

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF MADISON
OCTOBER 21, 2014
MINUTES**

Selectmen Present - Chairman John Arruda, Michael Brooks, and Josh Shackford.

Others Present - Town Administrator Melissa Arias; Deputy Town Administrator Sue Stacey; Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) Chairman David Downs; Fire Chief Jeff Eldridge; Scott Brooks and David Cribbie of GW Brooks & Son; and Madison TV videographer Carol Dandeneau. Road Agent Bill Chick Sr. attended the non-public at the end of the meeting.

Where and When Posted - Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on December 5, 2013.

Meeting Called to Order – By the Chairman at 5:31 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Shackford made a **motion** to approve the Selectmen’s Meeting minutes of October 7, 2014 as prepared, seconded by Brooks, and so voted **3-0**.

APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS – Shackford made a **motion** to approve the Manifest of October 21, 2014 in the amount of \$149,428.92, seconded by Brooks, and so voted **3-0**. The Manifest breakdown is as follows: \$21,811.21 for payroll; \$5,895.10 for payroll liabilities; \$21,722.61 for accounts payable; and \$100,000.00 for the Madison School District (release date 10/23/14).

THERE WERE NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

TRANSFER STATION MATTERS – Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) Chairman David Downs was in to talk with the Selectmen about the accumulation of completed compost at the Transfer Station. It was recently decided that there was an overage of finished compost material that needed to be removed from the site before winter to ensure there’s room for spring cleanup. Downs said he put a notice out on the Madison Boulder Bulletin before the Columbus Day holiday and also passed the message through word of mouth. By doing so the amount of compost on-site was drastically reduced so it doesn’t appear as though further action or advertising is required at this time.

NEXT MEETING CONFLICTS WITH ELECTION DAY – Arias asked the Board when they want to meet the week of November 3rd since the regular meeting falls on Election Day. The Board will need to address more than the Manifest and checks that week. The Selectmen instructed Arias to post a meeting for noon on Election Day (11/04/14) in the Elementary School gym. Arias will also notify Madison TV.

ELECTION DAY COVERAGE – The Selectmen discussed coverage at the polls on Election Day. Shackford said he can’t be there all day but will do the best he can. Arruda said he will try to free his work schedule for most of the day and Brooks said he’ll be present all day.

PROPERTY TAX WARRANT – Arias asked the Board to consider voting to sign the property tax warrant for the 2nd issue of 2014 out-of-session should the tax rate be set and the warrant prepared before the next Selectmen’s Meeting on November 4th.

Motion: Brooks made a **motion** to sign the property tax warrant out-of-session as soon as its produced, seconded by Shackford, and so voted **3-0**.

Decision: Arias will prepare the warrant once the 2014 tax rate is set and notify the Selectmen to come sign it.

HAZARDOUS PROPERTY AT 14 ASPEN DRIVE – The Selectmen’s Office has recently received a letter from the Eidelweiss Commissioners regarding the hazardous condition of the property at 14 Aspen Drive. This matter has been discussed recently during Selectmen’s Meetings. The site was never cleaned up after the house burned last year and attempts to contact the owner by phone and mail were unsuccessful. The Selectmen turned the matter over to Town Counsel who will be going through the statutory process of having the owner served with a notice to clean up the hazardous and dilapidated property. The Eidelweiss Commissioners are requesting the Town install a safety fence around the property until corrective measures are taken. Arias said Town Counsel advised that the Town has no right to install a fence on private property. Brooks appreciates the Commissioners concerns but said they need to realize the Selectmen are doing as much as they can under the law to get the situation remedied. Brooks said authority for any action to be taken by the Town needs to be granted from the Court first which is why Town Counsel is involved.

PLANNING FUTURE ROAD WORK & RELATED PROJECTS – Arruda said the cost of the East Madison Road bridge project ran over due to unforeseen circumstances and the amount of paving accomplished on East Madison Road was less than everyone envisioned, again due to cost. Arruda said Road Agent Bill Chick Sr. has initiated conversations about addressing the narrow bridge over Forrest Brook at the beginning of East Madison Road (closest to Route 113). Arruda is now thinking the Town should finish the paving of East Madison Road before starting any bridge work. Brooks said the Town has a plan in place that outlines the roads which are in the most need of maintenance. Brooks is pretty sure East Madison Road should be finished before moving onto the next road. Brooks said the bridge ran over because of fracturing ledge which couldn’t have been anticipated even with additional borings. In Brooks’ opinion there are several sections of East Madison Road that need more than a shim and overlay due to the alligator cracks across the road surface which indicate an underlying drainage problem. The Selectmen asked Chick to take measurements and mark areas with paint that need additional work in order to get a cost estimate for the remainder of East Madison Road. This information should be written up in a detailed plan for the Selectmen to review prior to the 2015 proposed budget and warrant articles being formatted. Brooks said Planning Board member Andrew Smith has offered to help with tasks like this given his extensive background in roads and the work he does for the Town of Conway. Shackford said the completion of East Madison Road is going to cost way more than what the Town can afford. The taxpayers are not going to be happy when they learn more money will be required for East Madison Road. Finishing East Madison Road might need to happen by breaking out the worst sections and tackling them two at a time. Arruda said appropriating money for a Capital Reserve Fund could be a consideration and Brooks wondered if the Town should start looking at a bond. The Board tried to recall what road(s) are next on the Town’s plan and Arruda remembered that Town Line Road never got the topcoat of pavement. The Selectmen talked about the Allard Hill Road project that was done primarily in-house and how it also went over on cost which was met with much criticism from some residents. The Selectmen decided that getting a written plan and cost estimate from the Road Agent will be a starting point. Brooks said he has heard rumors that Chick has been seen meeting with private contractors at the Forrest Brook Bridge on East Madison Road which could poison the pool of potential bidders if the Town puts out a Request for Proposal in the future. Brooks said this message needs to be conveyed to Chick as soon as possible. The Selectmen

have a non-public session with Chick posted for after this meeting and will tell him not to accept any preliminary estimates from private contractors for bridge work then.

BREACH OF COURT ORDERED FINES – Town Counsel is looking for the Selectmen to determine whether a letter should be sent to the property owner in default of the Court ordered zoning violation fines or if a Motion for Contempt should be filed with the Court.

Motion: Brooks made a **motion** to instruct Town Counsel to proceed with a Motion for Contempt, seconded by Shackford, and so voted **3-0**.

Decision: Arias will notify Town Counsel of the Board’s decision tomorrow.

SILVER LAKE DAM REPAIR ESTIMATE – The Selectmen’s Office has received a price of \$1,100 from Randy Huston Masonry Contractor for a repairs to a few areas of the concrete dam structure. The Selectmen want to move forward with the work this fall while the lake level is low and will sign the Purchase Requisition under Signature Items.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROJECT – Brooks said the Town needs to coordinate the purchase and installation of a split-rail fence along a portion of the northern boundary line of the Historical Society property. Brooks said this was agreed to during the negotiations with the abutting landowner. Brooks estimates the length to be 80 feet which will include replacement of the section that existed previously and the extension to the edge of the new embankment. Brooks said the fence is separate from the work conducted by Burnham Company. Arias was asked to contact a couple area fence companies for quotes.

SIGNATURE ITEMS –

Manifest

Payroll & Accounts Payable Checks

Purchase Requisition #2014-GGBL-005 – Huston Masonry (\$1,100) Silver Lake Dam repairs

Oath of Office – Budget Committee Member Ted Kramer (until March 2015)

6:01 PM – Arruda made a **motion** to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3II(a) to discuss Highway Department staffing with the Road Agent, seconded by Shackford. Roll Call Vote: Brooks – aye; Shackford – aye; Arruda - aye. **6:50 PM** – Shackford made a motion to return to public session and seal the minutes of the non-public sessions, seconded by Brooks, and so voted **3-0**.

6:50 PM – Shackford made a **motion** to adjourn the Selectmen’s Meeting and join the Advisory Budget Committee Meeting posted for 7:00 p.m., seconded by Brooks, and so voted **3-0**.

NEXT SELECTMEN’S MEETING – The next Selectmen’s meeting will be on Tuesday, November 4, 2014 at noon in the Madison Elementary School gym.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa S. Arias, Town Administrator
Recording Secretary