



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

Madawaska Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Madawaska Town Office Board Chambers
February 7, 2022, at 5:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard J. Dionne, Christopher Braley, Jason Boucher, Doug Cyr, Manon Raymond

TOWN MANAGER: Gary M. Picard

RECORDING SECRETARY: Nathalie Morneault

OTHERS PRESENT: Paul Lausier, Jim Soucy, Pierrette Soucy, Denise Duperre, Paul Desjardins, Philip Clavette, Eric Cyr, Roland Michaud, Alex Levesque, Brian Stoliker

Board of Selectmen Chairman Richard Dionne calls the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and established a quorum with Selectmen Christopher Braley, Jason Boucher, Manon Raymond, and Doug Cyr.

- **Pledge of Allegiance.**
- **Public Participation.**

This portion of the meeting is to allow the public to inform the Board regarding their concerns. Public Participation is limited to ten minutes, of which two minutes will be allotted individually. 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.

Paul Lausier made the board aware the squirt disinfecting bottles are not working at the gym if they could get disinfecting wipes instead. Also, 2 of the tether safety clips are broken on the treadmills.

Jim Soucy, Fire Chief along with the Rescue Team made the board aware of their concerns for the 1994 snowmobile and 2004 Side by Side ATV condition. The 1994 snowmobile was a donated machine which has pieces from 3 machines in 1. When doing rescue trainings there is always a problem. Currently, it has stopped working. It was brought into Daigle's Sport Center due to the clutch not working right. The 2004 Side by Side ATV is unreliable. The 4 x 4 does not work. The department is looking and wanting a Side by Side with tracks, which would leave them with one machine to take care of. Chief Soucy has submitted a Grant for a Side by Side with tracks and was denied. Some manufacturers give discounts for municipalities. When pricing out an ATV a price was given of \$35,000 with tracks, it is now \$38,000. There is no lease to own option. The department is asking for something dependable nothing fancy. What they are asking for is a side-by-side setup as a fire unit which has multiple uses. Chief Soucy plans on putting this issue in next years budget.

Article 1 To Consider Other Business and Adjustments to the Agenda.

Article 4 will need to be tabled to a later date; the presenter was not able to make the meeting.



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5:46 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to Table Article 4 to a later date. Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 2 To Consider the Board Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2022.

5:47 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to approve the Board Meeting Minutes for January 24, 2022 as presented. Douglas Cyr seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 3 To Consider the Treasurer's Warrants.

5:48 P.M. Christopher Braley motions to accept the Treasurer's Warrants as presented. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 4 To Consider a Work Order Proposal by the Town's Engineer's, Woodard and Curran, for the Next Phase of Planning & Engineering of the Kmart Plaza Infrastructure & Revitalization Project.

Article 5 To Consider a Public Information Requests Procedure & Fee Policy.

A request for Information Application was presented to the board. All requests will be responded within 5 calendar days from receiving the request in hand. This application follows the state law and the state law limits what can be done.

5:50 P.M. Douglas Cyr motions to approve the Public Information Request Procedure & Fee Policy as presented. Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 6 Correspondence Sent to Elected Officials Regarding Recent Electricity Rate Increases.

Town Manager and Board have received letters and numerous calls regarding the electrical rate hikes. Correspondence have been submitted to representatives in Augusta. *No action needed.*

Article 7 Correspondence from Spirit of America Foundation.

Spirit of America Tribute is asking the Board of Selectmen to pick a local person or group to receive the 2022 Madawaska Spirit of America Foundation Tribute for outstanding community service. The board can think this over and come up with a nominee at the next meeting.

Article 8 To Consider an Agreement for Payment in Lieu of Taxes

Engie the Solar Project that is located in St. David has agreed to pay Town of Madawaska an annual payment in lieu of taxes. The amount would be \$2,000 per megawatt.



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6:00 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to approve the agreement for the payment in lieu of taxes agreement by Engie. Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 9 Town Manager Report.

- Caribou Solar – In the next couple weeks will execute agreement
- Audit – waiting on school portion to finish the town audit.
- Recreation Department – Sam Cyr has given his resignation for Recreation Department Director. The job posting has now been advertised in house, Fiddlehead Focus, and Opportunities Aroostook. Our current Program Director has only been in the position for a little over a month.
- Town Manager recognized several staff members for going above and beyond.
- Kmart Plaza Redevelopment Project – Asbestos work has started in the plaza.
- Economic Development Agency – grant application was submitted for infrastructure work at the shopping plaza.
- Madawaska Police Department has hired a new officer, Dustin Charette.

Article 10 To Consider an Executive Session for the Purpose of Economic Development per 1 M.R.S.A § 405 (6) (C).

6:17 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to enter into an executive session for the purpose of economic development as authorized by “1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(c).” Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

6:56 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to come out of executive session for the purpose of economic development as authorized by “1 M.R.S. A§405(6)(c).” Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

No Post-Executive session action.

Adjournment

6:57 P.M. Christopher Braley motions to adjourn. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.