

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF MADISON
JANUARY 28, 2015
MINUTES**

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

Others Present – Town Administrator Melissa Arias; Deputy Town Administrator Sue Stacey; Advisory Budget Committee and Fire Pumper Replacement Committee member Hersh Sosnoff; and Madison TV videographer Garrett Boyd with trainer Noreen Downs.

Where and When Posted - Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on January 26, 2015. This meeting takes the place of the regular meeting scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 that didn't occur due to a winter storm.

Meeting Called to Order – By the Chairman at 6:15 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Shackford made a **motion** to approve the Selectmen's Meeting minutes of January 13, 2015 as prepared, seconded by Brooks, and so voted **3-0**. Brooks made a **motion** to approve the non-public Selectmen's Meeting minutes of January 13, 2015 that are being made public, seconded by Shackford, and so voted **3-0**. The result of the non-public session was that Sgt. Ted Colby was promoted to Lieutenant at a ceremony in the Town Hall meeting room on January 16, 2015.

APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS – Brooks made a **motion** to approve the Manifest of January 26 – February 2, 2015 in the amount of \$330,634.54, seconded by Shackford, and so voted **3-0**. The Manifest breakdown is as follows: \$33,874.39 for accounts payable; \$24,364.91 for payroll; \$75,000.00 for the Madison School District (release date 1/29/15); \$7,398.24 for payroll liabilities; and \$189,997.00 for the Village District of Eidelweiss' property tax commitment.

THERE WERE NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

SEALED BIDS FOR 2015 PAVING SERVICES – The Selectmen opened the single sealed bid received from the Assistant Road Agent's request for paving services to complete East Madison Road in 2015. The bid was from R&D Paving in Franklin which itemized services including the cost per yard to reclaim the pavement and the cost per ton for paving. Brooks did the math and came up with a total of \$183,992.50 which is concerning because the cost doesn't include any of the necessary drainage work. The 2015 warrant article is currently listed at \$200,000. Stacey said the warrant article amount can be adjusted on the floor at Town Meeting if necessary. Arruda asked how many other companies were approached and Arias was uncertain because the Assistant Road Agent made all the contacts. The Selectmen decided they need to meet with the Road Agent and Assistant Road Agent to get a handle on what's required to complete East Madison Road. The Selectmen would like to have the meeting next Tuesday night at 5:30 p.m. in the Town Hall meeting room before the posted 7:00 p.m. Public Budget Hearing at the Elementary School. The Selectmen were concerned they might not be able to provide recommendations on this warrant article in advance of the Public Budget Hearing.

SEALED BIDS FOR 2015 HIGHWAY TRUCK – The Selectmen opened the single sealed bid received from the Assistant Road Agent's request for a new Highway truck in 2015. Arruda opened the envelope

from Viking-Cives which was for the truck accessory package (dump body with tarp, plow frame, plow, wing frame, and wing) at a cost of \$46,555. There were no bids received for the actual truck purchase. The Selectmen decided they need to meet with the Road Agent and Assistant Road Agent to find out why more bids weren't received. They will discuss this at the 2/3/15 meeting with the Road Agent at 5:30 pm but may not have a recommendation on this warrant article in advance of the Public Budget Hearing.

2015 BOARD/COMMITTEE REAPPOINTMENTS – The Selectmen reviewed the Town Clerk's e-mail request regarding which appointed Board & Committee members will be reappointed by the Selectmen as of March 2015 Town Meeting.

The positions and terms in question are:

Carroll County Transit - 1 member for 1 year (has been filled by Barbara Anderson)

Madison TV – 1 member for 3 years (was filled by Bob Murphy – now vacant due to inactivity)

Madison TV – 1 member for 2 years (was filled by Denise Noel – now vacant due to inactivity)

MWV Economic Council – 1 member for 1 year (has been filled by Ted Kramer)

North Country Council – 1 member for 1 year (has been filled by Henry Anderson)

Selectmen's Solid Waste – 4 members for 1 year (has been filled by Dave Downs, Ray O'Brien, & Paul Littlefield. There is one vacancy.)

Selectmen's Veterans – 6 members for 1 year (has been filled by Ed Foley, Henry Forrest, Franklin Jones, Paulette Lowry, & John Sherwood. There is one vacancy.)

The Selectmen would like Oaths of Office done up for those currently in the positions and if they opt not to take the Oath for 2015 the Selectmen will begin looking for a replacement at that time. Arruda announced for the benefit of Madison TV views that there are openings on the Madison TV Board of Directors, the Carroll County Transit, the North Country Council, the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, and the Veterans Advisory Committee. Any interested Madison residents should contact Town Hall about serving.

REQUEST FOR 2015 WARRANT ARTICLE RESOLUTION – The Selectmen received an e-mail from Bruce Johnson, Selectman in the Town of Webster, asking Madison to propose a 2015 Warrant Article Resolution seeking a comprehensive meaningful system of funding for State Education needs. Shackford was opposed to putting up a warrant of this nature. Brooks said he has too many questions about the intent to move forward. Arruda would consider it as long as sales tax and income tax are not part of the solution.

2015 BUILDING INSPECTOR OPERATING BUDGET – Code Enforcement Officer Bob Boyd prepared a list of anticipated trainings he'll attend in 2015 and asked Stacey to increase that line of his 2015 operating budget. Stacey said she offset the increase in training by reducing the maintenance line by the same amount. Arias mentioned that the previous mechanic indicated the Code Enforcement Officer's Ford Escape has some potential problems that could present themselves at any time. The mechanic said the outgoing Ford Explorer police cruiser is in better shape than the Ford Escape so it would be better to get rid of the Escape and keep the Explorer for the Code Enforcement Officer. Arias also mentioned that the Fire Department had their eyes on the Explorer for a "command" vehicle. The Selectmen said they will decide upon this at a future meeting.

2015 OPERATING BUDGET & WARRANT ARTICLE REVIEW – The Selectmen started off by talking about the \$99,999 figure being associated with the 2015 Fire Truck warrant article and whether that type of "bond" amount is considered a "raise and appropriate" which would affect the 2015 tax rate.

Stacey said she hasn't been able to get verification on this from Michelle Clark at the Department of Revenue Administration. Stacey said Town Counsel understands the recommendation of the Fire Pumper Replacement Committee and has prepared the language of the warrant article accordingly. We don't yet know whether the Department of Revenue will accept the warrant article language though. Hersh Sosnoff was in the audience in place of Fire Pumper Replacement Committee Chairman Bill Lord who's out of town on business. The Committee is trying to give the Selectmen leniency of up to \$100,000 toward the purchase of a fire truck if a suitable one can be found between Town Meeting cycles. Sosnoff said the \$99,999 amount should be looked at as an add-on to what exists in the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund to get a better truck and not as a down payment. Arruda said the \$99,999 has to be raised and appropriated and added to the total warrant amount which will have a negative effect upon the 2015 tax rate. Brooks is concerned that Town Meeting won't support the warrant article unless they are shown what type of truck will be purchased with the funds. Shackford hopes the Fire Pumper Replacement Committee's presentation and recommendation at Town Meeting will help sell the related articles and appropriations after the financial savings realization is made. Brooks suggested keeping the \$99,999 appropriation in as part of the total warrant amount in the hopes of obtaining clarification from the Department of Revenue Administration. Sosnoff said the \$99,999 is intended to be there as a "bond" to be borrowed if a feasible fire truck is located and secured but the actual payoff of the \$99,999 would likely happen over the next 2 to 3 years and not in 2015. For that reason the Selectmen questioned whether the amount should be included in the total warrant amount. The group looked at the proposed language of the warrant articles related to the fire truck and asked Stacey to move them closer to the top of the warrant and in consecutive order. The Moderator should be told that the Fire Pumper Replacement Committee's presentation should happen before any of the fire truck articles are placed on the floor. The Selectmen said the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund will contain \$363,000 if the 2015 article passes and the \$99,999 additional bond figure would give the town the ability to buy a truck for up to \$462,999. Sosnoff said decent fire trucks will not remain available for long so he hopes this is a feasible option.

The Selectmen went article by article to formulate their recommendations:

ARTICLE	VOTE
• BoS as Agents to Expend on the Fire Truck CRF	3-0
• Fire Truck \$99,999 Bond	3-0
• Operating Budget	3-0
• East Madison Road repairs	hold until Road Agent meeting
• Fire Truck CRF \$50,000	3-0
• Assessing Expendable Trust \$30,000	3-0
• Police Cruiser	3-0
• Highway 6-wheeler	hold until Road Agent meeting
• Conservation Land Acquisition	2-1 (Arruda)
• Madison TV balance into Expendable Trust	3-0
• Lead Mine Road – plow through to E Shore Dr	Endorsed per agreement
• Lead Mine Road – plow to turn around	Endorsed per agreement
• Rockhouse Mtn. Water Easement	3-0
• Close out Backhoe CRF	3-0
• Close out 1994 Road Construction CRF	3-0
• Energy Advisory Subcommittee	3-0
• Carroll County Transit	0-3

- Tri-CAP fuel assistance 3-0
- Gibson Center Meals on Wheels 3-0
- Ossipee Children’s Fund 3-0
- Children’s Unlimited 3-0
- Northern Human Services Mental Health 3-0
- Starting Point (signatures not verified yet) 3-0
- American Red Cross (no petition received yet) 3-0

Brooks said the Selectmen could probably level fund the operating budget and still make out okay in 2015 but he supports the 1% increase which amounts to around \$25,000 since it would be difficult to pinpoint which budget items to cut.

Shackford said he’s not sure he can support the purchase of a new highway truck or the selling of an existing truck that we won’t get any revenue for. Shackford said the Road Agent’s concern that parts won’t be available for the truck he wants to replace might not even become an issue. Shackford would rather run the truck into the ground instead of replacing it for fear of a shortage of replacement parts. Arruda said he recently heard on TV that NH DOT is retaining trucks in their fleet that have well over 150,000 miles and thinks we should do the same thing.

Shackford wanted to put on record that he’s not in favor of only plowing Lead Mine Road to the Cooks Pond turnaround. Shackford said he made that point very clear during the settlement negotiations. Brooks said the two warrant articles have to be placed on the warrant and endorsed by the Selectmen in an attempt to buy peace.

Arias was asked to contact David Weyandt of the Rockhouse Mountain Property Owner’s Association to request the presence of a representative at Town Meeting to answer any questions regarding the waterline easement article.

Sosnoff spoke against Carroll County Transit’s warrant article and cited statistics and supporting information he acquired independently. Sosnoff said the services should not be funded by taxpayer dollars. Arruda asked Sosnoff to have his statistical information available for Town Meeting and he said he would.

HEALTHTRUST CERTIFICATION TO PROTECT INFORMATION AGREEMENT – HealthTrust has provided a Certification to Protect Information Agreement for the Selectmen to review, sign, and return by March 15, 2015. Along with the Agreement came HealthTrust’s Notice of Privacy Practices. The Selectmen were fine with the document which will be signed under Signature Items.

CONTRACT for 2015 DEED SEARCHES – The Tax Collector has provided the Selectmen with a ‘Contract with Confidentiality Agreement’ from Sanders Searches, LLC for the deed searches on properties with delinquent property taxes in 2015. The Contract is not to exceed \$1,393.92 and outlines a per search price of \$11.52. The Selectmen were fine with the arrangement as long as it’s recommended by the Tax Collector and falls within her budget. The document will be signed under Signature Items.

2016-2021 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – The Planning Board has turned in the latest 2016-2021 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) dated 1/27/15 for the Selectmen to review and accept as final. Arruda pointed out that a new Highway truck was not part of the CIP.

Motion: Brooks made a **motion** to accept the 1/27/15 version of the 2016-2021 Capital Improvement Program, seconded by Arruda, and so voted **3-0**.

Decision: Arias will notify the Planning Board of the Selectmen's acceptance.

BALLFIELD PAVILION PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM – The Selectmen's Office has been receiving communications from the NH Department of Environmental Services, Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau, Monitoring and Enforcement Section regarding the monitoring and reporting schedule for the newly designated Madison Ballpark and Pavilion public water system. Arias said the well which feeds the bubbler on the ballfield shed was designated a public water system last year per the recommendation of Ron Briggs who submitted an updated septic design plan for the future ballfield pavilion building. On January 20, 2015 the Town was issued a Notice of Violation with immediate action required because the 2014 4th Quarter Nitrate and Nitrite samples weren't taken or submitted. The samples couldn't be taken in the 4th Quarter because the bubbler is disconnected from October to April annually. Then on January 23, 2015 the Town received a letter stating the violations were rescinded and our monitoring and reporting schedule was modified to account for the water system winterization. The Town will now have to submit Total Coliform Rule samples in April and July and conduct Chemical Monitoring in the 2nd Quarter of each year instead of the 4th Quarter. Arias asked the Selectmen who will be in charge of these strict sampling guidelines now that part-time seasonal employee Wayne Jones has retired. The Selectmen said that would fall under the Road Agent who is in charge of maintenance of all town properties. Brooks volunteered to take on the ballfield water testing as opposed to discontinuing the use of the bubbler and expecting people to bring their own drinking water to events. Arias will forward all water sampling information to Brooks.

BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW – Arruda and Arias attended last week's Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting where the ZBA brought up several recent applications that came before their board when a property owner or contractor moved the building footprint into the setback area and not in the location submitted with the building permit application. Arruda told the ZBA that the Board of Selectmen and Code Enforcement Officer would sit down in the near future to review the building permit ordinance, current application packet, and other related materials to see whether all the bases have been covered. Arruda is concerned that imposing fines beyond what is already outlined in the State Statute would cause people to "lawyer up". The Selectmen will schedule something with the Code Enforcement Officer after Town Meeting 2015.

SIGNATURE ITEMS –

Manifest

Payroll & Accounts Payable Checks

Timber Tax Warrant & Worksheet #14-283-09T – Graves/Whitaker (214-001)

State of NH Inspection Station Application Update – substitute mechanic Rand for Harmon

HealthTrust Certification to Protect Information form

Contract with Sanders Searches LLC - deed searches for Tax Collector's Office

7:50 PM – Shackford made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Brooks, and so voted **3-0**.

NEXT SELECTMEN'S MEETING – The next Selectmen's Meeting will be on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 5:30 pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room. The Selectmen will post a special meeting with the Road Agent and Assistant Road Agent on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the Town Hall

meeting room before conducting the annual Public Budget Hearing at 7:00 p.m. in the Madison Elementary School gym.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa S. Arias, Town Administrator
Recording Secretary