

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF MADISON
February 21, 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; Resident Nick Borelli, Sharon Schilling; MadTV Videographers Kasia Scontsas; other 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 and non-public minutes made public of February 7, 2023 as written. The motion passed **3-0**.

APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:

Motion by Mauro, seconded by Arruda to approve the Manifest of February 21-27, 2023 in the amount of \$706,712.58. The manifest breakdown is as follows: \$46,350.82 for accounts payable; \$30,987.65 for payroll; \$8892.10 for payroll liabilities; \$20,482.01 for NHRS; and \$200,000 and \$400,000 for MES. The motion passed **3-0**.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mauro expressed his opinion regarding recent meetings he feels have gotten out of hand. Calling people liars will not be tolerated and if it continues to occur those people will be asked to leave.

Sharon Schilling questioned the Board regarding a recent sale of the used radar trailer asking if there is a threshold for when an item has to go to bid. Arruda stated that generally automobiles go to bid.

J. Shackford referenced the RSA that puts Town property in the charge of the Selectmen to do with as they see fit. This was an odd sale and J. Shackford explained that the club has used this trailer for years, it needs a lot of work and when it was originally purchased the snowmobile club donated \$500 towards its purchase. King noted that repairs to the unit were estimated to be about \$1,000 adding that police equipment is generally sent to auctioneer specifically for that equipment, not to the general public.

Schilling asked if any more research had been done to see if DRA allows the impact on taxes value to be placed on the warrant. No research had been done. Brooks remembers that Town Meeting voted for the recommendation of the BOS to be on the warrant adding that he is not in favor of it for two reasons; the information is in the Town Report and those numbers could be used against the Board. Schilling sees it as an effort to be transparent. Arruda used an example that a \$3.9 million dollar budget is \$6.53/\$1,000 but in actuality it will be more like \$4.00/\$1,000; he feels the numbers are only good for comparison to other articles.

Schilling noted the decrease in the DPW budget because there is no director and asked what is happening with that position. J. Shackford expressed his personal opinion that the Town is small enough that we do not need a director, we need a working foreman, working police chief and a working fire chief. Chick is the foreman and J. Shackford would like to see how that works out. The Transfer Station has Arruda and Swift overseeing it.

DISCUSSION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS:

Request for Boat Ramp Fee Change – Brian Gosselin of Milton asked the Board to again consider his request for a day pass program for use of the boat ramp. Gosselin works locally and likes to fish early and leave early from the lake with his electric motorized aluminum boat. Gosselin feels the \$100 annual fee is restrictive suggesting \$10 - \$15/day. Gosselin proposed a system that a user can go on line and purchase a day pass off the website. J. Shackford talked of past discussion of the Board on just this issue and reminded how beach day passes were passed around. J. Shackford stated he would call Gosselin in the next couple of days to talk about the issue.

2023 Warrant – The 2023 warrant language has been approved by the Department of Revenue, the library numbers adjusted and the recommendations made at the Budget Hearing have been incorporated. The Board signed the warrant.

Intent to Cut: Town Property 233-084 – J. Shackford explained that Tim Nolin of Forest Land Improvements has submitted paperwork for the cutting on the Town Hall lot. The cut will begin behind the fire station, go around the DPW garage and select cut out on the conservation land. The pines around the ballfield will be removed leaving the hardwoods. The cut will be on 20 acres of the 56-acre lot. Schilling asked why it is being cut with J. Shackford responding for several reasons that include that the pines around the ballfield cause the soil to be acidic which is on conducive to grass growing, the future need for space for an eventual salt/sand/vehicle storage shed, that the conservation land has not been cut in 20 years and there is a market for pine at this time. The Board signed the intent, a contract with Forest Land Improvements and a contract with Taylor Logging.

OLD BUSINESS: There was none.

Selectman Arruda's List – Arruda asked the Board to consider taking Attorney Johnston's offer to send an attorney in his place for Town Meeting as he will be moderating his home town's that same day. The Board agreed with the suggestion. L. Shackford will ask Attorney Johnston to fill this request. Arruda spoke of a sign for the Transfer Station that reiterates that facility permits need to be affixed to the vehicle. Two people in the public expressed their objection to having to affix a sticker to their vehicle to which Arruda answered that he has to stop people at the station and ask to see the sticker.

Selectman Shackford's List – No items

Selectman Mauro's List – No items

Administrator's List – No items

Department Heads' List:

TC TC Fire Chief Brooks – No items.

Foreman Chick – The DPW is repairing for the next storm and hope the soft roads fair well.

DPW Swift – The opportunity to get a quote new and used 40yd compactor has come up through Atlantic Recycling. This would allow cardboard, mixed paper and plastics to be put together and made more appealing to ECO-Maine.

SIGNATURE ITEMS

Manifest

Payroll & Accounts Payable Checks

MS-636 Proposed 2023 Budget

Purchase Requisition: 2023-POLI-001 Timberwolf Cyber \$1,402.50

5:29 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 March 7, 2023 commencing at 4:30 pm at the Madison Town Hall meeting room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford,
Town Administrator