

TOWN OF MACHIASPORT

PO BOX 267/8 UNITY SQUARE/MACHIASPORT, ME 04655

Brian Smith

Jeffrey Davis

Michael Hinerman

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes April 25, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order @ 6:00 PM. Recorder was not working at the time of the meeting. It was decided that the meeting would continue, and good notes would be taken. NOTE: Recorder is now in good working order, files were saved and removed from recorder.
2. Review of Minutes of Previous Meeting: Jeff seconded the motion of Mike to approve minutes as written. All in favor, motion carried.
3. Public Comments: Jim Clark wanted to know why he only received 25 minutes of the recorded Assessor's Meeting when it was 45 minutes long. It was explained that the memory was full on the recorder. NOTE: Our tech guy was asked if the remainder of the meeting could be retrieved, and he informed us that it could not. Jim stated he bought a high quality \$300 recorder for the town and wanted to know where it was. Jim stated he has not seen the recorder since the new regime took over and that it is probably tucked in a closet somewhere. NOTE: Town employees were not aware of the recorder and have not seen it in their time at the Town Office. Brian asked Bob Mercer if he had anything he wanted to say regarding the complaint. Bob stated he had his say at the Assessor's Meeting. Robert Arseneau stated he found the aquaculture information interesting. Jim Clark had questions about solar projects such as the environmental impact and the permits that they are subject to. Jim went on to talk about riprap and NRPA permits. Brian stated that we are going to look into a solar ordinance. Bob Mercer mentioned that we should separate moratorium from ordinance. Bob stated a moratorium is safe and is saying give us time, we are working on it and is a holding place where we have 180 days to develop an ordinance.
4. Adjustments to Agenda: Discuss New Business before Old Business is discussed.
5. New Business:

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- A. Clam Committee nomination: Clam Committee suggested Alex McCurdy for nomination. Brian seconded the motion of Jeff to approve the nomination. All in favor, motion carried.
- B. School Budget-Scott Porter: Scott explained the school budget. Jim Clark wanted to know the reasons for the budget changes and if tree growth was used to determine the cost of special education. Scott explained the changes and stated that tree growth is not used to determine the cost of special education. Brian seconded the motion of Mike to accept the school budget as presented. Vote-2-1, motion carried.
- C. Crystal Canney-Aquaculture Moratorium: Crystal stated that DMR are approving 95% of leases and it costs \$100 an acre to lease the ocean for a year. Starboard Island is up for renewal of their lease. Cooke is also up for a renewal. Cooke was sued and paid a fine of \$153,000. Crystal displayed a model moratorium and stated she can help us proceed with one if we are interested. Crystal stated to stop future aquaculture we would need to develop a moratorium. She stated the DMR can and will just renew the leases if they do not get something in writing from the town. Jeff is concerned about potential pollution from the float that Cooke has in the water that is filled with chemicals and is labeled as such. Jeff also mentioned the increase; of pollution in general, traffic and more accidents since their business has been in town. Jeff stated the eel grass is gone and wondered if that was from Cooke and whatever they have put in the water. Jim Clark asked Crystal to list 5 impacts of the fishery. Crystal started to explain the first issue, with being too many fish in a pen, but Jim did not let her finish. Winter Harbor is on the way to adopting a moratorium and ordinance and Sullivan is working on it. In 2017 the law changed, and more acres of ocean could be leased to a time. DMR receives the funds from leases and not the towns. Letters explaining the towns take and making an appearance at the Cooke lease renewal were discussed. Jeff seconded the motion of Brian to move to create a moratorium. All in favor, motion carried.
- D. Karl Kurz-follow-up to complaint (Executive?): Karl stated he did not necessarily think that it needed to be discussed in executive session and did not wish to speak at the meeting. He stated he sent a letter to the SM and wanted them to review it. Karl was asked if he wanted to read the letter aloud at the meeting and he declined. Karl left the meeting.
- E. Resolution to complaint? Jim Clark: Jim stated he feels it is in the best interest of the town to forward the complaint on. Brian stated they are reviewing information and will write him a response. Jim wanted a motion

to have the complaint forwarded to the State Assessor. Mike stated that he was not going to vote on that tonight and Brian agreed. Brian explained that they should have a decision by the next meeting and that it is not up to them to investigate a resident's piece of property in another town. Jim asked for clarification if a decision was being made tonight. Brian explained that his request for a vote tonight has been denied. Jim brought up the subject of not getting the full recording of the Assessor's Meeting again. He stated he was upset about the matter. Mike told him that accidents happen and let us move on from the subject.

6. Old Business:

A. Gator Site-Questions-cutting: We are waiting on information from Guptill's.

B. WA-PPP funds for teaching-Jeff: Jeff stated they received 1 million in PPP money for teacher salaries and we are already paying for this. Jeff stated we are not getting a break on taxes or anything like that. WA was asked what the money was used for and they did not reply. Brian seconded the motion of Mike, to send WA a letter and ask how much money they received and what it was used for. All in favor, motion carried.

7. Selectmen's Report: Brian thanked Marcia for taking the MTS call. Brian wanted to make sure we would have enough flags ordered and here on time to place on the Veteran graves in time for Memorial Day. Jim Clark spoke up and stated he would like to get his name on the veteran plaque out front of the Town Hall. Brian said he would have gone to the DECF opening/ribbon cutting if he did not have to wear a mask. Bill Beverly told him the mask mandate was lifted in time for the opening. Brian was informed that it was a great opening/ribbon cutting. The inmates made seafood chowder and a tour of the facility was given. Brian informed us that the inmates have agreed to mow the Bucks Harbor cemetery 2 times this season. It was mentioned that the inmates should be aware, that during the season, the cemetery is mowed many times. Mike stated Rob tried repairing the Beach Road but Carmine told him to leave. Mike wanted this incident documented in the road book.

8. Clerk/Treasurer's Report-Information put in binders for SM to review.

9. Tax Collector's Report-Information put in binders for SM to review.

10. **Executive Session- Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A) Discipling**

Appointees + Public Officials: Jeff seconded the motion of Brian to enter executive session @ 7:27 PM. All in favor, motion carried. Jeff seconded the motion of Brian to come out of executive session @ 7:43 PM. All in favor, motion carried. No action will be taken on topic discussed in executive session.

11. Adjourn: Mike seconded the motion of Brian to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried, meeting adjourned @ 7:44 PM.

X

Brian Smith

X

Jeffrey Davis

X

Mike Hinerman

X

Marcia Hayward