



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

**Madawaska Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes**  
**Madawaska High School Library**  
**August 4, 2020 at 5:30 pm**

**SELECTMEN PRESENT:** Doug Cyr, Laurie Gagnon, Jason Boucher, Daniel Daigle, and Manon Raymond

**TOWN MANAGER:** Gary M. Picard

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Nathalie Morneault

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kevin Dube, Paul Lausier, Sherri Hebert, Sharon Boucher, Priscilla Cannan, Dayton Cannan, Gerald Ouellette, Caryl Albert, Keith Cyr, George Cyr, Bert Lachance, Tommy Peters, Yves Lizotte, Jamie Pelletier, Mark L. Cyr, Gary Dufour, Ricky Nadeau, Dean Collins

**Chairman Doug Cyr calls the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and established a quorum with Selectmen Laurie Gagnon, Jason Boucher, Daniel Daigle, and Manon Raymond.**

**Article 1** Pledge of Allegiance.

**Article 2** Public Participation.

Paul Lausier asked if the K-Mart parking lot can be paved.

Priscilla Cannan spoke regarding Green Point Road having potholes and wants an explanation as to when it can be fixed and paved. The Lake area pays a lot of taxes and they have to wait/beg. Also, speed is also an issue on the road, she asked if the speed could be reduced to 25 mph and to have at least 3 Children at play signs put in as there are none.

*The Town of Madawaska cannot enforce a MDOT recommended signs even if it is a town road.  
The Police Department will bring up the speed radar and get data on the traffic use on Green Point road.*

Dean Collins asked for clarification on revenue sharing. Also, stated Green Point Road is becoming a hazard with potholes. He also asked why is the paving project that was approved at town meeting on hold. He also voiced from the Golf Course to Baie Cruse the road is in terrible shape.

Sherri Hebert asked who assess the conditions of the road.

Mark L. Cyr would like to know about the status of undeveloped Cannan Drive and Reed Street. *This will need to be revisited as its own agenda item.*

Tommy Peters would like to use the field by the Boy Scout Building from the days of August 21-30<sup>th</sup> for a tent revival. He would set up his own tent and take care of garbage.

Yves Lizotte would like to know when the center lines will be painted in the back roads specifically on Gagnon Road.

Paul Lausier would like to see a department store in town.



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Daniel Daigle asked if there was any confirmation on ownership near the Dionne’s (Rob and Kelsey) and the Snowmobile Club. Mike Cyr would need to be contacted for surveying of the pins/boundaries.

**Article 3** To Consider Other Business and Adjustments to the Agenda.

- 1. Approval of Minutes

**6:10 P.M.** **Laurie Gagnon motions to approve the minutes of June 8, 18, 25 and July 1 as written. Doug Cyr seconds the motion as written.** *\*Laurie and Doug were the remaining board members for these dates, the 3 members were not elected at the time. Minute approval is a formality.*

- 2. Bill on the US Senate

Gary Picard and Doug Cyr talked about how Susan Collins mentions Town of Madawaska today on the Senate floor. Susan Collins co-sponsored the Smart Act and is advocating hard of funds for the local and state government.

- 3. Other Business

Manon Raymond would like to see the minutes having more content and more detailed.

**Article 4** To Consider the Treasurers Warrants.

**6:25 P.M.** **Jason Boucher motions to accept the Treasurers Warrants as presented. Manon Raymond seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.**

**Article 5** To Consider the Appointments of Board of Selectmen to the Northern Aroostook Regional Airport Authority, the Madawaska Public Library, Valley Recycling Facility, Finance Committee, and the Police Department Association.

**6:30 P.M.** **Manon Raymond motions to appoint the following to represent the board of selectmen to the committees:**

Library	Manon Raymond
VRF - Valley Recycling Facility	Doug Cyr
Northern Maine Regional Airport	Jason Boucher
Finance Committee	Laurie Gagnon
Police Department Association	Doug Cyr

**Daniel Daigle Seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.**

**Article 6 will be moved to the end of the meeting, after Article 12.**

**Article 7** To Consider a Sewer Abatement Request for Account # 131.

Mr. Morin came into the town office to have account changed to a maintenance fee rate due to the business being closed. It was never switched over therefore has asked for an abatement.



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**6:31 P.M.** Daniel Daigle motions to approve the abatement for accounts UT#131 to reflect the \$75 maintenance fee. Manon Raymond seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

**Article 8** To Consider the Reimbursement of Boost Program Expenses by the UDAG Program to the St John Valley Chamber of Commerce.

The St. John Valley Chamber of Commerce is looking for reimbursement of funds due to the use of chamber supplies, check fees, postage fees, and additional administrative fees encountered during the additional certificates being allocated to the program.

**6:45 P.M.** Daniel Daigle motions to approve the \$3,000 reimbursement request for the STV Chamber of Commerce to be taken out of the UDAG program. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

**Article 9** To Consider a Notice of Surplus Determination from the United States General Services Administration for the Former Twin Rivers Paper Warehouse on Mill St.

GSA is looking to Dispose / Remove the former Twin Rivers Paper Warehouse located on Mill Street. The Town of Madawaska has the option to bid on the property by August 23, 2020 and would need to be removed by October 1, 2020. Board of Selectmen asked if Public Works could use the building as an Equipment/Sand storage building. Realistically, cost to bid, remove, and move building would not be cost effective at this time. By Consensus, the board choose to deny consideration at this time. *No motion was needed.*

**Article 10** Updates by the Public Works Director on Road Projects

Public Works gave an update on their road repair projects for July on the road by Richard Dionne's, Omerine Dionne, Whispering Pines, and Lavertu. They are now looking for guidance from the board on what to do going forward with no budget. The budget can continue to run off last years budget under the continuing resolution from COVID.

**7:15 P.M.** Laurie Gagnon motions to reaffirm the decision of using 50% of last years budget to be used to move forward with patching and road repairs. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

**Article 11** Updates by the Economic Director on the Madawaska / CDBG Facades Program.

Economic Director Keith Cyr presented the board with a draft version of the façade guidelines and application that would be used for businesses to apply for this program. \$100,000 of grant funds is available but does not have to be spent all in one time. There is an advisory committee in place to review applications per grant rules. This area of grant funds is only available to businesses from Mill Street to Kmart Plaza.

No motion was taken by the board, but moving forward to make more opportunities available for the businesses outside the downtown for grants.



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**Article 12** Town Manager's Report.

- International Bridge Project – Bids are set to go out in November 2020. Construction is set to begin in Spring of 2021.
- Madawaska Port of Entry Project – Bids are set to go out this fall 2020. Project should start Spring 2021.
- St. John Valley Chamber of Commerce 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Flea Market – Event is to be held in the Kmart parking lot on August 13-16. Participants will set up under tents.
- Potential Solar Project in St. David – A company has secured land in St. David for a Solar project. The plans are currently in front of the planning board.
- November 2020 Elections – With the COVID situation / restrictions it is most likely the Multi-Purpose will be used to host the elections. The only concern will be to heat the building.
- Downtown pocket parks progress – Final coat of pavement is left to be done in the parking area, stringing of the lights is to be installed, remainder of planting of trees, flowers, and shrubs, and installing concrete curbs at the parking lot.

**Next Meeting:** Joint Finance and Board of Selectmen Meeting – Review Budget – August 11 & 12 at 5 pm at the High School.

Next Regular Meeting: It would need to be discussed as an article Mark Cyr – Reed Ave/ Cannan Street, Pit in Frenchville, and the Snowmobile Club / Dionne's.

**Article 6** To Consider a Property Tax Poverty Abatement Application per 36 M.R.S.A. § 841, Executive Session Recommended per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (F).

**8:10 P.M.** Laurie Gagnon motions to enter into executive session for a property tax poverty abatement application per "36 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(F)". Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

**8:26 P.M.** Manon Raymond motions to exit out of executive session for the abatement request application per "36 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(F)". Daniel Daigle seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

**Post-Executive Session Action:**

Jason Boucher motions to deny property tax poverty abatement application case #8-3-2020. Manon Raymond seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

**Adjourn**

Daniel Daigle motions to adjourn at **8:30 p.m.** Laurie Gagnon seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.