

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF MADISON
July 25, 2023
MINUTES**

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

Others Present –Town Administrator Linda Shackford; Town Clerk/Tax Collector/ Fire Chief Michael Brooks; Chief Robert King, Jr.; Officer Jake Martin; Foreman Justin Chick; DPW Dave Swift; Code Officer Robert Boyd; MadTV Videographer not in attendance; 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Arruda, seconded by Price to approve the minutes of July 11th, 18th and 22nd, 2023 as written. The motion passed **3-0**.

APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:

Motion by Arruda, seconded by Price to approve the Manifest of July 24-31, 2023 in the amount of \$309,519.41. The manifest breakdown is as follows: \$59,600.08 for accounts payable; \$38,732.45 for payroll; \$11,186.88 for payroll liabilities; and \$200,000 for Madison School. The motion passed **3-0**.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Marcia McKenna expressed her disappointment that all the information from the Conservation Commission meeting was not shared with the Board at the last meeting of the Selectmen by Mauro. McKenna stated that the membership of the Commission was just recently updated on the website.

The wording of “mandatory” versus “can be” in regards to Marc Ohlson being on the Commission as a planning board member was brought up by McKenna along with her adamant stance that she is correct regarding her claim of discrimination; McKenna offered a challenge for the Board to prove her wrong.

Daymond Steer asked if there is any assistance for residents who had damage to their property from the storm on July 16th. Brooks hopes that assistance from the USDA, similar to that provided to Vermont residents, will be made available for New Hampshire residents.

DISCUSSION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS:

RFP Opening of Focused Site Investigation – Of the four Requests for Proposals sent out to various companies by Brooks there was only one that responded. Wilcox & Barton Inc from Londonderry sent a packet received within the required timeframe.

Mauro read aloud the cover letter. Exhibit B of the proposal gave prices regarding the basic scope of work and then extra costs.

Brooks asked the Board to table the discussion until he can speak with this contact at DES. The Board agreed and will wait to hear back from Brooks.

Alcohol OHW Waiver – The Board reviewed the annual request from the OHW committee to waive the alcohol ordinance for the week and have exclusive use of the lower ballfield once the tents are put up.

Motion by Arruda, seconded by Mauro to waive the alcohol ordinance during Old Home Week this year and allow exclusive use of the lower ballfield to OHW. The motion passed **3-0**.

Chucky's Lucky Ducky Race Raffle Permission – The Board granted permission for the OHW to conduct the annual Chucky's Lucky Ducky Race Raffle with a **Motion** by Arruda, seconded by Price. The motion passed **3-0**.

Consolidated Phone Agreement – Shackford explained that our phone carrier, First Light, will begin a price increase of \$65 per phone. Having 15 phone lines throughout town buildings, the monthly increase will be \$975. Shackford worked with Northledge Technology to find an option. The best option with the least amount of expense would be transferring over to Consolidated at \$36 per line plus taxes and fees. The town currently pays \$35/line plus taxes and fees and extra fees for call forwarding and caller ID. Consolidated's agreement would be for three-years with the price remaining the same throughout the contract.

Motion by Mauro, seconded by Price to move our phone lines from First Light to Consolidated. The motion passed **3-0** with Mauro signing the paperwork.

Arrow Equipment Inc. Waste Oil Proposal – Annual Maintenance on the waste oil heating system at the upper garage found that the burn chamber needs to be replaced. Arrow Service offered quotes for repair and replacement. To repair the system would be \$6,816.00, to replace would be \$10,650.00. Chick estimates the system to be about fifteen years old with Mauro inclined to replace instead a repair citing a more efficient system and a warranty. It was decided that the discussion will be tabled until Chick can obtain one more estimate with Brooks offering to get Chick the name of a company that he knows recently installed a system locally.

Colby Hill Road Storm Damage Repair Update – Chick stated that all residents can access their properties on Colby Hill Road though it is closed to through traffic as the access is narrow and needs to be driven on slowly. Pound Road is back together with efforts beginning next week to make improvements to Allard Hill and Salter Hill Roads.

A contract from Coleman's for the repairing of Colby Hill Road was obtained by Chick. The contract adds in \$85/ton for ditch stone and \$5/sq yard for fabric with the quantity unknown. The contract is net 30 after completion.

The Board asked that Chick speak with Noah Coleman and be sure he understands that we may not be able to pay within that timeframe and see if he can offer an estimate on the gravel number. **Motion** by Arruda, seconded by Price to sign the contract out of session. The motion passed **3-0**.

Emergency Lane Hearing Discussion – Brooks explained that he feels the Board should consider designating the Class VI portion of Modoc Hill Road as an emergency land. There could be minimal repairs made and then be gated only to be opened upon emergencies. The

catalyst for the discussion is because this road closure has made emergency response times to close to 30 minutes in some portions of town with Brooks adding that mutual aid has been awesome but they help when they can.

Price suggested considering the creation of an EFT that could fund repairs like this should the emergency arise.

Emergency Expenditure per RSA 32:11 – Shackford obtained the process for asking DRA for an emergency expenditure. It requires a public hearing and some solid figures for the amount needed to cover the road improvements from the May 1st and June 16th storms. The opening of the RFP for the twin culvert replacement is August 8th. The Board tabled making a time frame for the public hearing until we get the numbers for that project together.

OLD BUSINESS:

Shackford informed the Board that four letters were sent out today from the last round of the two-letter process. We are still waiting for responses to the 15 letters sent July 11th.

Chief King offered an update on the enactment of the nuisance fee schedule. King issued fines to an Eidelweiss address for two calls to the same address necessitated an off-duty officer response. This nuisance is not only for residential problems, it includes STRs, burglar alarms and barking dog complaints.

Selectman Arruda's List – At the 56.4% point of the year, the overall budget is in line at 56.9%. However, Article #2 is at 60% spent which is concerning. Arruda is of the opinion that if a cut is to be made on the floor of Town Meeting it should come with the requirement that it be specific as to which lines it should come from. Discussion of amending the Rules of Procedure for Town Meeting ensued with the idea to be placed on a future agenda.

Selectman Price's List – The summer rec program is going swimmingly with trips to White Lake State Park to resume this Friday. There are 38 campers this week with Price knowing first hand as he volunteered today from 10:00am – 2:30pm to help with coverage for an excused counselor. The new basketball hoops should be in place by the end of the week.

Selectman Mauro's List – Mauro asked Chick if he knows that the float has returned to Monument Beach. Chick had that on his list and stated he does not know how or who installed it. Mauro and the Board were in agreement that it needs to be removed for safety's sake because of the close proximity to the private docks. Chick will have it removed and brought back to the garage.

Administrator's List – Shackford expressed concern for the budget as there are so many unplanned expenses happening. With that, Shackford asked the Board if they would consider making application for a Tax Anticipation Note (TAN). Shackford stated that this is the first time in ten years we did not apply based on the fact that over the last ten years we never used it. The Board was in agreement to begin the process, Shackford will get in touch with Northway.

Department Heads' List:

Foreman Chick - The VDOE Road Foreman Kelly Robitaille spoke with Chick stating they have a couple of substantial holes in their roads and are looking for some base layer fill. Chick stated that the Town has plenty that was removed from the base of Colby Hill Road after the rain storm. Chick asked if the Board would consider allowing them to have fill from the stock pile in

an attempt to lessen the burden of buying so much fill. The Board feels it is the right thing to do and agreed to help with the fill.

The grader should be back in Town on Thursday with Chick keeping Burke Quarry's rental grader just in case there is a problem. Mauro noted that there were positive comments on Facebook about the grader operator on Glines Hill being considerate of driver trying to pass through. Chick was the operator and appreciates everyone's patience.

Chief Brooks – An unexpected meeting with Senator Hassan and two of her staffers happened last Saturday, July 22nd. Brooks recapped the visit feeling it was a successful visit with the Senator and she was able to see the damage first hand. Another meeting happened Monday morning with FEMA and NH Emergency Management that made for another walking tour of Colby Hill, Route 113 and Eidelweiss. Brooks is again submitting documents from the June 16th storm in similar fashion to those of the May 1st storm.

The Fire Department assisted nine people during the storm with all thankfully finding friends and family to stay with temporarily.

Old Home Week begins August 3rd with the erecting of the tents, feel free to come by and swing a sledge hammer.

Chief King – During one of the busiest summers King has seen he has been enlisting the help of the new part-timers. Brooks asked for King to send over any documentation related to the storm showing time etc. spent from his department.

DPW Dave Swift – iWorQ will be up and running soon with another training session set up for tomorrow afternoon. The new paper/plastic compactor is working out very well with Arruda adding that he is receiving positive comments along with compliments of how well set up the traffic flow is. Arruda mentioned that lines are going to be painted to assist with traffic too.

SIGNATURE ITEMS:

Manifest

Payroll & Accounts Payable Checks

State of NH Warden Service Bill \$596.00

Rec Volunteer Appointment: Sarah DeMartino

Permit for the Display of Fireworks for OHW

Motion by Mauro, seconded by Price to adjourn at 5:58pm. The motion passed **3-0**.

NEXT SELECTMEN'S MEETING – The next Selectmen's Meeting is scheduled for August 8, 2023 commencing at 4:30 pm at the Madison Town Hall meeting room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford,
Town Administrator