



TOWN OF MADAWASKA
328 St. Thomas Street Suite 101, Madawaska, Maine 04756
207-728-6351

******AMENDED AGENDA******

Madawaska Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee Joint Meeting VIA ZOOM Minutes

Zoom Link to be Posted on the Town Website @ townofmadawaska.com

Tuesday April 6, 2021 5:00 pm

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Douglas Cyr, Laurie Gagnon, Jason Boucher, Manon Raymond, Daniel Daigle

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Chris Braley, Ken Gendreau, Gary Dufour, Adam Desrosier

TOWN MANAGER: Gary M. Picard

RECORDING SECRETARY: Nathalie Morneau

OTHERS PRESENT: Joy Bures (Aroostook Agency on Aging), Sharon Boucher (SJV Chamber), Francis Gendreau (Madawaska Historical Society), Verna Deschaine (SJV Associates), Jason Parent (ACAP), Ross Dubois

Board of Selectmen Chairman Doug Cyr calls the meeting to order at 5:02 PM and established a quorum with Selectmen Laurie Gagnon, Jason Boucher, Manon Raymond and Daniel Daigle.

Finance Committee Chair Chris Braley calls the meeting to order at 5:02 PM and established a quorum with Ken Gendreau, Gary Dufour, and Adam Desrosier.

- **Pledge of Allegiance.**

ARTICLES BOARD OF SELECTMEN & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 1 To Consider the 1st Draft of the Town of Madawaska Municipal Budget.

The Expense Budget Summary is showing a net decrease of \$110,400.

Madawaska Historical Society – Francis Gendreau gave a presentation on what has been done and what remains to be done. The UDAG loan that was borrowed has been paid in full. Half of the roof of the Albert House is completed, the second half needs to be completed. They have currently spray foamed the holes for the winter as a temporary fix. The Gazebo is falling of its blocks. An unfinished ramp needs to be completed for the School House. The Historical Society is planning on opening June 14, and to hold a mass on June 27.

Aroostook County Action Program (ACAP) – Jason Parent gave a presentation for ACAP. The program had 1,263 occasions it served the residents of Madawaska in 2020. Some Programs they give assistance to are school age youth programs, Healthcare, Rental assistance programs, Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), temporary overflow shelters, head start program bus to Fort Kent site, and a weatherization program to name a few. The appropriation they are requesting is \$807 which is based on a 20¢ per person per capita based on the community population.

St John Valley Associates, Inc – Verna Deschaine made a presentation to the boards. They had a loss in revenue due to COVID.

SJV Chamber of Commerce – Appropriation is down to \$13,200. If the town uses the chamber for events, they will take monies out of the community development activities line. The chamber would like to have board members in other communities involved to get to know their needs and also bring in new members.



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- A suggestion was made to be move involved in outdoor sports. Ex. Snowmobiling
- Document events on what chamber role was.
- To do more for Small Business Saturday

Aroostook Agency on Aging - Presentation was done by Joy Barresi. 75% of elderly remain home in the community. Madawaska is the oldest community in the county which is made up of 40% population is over age 65 years old. Agency services 370 residence. Agency has over 20 programs offered.

Intergovernmental Expense- Dept 710

County Tax went up 25,941.

Street Lights – No longer pay a lease fee. Municipal Owned LED lights.

Acadian Festival – Why are they requesting money again this year, due to not having a festival last year. Need to look into the balance in account.

Overall increase of 12,135.

6:28 P.M. **Chris Braley motions to adjourn for Finance Committee. Ken Gendreau seconds the motion.**

ARTICLES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF BUSINESS

- **Public Participation; closed to in- person participation, participation via written comments.**

This portion of the meeting is to allow the public to inform the Board regarding their concerns. During Board of Selectmen meetings closed to in-person public participation, persons interested in addressing the Board shall do so by submitting written comments to the Town Manager no later than noon on the day of the Board Meeting. Comments received will be distributed to the Board and read aloud. Please be advised that individuals addressing concerns will be placed on the Board's next regular meeting agenda unless the issue addressed is one of an emergency nature. The Chairperson or Acting Chairperson will use his/her discretion as to whether action on any particular issue should be taken at this meeting. Items regarding personnel issues or town employees cannot be discussed in open session. **Board Meetings can be viewed live by accessing the link on the Town's website @ www.townofmadawaska.com or www.stjohnvalley.live.**

A letter was provided by a citizen and read out loud.

6:30 P.M. **Daniel Daigle motions to open discussion for the matter at hand.** Chairmen Douglas Cyr asks for a second twice. No second was made. Motion did not carry.

Article 1 To a Sewer Abatement Request for account #40675.

Water District submitted a letter for an adjustment on the water consumption.

6:34 P.M. **Jason Boucher motions to accept the sewer abatement request for account #40675 in the amount of \$224. Manon Raymond seconds the motion. 3 board members are in favor and Daniel Daigle opposes. Motion Carries.**

Article 2 To Consider the Renewal Membership and appointee to the Maine Service Centers Coalition.



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6:36 P.M. Manon Raymond motions to renew the membership to t the Maine Service Centers Coalition and to appoint Gary M Picard as the representative for Madawaska. Laurie Gagnon seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 3 To Consider a Request for the Board of Selectman to Adopt a 2nd Amendment Sanctuary Amendment.

6:40 P.M. Laurie Gagnon motions to discuss. Daniel Daigle Seconds the motion.

- It is our right, responsibility to protect the 2nd amendment right, and individuals stands up for their rights.
- Feelings are running off of political lines
- Who decides when the Police Department can/cannot enforce laws?

Douglas Cyr asks for a motion to adopt the 2nd amendment Sanctuary as written. Laurie Gagnon, Manon Raymond and Jason Boucher voted No. Daniel Daigle votes yes. Motion did not carry.

6:49 P.M. Daniel Daigle motions to bring the 2nd Amendment Sanctuary as a warrant article at Town Meeting with the review of the wording prior to Town Meeting, Laurie Gagnon seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 4 To Consider a Property Tax Abatement for Real Estate Account #2349, Town Request.

When property was sold amounts were not taken care of at the time of demolition. Building is now gone with a new owner.

6:54 P.M. Manon Raymond motions to approve the property tax abatement for real estate account #2349 in the amount of \$3,701.81. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and Daniel Daigle abstains. Motion Carries.

Article 5 To Consider a Proposal by CAI-AxisGIS for Digitization of the Town Tax Maps, and Online GIS Tax Map Access System.

Paper Maps were last updated in 2016. The proposed digital maps system would cost \$24,000, with an annual fee of \$1,900. This is only \$900 more than previous budgeted before. The system would have streetview, search by name, address, map/lot, and assessment data.

6:59 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to accept the proposal by the CAI-AxisGIS for the digitization of the Town Tax Maps, and Online GIS Tax Map Access System as presented. Laurie Gagnon seconds the motion. 3 Board members are in favor and Daniel Daigle opposes. Motion Carries.

Other Business:

- A request by Reed & Reed Contractor would like to use the old trailer park along Mill Street to park office trailers. They would utilize the area until 2024.

7:06 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to rent the area to Reed & Reed for \$250/month as long as the property is returned back to the current state when they vacate. Daniel Daigle seconds the motion. 3 board members are in favor and 1 opposes. Motion carries.



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Next Board Meetings:

- Thursday April 15 – Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting
- Tuesday April 20- Budget Discussion Only – Board of Selectmen Only

Adjourn

7:15 P.M. **Manon Raymond motions to adjourn. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.**