

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF MADISON
December 12, 2017
MINUTES**

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

Others Present –Police Chief Ted Colby; Fire Chief Richard Clark; Finance Director Su Stacey; 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 5:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by King, seconded by J. Shackford to approve the minutes of November 28, 2017 as written. The motion passed **3-0**.

APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:

Motion by King, seconded by J. Shackford to approve the Manifest of December 11 - 19, 2017 in the amount of \$1,203,445.48. The Manifest breakdown is as follows: \$45,007.59 for Accounts Payable; Carroll County \$683,888.00; \$24,134.89 for payroll; \$7,128.56 for payroll liabilities; \$125,000.00 for Madison Elementary School; \$25,159.94 for New Hampshire Retirement System; and \$293,126.50 for Village District of Eidelweiss. The motion passed **3 -0**.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Chief Clark informed the Board that there will be no need for the Fire Department command vehicle to be replaced this year.

DISCUSSION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS:

2018 Warrant Articles and Budget:

Arruda announced that after review of the 12/11/2017 Drawdown we are at 95% of the year with 91% of the budget spent. Not including encumbrances, we could expect to have in excess of \$100,000 at yearend.

Each department was reviewed with the following changes made:

Elections: Postage reduced by \$500

Emergency Management: New Equipment reduced by \$500

General Government Buildings: Septic reduced by \$500; Stacey will review heating fuel line

General Government Equipment: Equipment Maintenance reduced by \$500

Legal: Miscellaneous reduced by \$500

Planning Board: Planner reduced by \$500

The warrant articles were discussed. The board agreed to put off the paving of the fire station parking lot resulting in the removal of the \$30,000 article. Chief Colby stated he has been able to reduce the SPOTS system to \$15,000 but no grants will be available. The Board agreed to reduce that article from \$17,660 to \$15,000. Arruda noted that there is currently \$75,000 in the ETF for a future purchase of a grader. The Board agreed to not add to the fund this year and request that the Planning Board note that for the CIP. The creation of a ETF for a generator to service Town Hall and the Garage will be revisited after a planned meeting with Eversource tomorrow.

Skip Sansoucy, Certified General Appraiser Regarding Utility Appeals and Revaluation – Skip Sansoucy and Charelle Lucas approached the Board to discuss BTLA cases regarding PSNH/Eversource and NH Electric Coop. Sansoucy updated the Board regarding the progress of the BTLA cases and their firm’s role in the litigation. Sansoucy requested that the Board consider having their firm do the Town’s utility values as they will be the one defending them. Arruda asked the cost of such an agreement. Sansoucy stated \$7,000 a year. The Board will take that offer under consideration and discuss in a non-public session. Sansoucy also explained that Fairpoint’s BTLA court hearing is beginning in April with trial set for May. There are three lead towns: Belmont, Durham and Hanover that are being presented by Sansoucy. Sansoucy explained that Madison is part of the group and if a settlement was made now, it could be premature. Sansoucy used the phrase “Pay now, pay later or don’t pay”. Sansoucy and Lucas thanked the Board for their time.

Assessing Expendable Trust Fund Withdrawal:

There has been \$8,646.00 expended on the assessing contract of measure and list of town properties July through December of this year which needs to be reimbursed by the Assessing Expendable Trust Fund set up for this purpose.

Motion by Arruda, seconded by King, to request the withdrawal of the Trustees of the Trust Fund for \$8,646.00 from the Assessing Expendable Trust fund to reimburse the general fund for the expenses paid from July to December of this year for the assessing contract to measure and list the town by 2020. The motion passed **3-0**.

Scrub Oak Scrambler (SOS) Snowmobile Trail Permission for 134-025 and 134-015:

The SOS has asked for the Town’s permission for access to snowmobile trails at the West Branch 134-025 and 134-015. There is an option of terms. They offer indefinite, 1-year or 5-year. The Board agreed to the 5-year term to allow future Boards to revisit the agreement.

Motion by Arruda, seconded by King to sign the 5-year agreement for SOS access to the West Branch properties 134-025 and 134-015. The motion passed **3-0**.

Letter of support for Conway Police Department Radio Upgrade Grant:

Motion by J. Shackford, seconded by King to sign the letter of support for the Conway Police Department radio upgrade grant. The motion passed **3-0**.

OLD BUSINESS – There was none.

Selectman Shackford’s List – Shackford proposed to put on the 2018 warrant a change of a portion of Goe Hill Road to the Freedom Town Line, from Class VI to a Class A Municipal Trail. Arruda asked the difference. Shackford explained that it changes the road to be permissible for the Town to gate the access to vehicular access, allowing it to only property owners that can access their property with a vehicle. The road is still open to the public, just not by vehicle. Shackford explained that the Town of Freedom did it to all of their Class VI roads in the forest. Danforth Bay Camping Resort patrons have access to the forest and damage is occurring to the road, especially during mud season. King feels this is a positive step to keeping the road maintained, as the abutting owners maintain it. Arruda has no problem with the idea. Shackford has spoken with several of the land owners and they are in agreement with the idea. Arruda suggested Shackford draw up a warrant article and have town counsel review, then the Board will vote to have it on the warrant.

Selectman King’s List – The office received complains via email about the plowing of Village Road, which is a state road. King has noticed that the state roads in Madison go a long time without being

plowed. King had a personal additive that his wife slid off the state road recently. A letter will be drafted from the Board to the State with ccs to our local representative and the original email complainant.

Selectman Arruda's List – Arruda spoke with the Road Agent regarding repair of the boat ramp. The machine we have will not be able to perform the work. The project will be put off until next year and have someone in town with an excavator perform the work. Arruda received a complaint regarding cell phone use during working hours. A 2013 memo from the Road Agent to his crew regarding cell use during work hours. Arruda asked if the Board feels it should be sent out again. King feels the Road Agent should address this if it is in his department. J. Shackford agreed with King. J. Shackford suggested acquiring a sample cell phone policy and adding in social media. L. Shackford will look into sample wordings.

Assistant's List – No items.

SIGNATURE ITEMS

Manifest

Payroll & Accounts Payable Checks

Letter of support for Conway Police Department Radio Upgrade Grant

Request for Payment Tax Collector for 232-042 and 043 - \$9,864.75

Tax Collector Abatement – 232-042 \$1,284.09

232-043 \$354.24

Scrub Oak Scrambler Snowmobile Trail Permission Form

2017 Equalization Ratio Certificate

Cintas Rental Service Agreement

LUCA 2020 Census Registration Form

Purchase Order – 2017-FIRE-012 Ossipee Mountain Electronics \$2,580.00

2017-FIRE-013 Ossipee Mountain Electronics \$2,319.00

2017-FIRE-014 Bergeron Protective Equipment \$5,204.00

2017-FIRE-015 Bergeron Protective Equipment \$12,548.64

7:05 PM – Arruda made a **motion** to go into non-public sessions under RSAs 91-A:3II (a), (a), (l) and (l). Roll call vote: King – Aye; Shackford – aye; Arruda – aye

6:30 PM – King made a **motion** to return to public session, and seal the minutes of the non-public sessions with the exception of one set under (a), seconded by Shackford and so voted **3-0**.

7:30 PM – Arruda made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Shackford, and so voted **3-0**.

NEXT SELECTMEN'S MEETING – The next Selectmen's Meeting will be on Tuesday, December 26, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the lower level of Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford, Administrative Assistant
Recording Secretary