

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF MADISON
August 25, 2020
MINUTES**

Selectmen Present – William T. Lord and Josh L. Shackford

Selectmen Excused - John Arruda

Others Present – Marine Patrol Captain Tim Dunleavy; Town Clerk Mike Brooks; DPW Director Jon Cyr; Jr.; Officers Jake Martin and Mike Mosher; Fire Chief Richard Clark; Code Officer Bob Boyd; Town Administrator Linda Shackford; MadTV Videographer Carol Dandeneau

Where and When Posted – Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on January 6, 2020.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Lord, seconded by J. Shackford, to approve the minutes of August 11, 2020 as written. The motion passed **3-0**.

APPROVAL OF MANIFEST:

Motion by Lord, seconded by J. Shackford to approve the Manifest of August 23-29, 2020 in the amount of \$387,502.63. The Manifest breakdown is as follows: \$58,873.92 for Accounts Payable; \$21,642.63 for payroll; \$6,986.08 for payroll liabilities; and \$300,000.00 for Madison Elementary School. The motion passed **3-0**.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were none.

DISCUSSION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS:

Marine Patrol Captain Dunleavy – Marine Patrol’s Captain Dunleavy was invited to the meeting to discuss the process for statutory mooring permitting on Silver Lake. Lord asked Captain Dunleavy for guidance on how to manage the situation of moorings and the options available. Captain Dunleavy explained in detail how the program works. This program falls under State of NH Statutes and is managed by the State of NH. Shorefront property owners are eligible for moorings and common property owners i.e. association or congregate moorings, are also eligible with limited amounts of moorings per association. The applicant must demonstrate their eligibility and if criteria is met a permit must be granted. The current status of Silver Lake, not being regulated by a State mooring program, allows anyone with legal access to the lake the ability to moor a boat. To add Silver Lake to the mooring program a petition of 25 signatures of waterfront property owners and/or Madison residents would need to be submitted to the NH Department of Safety. The Department would advertise a public hearing usually in the months of June – September to take public comment. The Department would make a decision based on the public comment as to whether the lake should be added to the program. Mooring owners would pay an initial application fee of \$125.00 with an annual \$25.00 renewal fee. Owners cannot sublet or rent their mooring. Property owners with water access would not be eligible for a mooring unless is it under a congregate mooring. Lord thanked Captain Dunleavy for his time and thanked his department for all they do for us.

Tax Collector Tax Deed Execution – Tax Collector Michael Brooks presented four properties behind by three years on taxes:

114-033 31 Adelboden Way – Vacant

109-071 18 Oak Ridge Rd – Dwelling

201-014 1702 NH Route 16 – Dwelling

116-007 75 Cranmore Drive - Dwelling

The Board agreed to grant a waiver to the owner of 109-071 and 201-014 per the Tax Collector receiving confirmation from a local bank that funds are being transferred and he should receive payment within the next two days to more than cover the 2017 lien. And the Board agreed to grant a waiver to the owner of 116-075 with the understanding that the property owner has agreed to make payment by 10:00am tomorrow morning.

Motion by J. Shackford, seconded by Lord to sign waivers for 109-071, 201-014 and 116-075 as per RSA 80:76II-a. The motion passed **2-0**.

Tax Collector Brooks explained that the owners of 114-033 have passed away. The daughter had spoken to L. Shackford a while back and stated that she had offered to sell the property to a friend, but if the friend did not purchase it, she would let it go for taxes.

Motion by J. Shackford, seconded by Lord to accept the deed for 114-033. The motion passed **2-0**.

Town Clerk Brooks Absentee Voter Grant – Town Clerk Brooks has the opportunity to apply for funds set aside with the CARES Act sub-grant through the NH Secretary of State’s Office for reimbursement of absentee voter expenses. There has been \$7,200.00 set aside for the Town of Madison. In the 2016 election year the Town had 62 absentee voter requests, as of today Brooks has received 223 requests. Brooks is asking for the authority to be the representative for sign for related grant paperwork.

Motion by Lord, seconded by J. Shackford to appoint Town Clerk Brooks to be the authorized representative to sign for CARES Act sub-grant through the NH Secretary of State’s Office for related absentee voter expenses. The motion passed **2-0**.

J. Shackford asked for the opportunity, while on the topic of elections, to speak about mask requirements on voting day. J. Shackford is of the opinion that it is backwards in terms of if a voter needs or wants to wear a mask, they should be the one doing the absentee process, not the other way around. Brooks explained that if a voter refuses to wear a mask they will be offered to fill out an absentee voter ballot instead of entering the polling place. Brooks added that the NH Attorney General is prepared to stand behind a moderator that turns away a voter, that refuses to wear a mask, after they have exhausted all reasonable remedies to allow a person the opportunity vote. J. Shackford would not want to see it go that far citing a citizen’s constitutional right to vote. Brooks sees J. Shackford’s point adding that the masks are also for the protection of the election workers. J. Shackford asked aloud what would be done if an unmasked voter refuses to leave, turning to Officer Mosher for his opinion on handling the situation. Mosher responded that he took an oath to uphold the constitution; J. Shackford was pleased with his response.

Silver Lake Dam DES Correspondence – The Town has received a Notice of Inspection from NH DES regarding the Silver Lake dam. The notice called out four items that need to be addressed that included both safety and environment issues. The funds for this have not been appropriated nor determined. Lord suggested an effort for funding that if the ramp and dam were rolled together could

include the town, the conservation commission, SLAM and Silver Lake Boat Club. Brooks suggested looking into grant money from the Department of Safety's Moose grant program. Lord would like to see a cost put together and attack it slowly. Cyr would like to see if the Town can take care of the repairs but needs to know if certifications are required to perform the work. Cyr was told by DES that there are 271 dams in the state and DES has been receiving phone calls with concerns regarding all. The lack of rain has brought levels very low; adding that evaporation causes the loss of millions of gallons per day. The dam needs to be addressed with an amount for repairs determined and a plan for the funding.

Notice of Regulations Town Properties – At the August 11th meeting the Board revisited the July 14th edition of the Notice of Regulation Town Properties verbiage for parking at the boat launch. It was decided to remove that section. An update was also made to the process for how to handle resident/taxpayers boat permitting.

Motion by Lord, seconded by J. Shackford to accept the changes to the July 14th edition of the Notice of Regulation Town Properties and sign it out of session. The motion passed **2-0**.

Petition Warrant Article Signature Requirement – Tri-CAP – L. Shackford asked on behalf of Tri-County CAP if the Board would still be requiring charity organizations to collect signatures for a petition warrant article citing COVID-19 and keeping social distance while obtaining signatures. Brooks noted that it would behoove the charities to do petitions because if the Selectmen have the authority to not include the request on the warrant, while a petition binds them statutorily to put it on the warrant. The Board will not be changing their procedure and will still require signed petitions.

OLD BUSINESS – There was none

Selectman Shackford's List - A letter was received by Chief King from the Village District of Eidelweiss expressing their appreciation for the assistance from Lieutenant Hayford, Officer Mosher and Officer Martin. J. Shackford offered his thanks to the Police Department for a job well done. On the flip side, J. Shackford read aloud an email received from a Tamworth resident about the recent change to add a fee to launch a boat beginning in 2021. Administrative Assistant Cyr politely answered the Tamworth resident's email to receive back a disrespectfully rude response from the writer Jason Walker. J. Shackford expressed the need for people to be more respectful to each other as the wording in the email was not warranted.

Selectman Lord's List – Lord extended well wishes to John Arruda and a quick recovery. Lord asked Cyr for an update on Alexander Ave. Cyr stated that he is in the process of getting a sign order together and hopes to have it taken care of soon. The Historical Society volunteer deserve a mention of thanks for their recent work. The volunteers have painted and sealed the basement room along with moving the items in the attic into the basement.

Administrator's List – L. Shackford asked the Board to consider cancelling or rescheduling their meeting of the 8th as it falls on the same day as the Primary adding that accounts payable and payroll will be processed on Friday, Sept 4th in anticipation of the holiday and Primary. The Board decided to cancel the meeting on the 8th with L. Shackford contacting the Board when the manifest and checks are ready for signatures on Friday the 4th.

DPW Director's List – Cyr took a minute to explain the timeframe of the DES communications. Cyr explained that the dam inspection was done in May/June of 2019. A letter to the Town was first drafted on 04/01/2020 but not sent to the Town until 08/17/2020.

The grading of roads has been postponed from its usual schedule because of the recent drought conditions. Cyr explained that if the roads are graded with the present conditions, a swift rain could cause washouts.

Code Office Boyd – Boyd reported that his office has been very busy with multiple new projects being done in Town.

Police Department – Officer Mosher reported an incident over the weekend that may have stopped the misuse of Railroad Beach. Several juveniles were caught on the beach Saturday night with a campfire, a canoe and quite a mess. The one juvenile from Town cleaned up the beach the following morning.

Town Clerk Brooks – Brooks wanted to remind everyone that the ballots for the General Election in November will not be available until the Primary on September 8th has been decided.

SIGNATURE ITEMS

Manifest

Payroll & Accounts Payable Checks

Intent to Cuts: 109-015 Eastern Custom Builders

222-025, 027, 031 and 228-059 Hathaway

Veteran's Credit: 128-005

Purchase Requisition: Silver Lake Home Center 2020-GGBL-003 \$788.40

All State Asphalt Inc 2020-DPW-010 \$108,260.88

Revision Energy Step 1 Approval Letter #831

5:30 PM – J. Shackford made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Lord, and so voted **2-0**.

NEXT SELECTMEN'S MEETING – The next Selectmen's Meeting to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford,
Town Administrator