Machias Town Board Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. The pledge of allegiance was said by all in attendance. Attending were Supervisor Stephen Cornwall; Councilmen Robert Shenk, Frank Bork, and Robert Green; Highway Superintendent Tim Byroads; Councilman Tom Reese attended via telephone; and Town Clerk Rebecca Grimmelt.

Steve Cornwall made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 22, 2022 meeting. Robert Shenk seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Steve Cornwall reported on the Water Department. He spoke to Derek Rule from MDA and the water meter specs are not complete yet. He hopes to have them done by Friday. Steve will pass them along to the rest of the Board. We need to pass a resolution to advertise bids for the new meters, after we get approval from the Health Department.

Steve also reported that he received two letters of interest for positions on the Youth Commission. They were from Karen Insley of Lakeview Blvd., and Michelle Polcz of Long View Drive. No one had any objections.

Resolution #16, “Resolution to advertise bids for water meter supply and installation” was read. Robert Shenk made a motion to accept, and Frank Bork seconded. All were in favor and the resolution passed.

Resolution #17, “Audit of claims for March 2022” was read. Robert Green made a motion to accept the resolution and Robert Shenk seconded the motion. All were in favor and the resolution passed.

Rebecca announced that we had received the annual franchise check from Charter Communications (Time Warner/Spectrum).

There was an issue with the dog warden the previous weekend. A dog killed another dog and then attacked the owner. Both dogs were the property of the person attacked. The police were called and they contacted the dog warden. It was unknown if the dog had been vaccinated for rabies or was licensed. The dog warden did not want to take the dog and was going to leave it with the owner. The police intervened and made her take the dog into her custody. Steve Cornwall will call her to discuss the situation further.

Tim Byroads made his report. The door for the cemetery vault has been ordered and should be in this week. The dividing wall will be built, and the vault will be separate from the storage space and secure moving forward.

We need to talk to Rick Duncan regarding the mowing contract for Maple Grove since fuel costs have gone up so much. Tim will check with him regarding his price for this year. If it is raised considerably, the mowing contract will have to go out to bid. Tim estimates that they use about 20 gallons of fuel per week.

The Highway Department has started sweeping up the sand/salt. They are about 2/3 done and will start around Lime Lake next week. They spread 2,500 tons of sand this winter. New York State is looking into giving “Pothole Money”. Tim will keep on top of it. Cold patch is $104/ton and they have used about 15 tons so far, but it sticks and the patches last for years.

The Highway Department built their own blacktop spreader this winter and it is almost done. It cost about $6,000 in materials. They plan on paving Martin Road this year. Blacktop is currently $84/ton. Matuszak did a great job spreading last year, but Tim is looking to save money where he can.

We need to start thinking about advertising for bids for new dump trucks. The trucks are about 2 years out in production once ordered.

There have been continuous issues with snow removal – it cannot leave your property or be pushed across a right-of-way. It is a New York State law and punishable by fines. There have also been problems with people parking in the right-of-ways around Lime Lake. Vehicles must stay on your property to allow plow trucks and traffic to pass through safely. Vehicles can be towed if parked in the road.

There are several driveways with drainage that are causing road washouts in the Town. Steve will send certified letters to the owners asking them to address the problems or the Highway Department will fix them and bill the property owner.

Steve Cornwall made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Frank Bork seconded, and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Grimmelt, Town Clerk

*March 2022 Vouchers*

GENERAL $ 12,731.81

YOUTH $ 92.18

HIGHWAY $ 37,311.71

STREET LIGHTING $ 2,104.82

WATER $ 3,705.37

LIME LAKE SEWER DISTRICT $ 4,996.39

LIME LAKE SEWER DISTRICT CAPITAL $ 0.00