

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF MADISON
October 19, 2021
MINUTES**

Selectmen Present – William T. Lord, Josh Shackford, Michael A. Mauro

Others Present –DPW Director Jon Cyr; Chief Robert J. King, Jr; Officer Michael Mosher; Code Officer Bob Boyd; Town Clerk/Fire Chief Mike Brooks; Land Use Administrator Kim Cyr; Town Administrator Linda Shackford; MadTV Videographer Carol Dandeneau; Residents/Property Owners Kathy Koziell, Cailee Bergeron, Michael Veilleux, Nicole Nordlund, Ali Judkins, Sharon Shilling

Where and When Posted – Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on December 31, 2020.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by J. Shackford, seconded Mauro by to approve the minutes from October 5, 2021 as written. The motion passed **3-0**.

APPROVAL OF MANIFEST:

Motion by J. Shackford, seconded by Mauro to approve the Manifest of October 18-28, 2021 in the amount of \$423,156.79. The manifest breakdown is as follows: \$62,991.11 for Accounts Payable; \$31,769.58 for payroll; \$9,215.52 for payroll liabilities; \$19,180.58 for NHRS; and \$300,000 for MES. The motion passed 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Ali Judkins of Glines Hill Rd asked, as a follow up to her attendance at the September 21st meeting, if there has been any progress made regarding the emergency response system. Mauro stated that Action Ambulance has in their possession an E-911 map book with other copies to be obtained for their base depots. Their GPS has been upgraded and show the most direct routes. Three members of the fire department are being trained to be EMTs. Judkins asked why no local personnel responded to the call at her home that night. Chief Brooks said he does not have that information adding that the volunteer that did call in was out of town and was calling to assist the ambulance with directions.

DISCUSSION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS:

Veilleux Trees in the Goodwin Forest – Mike Veilleux of Lead Mine Road approached the Board about removal of trees. Veilleux explained that he went to the Conservation Commission with his concern about trees on Town property that surround his home asking for an assessment. The poplars and aspens are in sandy soil that lean toward his house. Tim Nolin was sent to the area to do the assessment and agreed that they are unpredictable trees. Veilleux stated that Nolin said that if this were his property, he would want the trees taken down. Veilleux is now before the Board for their opinion of what to do with the trees as he feels they are a threat to this property and guests.

Lord, citing the draft minutes of the October 6th Conservation Commission meeting, sees where the commission agreed that the trees are leaning but not damaged. The Commission was not in favor of removing trees that are not diseased or damaged. Lord stated that a professional agrees that they are not

diseased or damaged and do not need to come down; but Veilleux believes that strong winds could cause them to come down. Lord suggested that perhaps the Board could give Veilleux permission to cut the trees as his expense as the commission did not want to cut trees that were not diseased or damaged. Mauro would first like to have the trees to be cut identified, not just an open ended. Lord suggested marking the trees with Nolin reviewing. Veilleux stated there are about two dozen trees that could strike the house or vehicles that he already marked with yellow. Lord could appreciate Veilleux's concern, as Veilleux owns a small lot in the middle of the Town Forest. J. Shackford agreed with Lord's suggestion and brought up discussion about a policy for the removal of trees as mentioned in the Conservation Commission's minutes. Lord added that it was hoped the NH Association of Conservation Commission or NHMA may be able to assist in the development of a policy. It was decided that the Board will contact Nolin to inform his of their approval of the project and Veilleux will contact Nolin to schedule a site visit.

Borelli and Koziell Follow up to Oct 5 STR Discussion – Borelli and Koziell submitted a letter to the Board which Koziell read from aloud. The letter summarized other incidents of recent STR decisions that included Portsmouth and Kearsarge. Borelli and Koziell will be submitting a petition warrant article to have the definition of dwelling unit added to the zoning ordinance. Koziell is of the opinion that it is highly improper to discuss regulating an action that is not allowed.

J. Shackford stated that the Planning Board will be moving forward with definitions that will be discussed at a public hearing on November 3rd. The definitions will be an important part of how things move forward noting that they were written for the Board by Shawn Bergeron and can be changed, as that is the purpose of the public hearing. The Planning Board will also have to have a public hearing to address the petition warrant article to be submitted by Borelli and Koziell.

Snow Removal Policy Review – The Standard Operating Guidelines for Snow Removal and Ice Control were amended to reflect the plan for the coming winter season. Director Cyr's changes included route changes and driver updates.

Motion by Lord, seconded by Mauro to approve the changes made to the October 19, 2021 edition of the Standard Operating Guidelines for Snow Removal and Ice Control. The motion passed **3-0**.

CY2022 HealthTrust Renewal Rate Agreement – The 2022 HealthTrust medical premiums were received. The health insurance rates decreased by 8.1% and the dental insurance rates decreased by 1.5%. J. Shackford expressed how big of a deal this is as rates traditionally increase annually. Lord cited a chart that showed increases over the past few years of 10%, 6% and 7%. Lord signed the agreement.

Tamworth Transfer Station Improvement Committee Letter – A letter was received from the Tamworth Transfer Station Improvement Committee asking the Board to consider joining with neighboring towns to develop a regional facility for handling water and recyclable commodities. Cyr gave some background about the astronomical costs related to recycling. Tamworth is considering a bailing system which Cyr has concerns about the actual return on such an investment. Lord stated that since we have been hauling our own MSW since June, the town has saved almost \$10,000 in haul costs. Mauro does not see an upside to joining with Cyr agreeing. It is the opinion of the Board that the system we are following for the Town is working for us. The Board will respond to the Tamworth committee in writing that we appreciate the offer and are not willing to join.

Ratify Signing of Lien Release for Tardy – A welfare lien release for Map 205 Lot 46 from 1988 was discovered during the transfer of the property. L. Shackford was approached by the attorney for the buyer asking for it to be rectified. No records of the amount due could be located and the property has since changed hands several times. The release was signed and recorded.

OLD BUSINESS – There was none

Selectman Shackford's List – J. Shackford suggested using an auction to dispose of plows and vehicles no longer needed by the Town. King suggested a regional auctioneer noting that he has unused equipment to dispose of also. A list will be gathered to be considered for submission to an auction.

Selectman Mauro's List – No items

Selectman Lord's List - Lord began discussion noting that with 79% of the year behind us, we have spent 74% on the budget. Lord also brought up:

- The boat clean-up at the Foot of the Lake has been completed. Chief King said that only vessels with deeded rights remain. Next year if there is an issue it was suggested that a fee be assessed to be able to reclaim boats left without proper permission that had to be removed;
- The installation of the stairs on the Historical Society has been completed. This will help to reduce erosion. A railing is still to be added. Cyr noted that conduit was installed while during project to add a future light to the shed in the back of the building;
- The eight-year saga of the junkyard on Village Road has come to a close with the collection of over \$11,000 in fines and attorney fees;
- Lord asked Chief King for an update on the school path committee. King responded that a meeting has not yet been set up and took the opportunity to enlist Mauro to the committee. Mauro accepted;
- The Conservation Commission has been asked by Green Mountain Conservation Group to contribute to the cost of performing a survey and paying legal fees to transfer ownership of a parcel of land. The land, now owned by Blankenstein, was sold at auction by the Town in 1994 for \$800. The Conservation Commission suggested a donation of \$5,000. After research, Lord found that this transaction of donating funds to this endeavor is legally not allowed as the Town has never adopted the RSA to allow it;
- A volunteer agreed to do conservation work that included brush management and culvert installations for erosion control Kiljockey and Goe Hill Road Class A Municipal Trails. The Conservation Commission is thankful for their help and just like other projects is willing to reimburse for materials used;
- An increase to the Board members annual reimbursement was suggested during review of the executive lines at the ABC meeting. It has been 8 years since an increase was approved from \$5,000 to \$6,000 annually. Other local towns range from \$3,000 to \$6,600. It will be left to the ABC and voters to approve an increase to \$7,000 annually.

Administrator's List – No items

Department Heads' List:

Chief Brooks:

- Rescue 1 has been delivered to Dingee to begin the prep of the body. A December 8th delivery date of the chassis to Dingee is anticipated. Mauro asked what will become of the old chassis.

Brooks was unsure but would like to work out a deal with Dingee as opposed to taking it back to Town. J. Shackford asked Brooks to negotiate something with Dingee with Brooks responding he will do that and bring back any plan for ratification of the Board;

- The air-pack recharge station is up and running but not yet being utilized as test results have not been received; and
- The paperwork entry progress is coming along. Entry of April data was completed today.

Chief King:

- King reported that a demo for the adult daycare was performed today with Maverick. A vest is still in need for Maverick with possible assistance from a company called “Vested Interested”; and
- The K-9 insert still needs to be installed in the new pick-up cruiser before handing over the retired cruiser to the Code department. King anticipates this to happen the end of this week.

Code Officer Boyd:

- Permit applications continue to be coming in with ninety more compared to this same time last year. Ninety permits equate to 300 more inspections overall; and
- Mauro noted that a cleanup in Madison Shores is complete thanks to the persistence of Boyd and the violators neighbors.

Director Cyr:

- Cyr submitted a purchase requisition at a past meeting that was approved for a plow frame for the 6-wheeler. Viking-Cives has assured immediate delivery but ended up being 90 days to this new quote is with HP Fairfield with immediate availability. Lord noted that his purchase will standardize the frames and make them interchangeable along with the price being less than the original quote. J. Shackford confirmed that this expense will be paid for out of the Highway Heavy Equipment ETF.

Motion by Lord, seconded by J. Shackford to approve the purchase requisition for HP Fairfield as replacement for the Viking-Cives. The motion passed **3-0**;

- Cyr received pricing from HP Fairfield to hookup the hydraulic lines for the plow on the grader. It will be estimated at a little over \$6,000. An estimate from Chadwick-Barros, without the lines was at \$9,700. This would be paid for out of the Highway Heavy Equipment ETF;
- The toilet situation at Town Hall has finally been rectified. Cyr found that the lack of venting caused a clog that was fixed today; and
- The radio improvements are in the works with King working with VDOE about the tower use.

SIGNATURE ITEMS

Manifest

Payroll & Accounts Payable Checks

Yield Tax: 21-283-07-T Cody 223-009 \$5,285.69

MS-535 Financial Report of the Budget

2021 Equalization Municipal Assessment Data Certificate

5:36 PM - Lord made a **motion** to go into **Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3II (a)** The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.

Roll call vote: Lord – aye; Shackford – aye; Mauro – aye

5:55 PM – Lord made a **motion** to return to public session and seal two sets of minutes under RSA 91-A:3II (a) seconded by J. Shackford and so voted **3-0**.

5:55 PM – Mauro made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Lord, and so voted **3-0**.

NEXT SELECTMEN’S MEETING – The next Selectmen’s Meeting is scheduled for November 2, 2021 commencing at 4:30 pm in the lower level of Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford,
Town Administrator