



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
September 13, 2021, at 6:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard J. Dionne, Christopher Braley, Jason Boucher, Manon Raymond, Doug Cyr
TOWN MANAGER: Gary M. Picard
RECORDING SECRETARY: Nathalie Morneault
OTHERS PRESENT: Jason Houston, Kevin Dube, Paul Lausier, Eric Cyr, Linda Cyr, Caryl Albert, Mark Madore, Mark Cyr, Denise Duperre.

Board of Selectmen Chairman Richard Dionne calls the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and established a quorum with Chris 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 spoke about McDonald's and about the video that was sent to headquarters.

ARTICLES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF BUSINESS

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

Quote for Plow Truck for Public Works

Kevin Dube, Public Works Director presented the board with a quote for a 2022 Western Star 4900 FA for a total of \$210,377, but the price cannot be locked in. There is a 1 year turn around before the truck can be delivered.

The plow truck at the lake has been taken into town, the frame and the cab are finished. The snow rack truck that was retired from Gagnon Road will be going to plow at the lake to get by for this year's season. The plow is 22 years old and has plowed 17 years.

6:08 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to purchase the 2022 Western Star 4900 FA on order, with a lease agreement for 5-year term. Chris Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 2 To Consider the Board Meeting Minutes of August 18, 24, and September 2, 2021.

6:09 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to accept the Board Meeting minutes of August 18 as presented. Chris Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.



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

6:10 P.M. Christopher Braley motions to accept the Board meeting minutes of August 24 and September 2 as presented. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 3 To Consider the Treasurer's Warrants.

6:10 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 carries.

Article 4 To Consider a Proposal by Jason Houston for a Community Solar Project.

Jason Houston has some experience with Solar Projects. Before moving to Maine Jason was helping with install of some large solar farms and some off grid farms. Currently, he lives off-grid with solar and propane. There are 352 households in St David. An average house holds energy of 572 kwh. Half of a day of sunlight on the United States can power the country for an entire year. Its not a matter if the sun creates enough energy its how we harness it. Everywhere gets an average of 5 hours a day. Main Goal is for Community development for Solar, he would want the community to own the project.

- Would the town require State approval to create a utility district?
- Cost of Management
- Question on Regulatory Rules

Minimal upkeeping will be needed, you will just need to plug in and watch it happen. Having adjustable mountable brackets to be moved seasonally. Landscaping would be used by goats.

Another avenue would be to mount solar panels on the roof and meter read the energy.

Article 5 To Consider an MDOT Request for Comment for a Driveway opening Permit for Linda Cyr at 276 Main Street. (Tabled from the August 18, 2021, Meeting).

Information was provided to the Board of Selectmen from the Planning Board to see if a change of use approval was made. A change of use was partially granted for a Commercial in the front, residential in the back, and the property has now gone full residential. Planning Board met last week and tabled the action until more information can be given. Bob Watson from MDOT Region Director contacted the Town Manager to discuss the MDOT Driveway permit, what was done was given a conditional approval, if the board approves the sidewalk alterations then the driveway the driveway opening permit.

Linda Cyr has no access behind the building. She has invested \$15,000 into the building, and had the intent to do both commercial and residential, but the gift shop did not succeed. It was asked if the crosswalk could be moved. Areas to think about before a decision could be made would be for pedestrian safety, loss of parking due to driveway, impact on property value, snow removal and the precedence on downtown commercial to residential for future request.

Jason Boucher makes a motion to consider the request. No second the made.

No further action was taken, request is denied due to no action.

Article 6 To Consider an Update of the Town's Paving Project by the Public Works Director.

Public Works Director, Kevin Dube gave the board a list of up-to-date information about which roads were paved and worked on. There has been 20,000 tons of mix put on the roads. Along with paving, road preparation and shoulder work updated signs have been placed. So far, a total of 500 tons was underestimated and areas of Green Point Road, and Lavertu road saw some improvements also. The department is pleased with the work Soderberg has produced, stating the company is Top Notch, having no complaints and does not waste any time. The only pressure currently is all residents wants to see their roads tared.



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

Article 7 To Consider a Request by the Ambulance Director to Replace a Monitor in One Ambulance.

A cardiac monitor is an older version and should a breakdown happen with that monitor due to the software being outdated they would have difficulty repairing. This monitor will not qualify for a 4-year service plan, they will only do 1 year service at a time.

Quotes was received with an extended promotional price. Proposal price is \$23,809.45 or 3 payments of \$8,348.47.

7:21 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to purchase the monitor in 1 payment of \$23,809.45 out of reserve account. Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 8 To Consider the Demolition of the Tax Acquired 247 Main Street Building, Project To Be Added To The Shopping Center Buildings Demolition Project Request for Proposals.

This property has been a vacant property for 10 years. The Town has been waiting on demolition due to the sidewalk project. The demolition would be added to the demolition of the shopping center buildings demo.

7:26 P.M. Christopher Braley motions to add the 247 Main Street building to the demolition project of the shopping center buildings. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 9 To Consider a Complaint by Mark Cyr Regarding Private Playground Equipment Placed on Town Owned Property.

In a photo provided to the Board of Selectmen a private playground equipment and trailer can be seen on Town Owned Property.

7:30 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to send a letter to the Property owner to remove playground equipment due to liability issues. Douglas Cyr seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 10 To Consider a Request by the Pollution Control Department to Transfer Funds from the Sewer Undesignated Fund to Purchase a New Pump for the Pump Station Located Near Twin Rivers Paper & Bridge Street.

A pump is currently out of service and is waiting on parts. It is about 14-16 weeks out for a new pump.

7:37 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to approve the purchase of a 20hp Hayward Pump for \$34,413 to come out of the Pollution Control Undesignated Fund Balance. Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

It was instructed to the Pollution Control Director to look into getting quotes for a spare pump.

Article 11 To Consider a UDAG Loan Write-off of the Former Orchids, LLC Restaurant.

The purpose of the write off for the UDAG loan would be to clean up the books. Orchids, LLC is no longer a business. The sale of equipment totaled \$5,399 and reduced the balance to \$34,160.88.



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

7:40 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to write off \$34,160.88 for the UDAG Loan of the Former Orchids, LLC Restaurant. Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 12 To Consider an Application for Abatement of Property Taxes for Account #544.

Tree Growth Application was not processed for the 2020 tax year.

7:41 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to approve the abatement application for property taxes for Account #544. Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 13 To Consider a Request by the Sewall Engineering Company to Amend the Work Agreement for the Route 1 Sidewalk Project.

The amendment for the Route 1 Sidewalk Project was presented to the board members from 14th to 16th Ave. They have expanded their scope on the North Side having no curb drains. The price will reflect an increase of \$21,688. A right of way process needs to be done which takes about 9 months. This will be a 2022 project.

7:47 P.M. Christopher Braley motions to approve the request by Sewall Engineering Company to amend the work agreement for the Route 1 Sidewalk Project as presented. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 14 To Consider a Proposal by Consolidated Communications to Provide Ethernet Carrier Services to the Town's Municipal Buildings.

Currently the town's internet service is \$150 per building to provide internet to the building. It varies per building for requirements. The fastest provider in the town is the Rec Department with 200 down and 200 up. Consolidated Communications can provide 200 megs up / 200 megs down at \$297.06 per month. It also allows to take one single internet service and push it to all departments. The only monthly bill would be \$297.06 for the internet and then there would be a one-time cost per building to be connected to the service. This can be done one building at a time. No annual contract except for the 3-year requirement, it does need 2 cooper lines which the town already has. The base station would be at the Public Safety Building, they have the most upload. The wireless system would provide 1 gigabit of service from one building to another for phone system, including Public Works and Pollution Control. Gives the town opportunity to expand for \$400 for camera system package. Also allows to secure all the buildings, someone can easily hack into the modems. The equipment would be the Town of Madawaska's once purchased. Funding would come from the savings within the budget.

8:00 P.M. Christopher Braley motions to continue the meeting after 2-hours. Douglas Cyr seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

8:02 P.M. Christopher Braley motions to move forward with the Consolidated Communications proposal for 3 years, purchase all equipment at once, and roll out in phases, starting with the Safety Building. Doug Cyr seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 15 To Consider the Town's Delegate Annual Meeting Voting Delegates for Madawaska.

Two voting Delegates are requested for the MMA Annual Business Meeting.



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

8:05 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to nominate Gary Picard as voting member, and Denise Duperre as Alternate for the Annual Meeting. Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 16 To Consider the State of Maine General Assistance Appendices A-H for October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022.

The 2021-2022 State General Assistance Maximums were presented to the Board members for review.

8:06 P.M. Christopher Braley motions to accept the State of Maine General Assistance Appendices A-H for October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2022, as presented. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Article 17 To Consider the Town of Madawaska Winter Sand Bids for 2021.

One bid was received for the Town of Madawaska Winter Sand bids for 2021. The Bid came in from Bert Albert and Sons located in Frenchville Maine. Bid for Winter Sand is \$4.00 a yard, and \$3.75 a yard for hauling. The Town usually gets about 1,000 yards.

8:08 P.M. Christopher Braley motions to award the bid to Bert Albert and Sons for the 2021 Town of Madawaska Winter Sand. Jason Boucher seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.

Adjournment

8:09 P.M. Jason Boucher motions to adjourn. Christopher Braley seconds the motion. All board members are in favor and motion carries.