

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN OF MADISON  
February 7, 2023  
MINUTES**

**Selectmen Present** – Josh L. Shackford, Michael A. Mauro, John Arruda

**Others Present** – TC/TC Fire Chief Michael Brooks; Town Administrator Linda Shackford; Chief Robert King, Jr.; Officer Jake Martin; Foreman Justin Chick; DPW Dave Swift; Rec Program Adam Price; School Board Member Jim Curran; Resident Nick Borelli, Dave Cribbie, Michael Veilleux; MadTV Videographers Aysia Morency and Amanda Hayford; members of the public

**Where and When Posted** – Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on December 20, 2022.

**Meeting Called to Order** – By J. Shackford at 4:30 pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** J. Shackford led all in attendance in reciting the Pledge.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion** by Mauro, seconded by Arruda to approve the minutes of January 24, 2023 as written. The motion passed **3-0**.

**Motion** by Mauro, seconded by Arruda to approve the non-public minutes of January 24, 2023 made public as written. The motion passed **3-0**.

**APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:**

Motion by Mauro, seconded by Arruda to approve the Manifest of February 6-13, 2023 in the amount of \$328,036.53. The manifest breakdown is as follows: \$83,246.81 for accounts payable; \$34,519.14 for payroll; \$10,270.58 for payroll liabilities; and \$200,000 for MES. The motion passed **3-0**.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Michael Veilleux spoke with the Board regarding the repair of the footbridge over the Silver Lake Dam hoping that the Board would consider looking into opening the footpath at Snake Road. J. Shackford remembers there being some contention years ago, thinking it may be referenced in the Class VI Road study. J. Shackford stated it will be looked into.

Jim Curran, School Board Chairman, asked the Board if there has been any movement regarding the MOU with the school for the Rec Program. The Board has not acted upon it as the Town has mechanisms in place with the MOU seeming redundant. Curran hope both the school and the BOS can work together on it.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS:**

**Letters of Appreciation to Fire and Police** – Two letter were received by the Board expressing thanks for service received from Town departments. The Lord family thanked Lieutenant Hayford and Officer Martin for assistance during the memorial services for their late mother. Another letter from the Carpenter School student thanking the Fire Department for their assistance during a fire near their school in Wolfeboro. The Board praised Hayford, Martin and Jesseman for their work.

**Request to Purchase the Old Radar Trailer** – The police department obtained a new radar trailer last year. Sean Pinard on behalf of the Scrub Oak Scrambler Snowmobile Club (SOS) has offered to purchase the old one to use for their annual radar runs. The SOS offered \$100 for the used trailer. Chief King is in favor of this sale stating the club has borrowed it before. The LED screen works and it is in need of new batteries. J. Shackford remembered that when the trailer was purchased the club donated \$500 towards its purchase to both Madison and Freedom’s trailers. J. Shackford suggested asking \$1.00 for the trailer with the Arruda and Mauro in agreement. L. Shackford will reach out to the Pinard and process the sale.

**Ballfield and Pavilion Grant Discussion with Price** – Price brought to the Board’s attention two grant opportunities. There is a T-Mobile grant offering a possible \$50,000 that could be used for improving the upper ballfield with Price admitting he is not very familiar with the details. King offered to look into the details on this grant.

The other opportunity that Price suggested is a State of NH Block Grant Funding at an 85/15 match that could be used towards the construction of the pavilion. Price suggested using this grant to make the pavilion larger and include a basketball court. Cribbie asked if these are shovel ready projects with Brooks stating there are plans for the project done. Price will look into it with the larger building idea and asked where it would be located. Brooks stated the plan has been to put it on the edge of the wood line near where the septic plan has been approved.

**Veilleux Request to Remove the HSC Designation** – The discussion continued from the January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting was deemed unnecessary by the Board as the Town has received a petition warrant article regarding the designation change. Mike Veilleux noted that J. Shackford had some concerns at the last meeting and Veilleux was hoping to answer them. J. Shackford had nothing to share about his concerns.

**Review of 2023 Proposed Budget and Warrant** – Arruda started the review of the warrant articles with discussion being noted:

Article #5 Road Paving: Arruda asked Foreman Chick if he feels the \$200,000 is enough to get the proposed 2023 paving done. Chick stated it depends on the AC prices at the time.

Article #19 Ballfield: The Board was presented with two options from Attorney Johnston’s review; either an ETF or a non-lapsing fund. The Board chose the ETF and adjusted the wording to broaden the scope of how the funds can be used to Burke Field, not just the ballfield at Burke Field.

Article #22 Rec Director: Price asked if there would be some way to express that if article #22 passes then \$12,400 would not be needed in Article #2’s Rec Program operating budget line. After discussion, it was decided to leave the article as is and take that into consideration while spending that line.

The petition warrant article regarding the change in designation of Lead Mine Road was decided to be placed just before the petition charity articles.

Arruda noted that the operating budgets of Articles #2-4 comprise a 3.6% increase over last year with the overall warrant having an increase of 7.8%.

Article #13 Forest Maintenance account funds: J. Shackford read aloud the opinion of counsel on how those funds are to be handled:

“You asked whether the conservation commission has free control over spending the appropriation from the forest maintenance account. The answer is no—spending is controlled by the selectmen. I think I remember correctly that when this account was created in 1988, the town voted to give management responsibility to the conservation commission, which is fine. But that doesn't give them spending authority. In general, town funds can be spent only by order of the selectmen, with some exceptions. (See RSA 41:29.) One exception is the conservation fund, which the conservation commission does have control over. But the forest maintenance account is not one of the listed exceptions, and therefore expenditures can be made only by order of the selectmen.”

**OLD BUSINESS:** The Lead Mine Road designation discussion was held under discussion items.

**Selectman Arruda's List** – No items

**Selectman Mauro's List** – No items

**Selectman Shackford's List** – A pleasant phone call to the DPW was received from Laurie Corron of Lead Mine Road. She expressed her appreciation for the condition of Lead Mine Road during a recent storm, especially in comparison to the State road she travelled to get home. J. Shackford thanked Corron for her kind words and the DPW crew appreciated it too.

Arruda, on an opposite note, told of the Transfer Station attendants being chastised for closing at 4:00pm when someone needed to unload their trash at closing time, not to mention doing so in the sub-zero temperatures.

**Department Heads' Lists:**

**Chief King:** King told the story of having a 3-hour ordeal with a driver that followed their GPS into the unmaintained portion of Lead Mine Road. King suggested more signage.

**Chief/Town Clerk Brooks:** The cycling of vehicles for annual service is underway. The cascade system is working thanks to a new amperage switch. The filing period for elections closes this coming Friday.

**Adam Price:** There will be a cornhole tournament this Friday and a Winter Carnival Dance on February 24<sup>th</sup> sponsored by the Rec Program.

**Dave Swift:** The new 40-yard container is ready to be picked up. Ricker's is interested in purchasing our old containers and has offered \$500. The Board was in agreement with the sale.

Swift mentioned the idea of a ramjet container/compactor for plastic, cardboard and paper recycling. The facility prefers to take those materials compacted together. Swift also suggested using one of the old containers as storage for some the DPW implements the keep them out of the weather. Swift will get some number together and get them to the Board.

**Foreman Chick:** The crew is working at pushing back snow banks, it is going slow due to the frozen snow. The 416 is being fixed. The Kenworth will be taken to a shop to be fixed after two-weeks of being out of service. Arruda asked Chick to place glass grinding and the brush pile on the list of things to do in the spring.

**Administrator's List** – At the request of Doug McAllister, L. Shackford asked the Board to place the effect on taxes for each article on the warrant. L. Shackford noted that it is on the summary page. Brooks thinks it is not something that DRA will allow. The Board was not in favor of making the change as the information is available.

The Equalization Rate for 2022 has been received from DRA. The 2022 rate is 63% down from 99.7% in 2020 when the re-valuation was completed.

**SIGNATURE ITEMS**

Manifest

Payroll & Accounts Payable Checks

Veterans Credit Application: Powers 112-010-028

Land Use Change Tax: Shackford 247-036-001 \$9,000

Mosher 228-007 \$5,500

**5:58 PM Motion** by J. Shackford to enter **Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3II (c)** Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant and **Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3II (b)** The hiring of any person as a public employee.

Roll call vote: J. Shackford – aye; Mauro – aye; Arruda – aye

**6:50 PM** – J. Shackford made a **motion** to return to public session and seal the of minutes under RSA 91-A:3II (c) and make public the minutes under RSA 91-A:3II (b) seconded by Mauro and so voted **3-0**.

**6:50 PM** – J. Shackford made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Mauro, and so voted **3-0**.

**NEXT SELECTMEN’S MEETING** – The next Selectmen’s Meeting is scheduled February 21, 2023 commencing at 4:30 pm at the Madison Town Hall meeting room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford,  
Town Administrator