>*Director Hayes utilizes outside agencies before the Town's funds.</i>			
Election, Registration, Vital Statistics	\$8,750.00		\$8,750.00
Executive	\$173,053.00	\$17,443.00	\$155,610.00
<i>*The Town Administrator's salary line will be reduced with an expectation that it will go over and be covered at the bottom line or by an appropriation from article #3 or #4.</i>			
Financial Administration	\$167,024.00		\$167,024.00
General Government Buildings	\$187,700.00	\$17,500.00	\$170,200.00
<i>*The replacement of the 22 year old vinyl tiles at Town Hall will be put off along with any unanticipated projects in 2023.</i>			
General Government Equipment	\$12,600.00	\$200.00	\$12,400.00
<i>*The technology line was reduced.</i>			
Insurance	\$114,219.00		\$114,219.00
Interest - Tax Anticipation Notes	\$1.00		\$1.00

Legal	\$22,300.00	\$5,000.00	\$17,300.00
<i>*The Town Counsel line was reduced by \$5,000.00.</i>			
Library	\$102,092.00		\$102,092.00
Madison PEG TV	\$46,572.00		\$46,572.00
Notes Due	\$135,027.00		\$135,027.00
Patriotic Purposes	\$9,025.00	\$3,500.00	\$5,525.00
<i>*The new line for Vet Services was removed at the recommendation of the committee's creator. The fireworks line was reduced by \$2,000 bringing the amount to the same as two years ago.</i>			
Personnel Administration	\$600,195.00	\$10,000.00	\$590,195.00
<i>*Shackford suggested a reduction to the health insurance line in hopes that no one has a life event that would change their plan.</i>			
Planning Board	\$11,950.00	\$2,500.00	\$9,450.00
<i>*The funds were removed from the legal line.</i>			
Rec Program	\$38,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$31,000.00
<i>*Price suggested a cut of \$7,000 taking out two sports stipends and anticipating using the funds in the Revolving Trust Fund. Joy Gray concurred with the numbers.</i>			
Street Lighting	\$3,900.00		\$3,900.00
Zoning Board	\$11,990.00	\$2,500.00	\$9,490.00
<i>*The funds were removed from the legal line.</i>			
TOTAL	\$1,751,543.00	\$73,343.00	\$1,678,200.00

Price asked about looking at the library budget too. Arruda considered a decrease of \$2,000 from that line. Librarian Jarell feels that it is not fair to prioritize fireworks over people.

King feels it is too bad that the person(s) that made these cuts is not present to assist in these changes. Jarell hoped that department heads would have had the opportunity at Town Meeting to defend their budgets after working long and hard on their creation.

Brooks does not see the proposed budget as outrageous considering 8% inflation over the last year. The person(s) asking for the cuts are looking at the amount spent at bringing the tax rate down as a surplus and then expect cuts to the budget; you cannot have both. Brooks also asked if the meeting rules could be changed to require that a proposed cut to have the specific line cited to receive the cut. That would be a question for Town Counsel.

Eileen Yandolino of Yandolino Drive expressed her support for the library and agreed with Jarell that if a choice is necessary to be made for fireworks or library funds, she would like to see the library be funded.

Ambulance Contract Extension – An extension on the current contract was received. It would be from April of 2025 to March of 2030 with the same proposed 3% annual increase based upon call volume calculations.

Motion by Price, seconded by Arruda to accept the new ambulance contract extension. The motion passed **3-0**.

Fees per RSA 41:9-A - Shackford asked the Board to consider holding a public hearing to accept comment on the proposed fees for the Rec Program. It was agreed to hold the hearing at the next Selectmen's meeting on April 4th. Arruda will gather some other changes to fees at the Transfer Station. Shackford took down the list of proposed Rec Program fees to be put into the hearing notice.

OLD BUSINESS: There was none.

Selectman Price's List – No items

Selectman Arruda's List – Arruda noted an increase over last year of 15% for revenues at the Transfer Station. Year to date is \$9,103.00. Arruda also mentioned:

- He would like to set up a meeting with Town Counsel about moving forward with STR enforcement. The Board agreed and Shackford will set up an appointment with him.

Selectman Mauro's List – No items

Administrator's List – No items

Department Heads' List:

Chief King – No items

Foreman Chick – Chick gave copies of the quote for the truck approved at Town Meeting. Shackford was given the approval to get in touch with Tax Exempt Leasing to begin the financing process. Chick said that the grader will be going to CAT for repairs. The grader's wire harness caught fire and the insurance company has been contacted. Chick has inquired about a rental but they are hard to find.

Dave Swift – Prices on compactors from the only vendor to respond have been received. Atlantic Recycling Equipment gave two quotes: refurbished \$26,175 and new \$36,270. This will be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

Rec Committee Joy Gray- The committee is discussing summer camp and hoping to offer swim lessons too. An Egg-stravaganza is advertised for next month, open gym, t-ball and softball are also in the works.

Joy Gray asked about the stop lines at the junction of East Madison Rd and Conway Road. The Conway Road lines would have to be taken care of by NH DOT and any lines on East Madison Road wouldn't be done until after any planned paving is completed.

SIGNATURE ITEMS:

Manifest

Payroll & Accounts Payable Checks

Credit & Exemptions: Veteran's Credit Applications: Gentile

Neal

Solar Exemption: Bergeron 233-053

Oath of Office: Library Trustee Alternates – David Stevens

Elizabeth Reid-Fernandes

Mary Holmes

Intent to Cut: Claprod Map 228 Lots 50&51

5:32 PM Motion by Mauro to enter **Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3II (c)** Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.

Roll call vote: Mauro – aye; Arruda – aye; Price – aye

5:45 PM – Mauro made a **motion** to return to public session and seal the of minutes under RSA 91-A:3II (c) seconded by Arruda and so voted **3-0**.

5:45 PM – Mauro made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Arruda, and so voted **3-0**.

NEXT SELECTMEN’S MEETING – The next Selectmen’s Meeting is scheduled April 4, 2023 commencing at 4:30 pm at the Madison Town Hall meeting room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford,
Town Administrator