



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
July 12, 2022, at 5:30 pm**

Members Present: Richard J. Dionne, Christopher Braley, Jason Boucher, Manon Raymond, Christopher Michaud

Town Manager: Gary M. Picard

Recording Secretary: Nathalie Morneault

Others Present: Kevin Dube, Eric Blanchette, Peter Parent, Jared Farn-Guillette, Jim Soucy, Paul Lausier, Gilman Cyr, Bernice Ouellette, Paul Desjardins, Denise Duperre, Caryl Albert

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

- **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 noticed the potholes were filled in on Gerard Street, he is asking if 3rd Ave can be done later.

Gilman Cyr is asking if the sewer top can be looked at near 453 Main Street. When vehicles and trucks drive over it hits hard, and it is heard inside the house. When the complaint was made before, all that was applied was cold patch. *Kevin Dube, Public Works Director stated, there are brand new Flip Top Covers on order with new Rings, and this area is one of the areas that will be receiving one.*

ARTICLES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF BUSINESS

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

Town Manager received 2022 MMA Annual Election Ballot in the mail today, and was wondering if the Board would entertain making an article to take care of this. It is a 4 candidate, and 4 positions are available. *By Consensus, it will become Article 9 at the end of the meeting.*

Town Manager also would like to Publicly Thank Elizabeth LaPlante and whomever attended the Birch Point clean up. An e-mail was received last week while the Town Manager was on vacation about this community service. Town Manager went to go check out the area on Monday upon return and it looks nice.



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Article 2 To Consider the Board Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2022.

5:36 P.M. **Christopher Braley motions to approve the board meeting minutes of June 28, 2022, as presented. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carried.**

Article 3 To Consider the Treasurer's Warrants.

5:37 P.M. **Jason Boucher motions to accept the Treasurer's Warrants as presented. Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carried.**

Article 4 To Consider a Village Partnership Initiative Presentation & Proposal by MDOT.

Jared Farn-Guillette gave a presentation and proposal for MDOT addressing infrastructure and placemaking in downtowns which helps revitalize areas that have issues with pedestrians, infrastructure, gateway signage, ADA compliance all creating destinations worth visiting and living. The cost is funded at 80% Federal, 10% DOT, and 10% Municipal. This spending bill is only good for 5 years. There are currently 3 towns that have agreed to go forward in the Aroostook County so far. A planning committee would need to be established and have monthly meetings for scope of the project.

6:10 P.M. **Christopher Braley motions to move forward with the process and have MDOT come back with a scope of services and budget for the Town of Madawaska. Christopher Michaud seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carried.**

Article 5 To Consider the Maine Municipal Association Legislative Policy Committee Election Ballot.

The Maine Municipal Association's Legislative Policy Committee Ballot is presenting 3 candidates and voting for 2.

6:11 P.M. **Jason Boucher motions to vote for Gary M. Picard and Suzie Paradis for the LPC Committee Ballot. Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carried.**

Article 6 To Consider a Request by Fire Chief Soucy Regarding Radio Communication Systems with the Frenchville Fire Dept.

Peter Parent, Frenchville Fire Chief and Eric Blanchette Assistant Chief were present for the meeting. For years, Frenchville Fire has been having problems with their paging system frequency and it has become almost non-existent. They have bought a repeater and done tests off towers for frequencies with no success. They are asking if Frenchville can be paged off of Madawaska Frequency to receive the initial page and then they can be able to change to their frequency upon arrival to a call. There is no set end period for this because this will become a long-term project for Frenchville.



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6:20 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to accept the request for Frenchville Fire Department to use Madawaska Fire Department Frequency at no cost. Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carried.

Article 7 To Consider the Town of Madawaska Employee Annual Earned Incentive Benefit Policy.

The Town of Madawaska Employee Annual Earned Incentive Benefit Policy was made for retention and recruitment purposes. The employee needs to remain employed for 50-weeks in the calendar year to receive the incentive. This policy is for 1 year and can be reviewed/amended/ and revoked at a later date.

6:24 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to approve the Town of Madawaska Employee Annual Earned Incentive Benefit Policy as proposed with a review in 1 year. Christopher Michaud seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carried.

Article 8 To Consider the Town of Madawaska Commercial Driver's License Stipend Policy.

The Town of Madawaska Commercial Driver's License Stipend Policy designed for retention and recruitment of CDL drivers. Public Works is in need of Tanker Licensed drivers to wash streets and when emergencies happen for washing sewer lines. The Tanker endorsement is a 10-15 question test. The proposed wage adjustment would be 60¢ per hour for Class A or B, and \$1 per hour with Class A or B and Tanker Endorsement.

6:34 P.M. Christopher Braley motions to accept the Town of Madawaska Commercial Driver's License Stipend Policy as proposed. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carried.

Article 9 To Consider the MMA 2022 Annual Election Ballot.

The Election Ballot presented shows one candidate for one position for Vice-President term, and three candidates for three positions for executive committee members.

6:36 P.M. Christopher Braley motions to accept the current slate of candidates on the 2022 MMA Annual Election Ballot. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carried.

Board of Selectmen Chair asked about the Senior Citizens Tax Freeze. There is still a lot of unknowns to the program.

Next Meeting Date: *August 9, 2022, at 5:30 P.M.*

Adjournment

6:46 P.M. Christopher Braley motions to adjourn. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carried.