

**Town of Machiasport  
Select Board Meeting Minutes  
September 30, 2024**

**Select Board:** Ryan Sprague, Ryan Maker, Sarah Dedmon

**Support:** Marcia Hayward / Clerk

**Audience:** Paul Sylvain, Mike Hinerman, Steve Hedlund, Jodie Kearney, Ken Kearney, Justin Farnsworth, Peter Bradanese, Robert Arseneau, Rose Arseneau, David Cale, ?? Johnston

**1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance:** Sarah Dedmon opened the meeting at 5:00 and led audience in Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Review Minutes of Previous Meeting :** Ryan Sprague seconded the motion of Ryan Maker to approve minutes as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

**3. Adjustments to Agenda: Open bids:** One bid, from Gerald Wood & Son, received to install septic tank and leach field for new garage in the amount of \$15,000. Ryan Maker seconded the motion of Ryan Sprague to accept the bid. All in favor, motion carried.

**4. Old Business:**

**A. Maritime Committee – Progress?** Sarah spoke about recruiting members to the Maritime Committee. Potential members include: John Polk, Mike Murphy II, Josh Polk, Mark Sprague, Matthew Goacher and Bobby Ingalls. Sarah will contact candidates and ask them to attend next SB meeting and be sworn into office.

**B. Bldg permit for Pettegrow Rd. driveway:** Representative for Mr. Griffin attended meeting with plans to show SB desired layout of new driveway. After discussion, SB referred item to the Planning Board.

**C. AOS 96 – Sarah:** Sarah relayed her conversation with Scott Porter on the matter of timely audits.

**D. (new) David Cale** provided update on the harbor. He advised Cooke's donated a mooring for the wake buoy and noted a new winch will be installed. He also advised that Cooke has changed nets and the seagulls are becoming a problem. David was introduced to Steve Hedlund and spoke of Cooke's desire to become a good corporate neighbor and become more involved in the community.

**5. New Business:**

**A. Hunting – Town Property:** SB discussed the request of residents to hunt on town property. Ken and Jodie Kearney spoke in opposition to the request advising of an incident last season where they arrived home to find hunters on their posted land. After considerable discussion, Ryan Sprague seconded the motion of Ryan Maker to allow hunting on all town property and issue blanket permission for tree stands and game cameras as well. All in favor, motion carried.

**B. Accept Annual GA Ordinance & Maximums:** As part of the annual Review, SB accepted and signed new GA Ordinance and Maximums.

**C. Clammers Access – Town of Cutler:** Regarding Foss Lane and the error in believing it a private road, SB advised they cannot prohibit public from use of the road. While SB appreciates Cutler's offer to financially assist with the maintenance, Board believes Machiasport is able to maintain our roads. SB requests Road Commissioner check the road and see what he can do to help.

**D. Cooke Aquaculture – Steve Hedlund:** Steve spoke on Cooke's desire to be an active part of the community and explained donations they have made to other communities.

**E. Food Sovereignty – Sarah:** Sarah explained the need for a potential Food Sovereignty ordinance. Some discussion followed. Ryan Sprague seconded the motion of Sarah Dedmon to refer the matter to the Planning Board. All in favor, motion carried.

**F. Working Waterfront – Sarah:** Sarah explained the need for a Working Waterfront declaration and its potential benefits in grant solicitation.

**G. Responding to Bob Berta :** Sarah referred to Clerk's question on replying to the inuendo and provocative questions made by Mr. Berta's paper against the Town of Machiasport. Discussion ensued; no action decided.


**6. Selectmen's Report:** Sarah inquired of previous discussions to update the Comprehensive Plan. Clerk advised it has been discussed by various Boards, but no action has been taken. With several large projects currently underway, it was decided this is not the time to undertake another large project. Comprehensive Plan will be discussed again after the new year.

**7. Clerk/Treasurer's Report:** Voting at Hospice Bldg. (new name?) We will be voting at the new town office (hospice building). Ryan M. inquired about the status of the DOT letter? Should nothing be done within the timeframe, then Clerk will address it with them again. Ryan M. stated he would like to have a conversation about what can / should be done with land obtained at the new town office site.

**8. Tax Collector's Report:** In binder

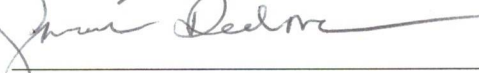
**9. Executive Session:** Pursuant to M.R.S.A. §405(6)(C) Acquisition of property: NONE – noted in error.

**10. Adjourn:** Ryan Sprague seconded the motion of Sarah Dedmon to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:22 PM.



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Ryan Sprague



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Sarah Dedmon



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Ryan Maker



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Marcia L. Hayward / Clerk