

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF MADISON
April 2, 2024
MINUTES**

Selectmen Present – Adam Price, Joy Gray
Selectman Excused – John Arruda

Others Present –Town Administrator Linda Shackford; Fire Chief/Town Clerk/Tax Collector Michael Brooks; Police Chief Robert King Jr; Code Officer Bob Boyd; Videographer Kasia Scentsas

Where and When Posted – Town Hall upper & lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices on December 27, 2023.

Meeting Called to Order – By Price at 4:30 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance: Price led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Gray, seconded by Price to approve the minutes of March 19, 2024 as written. The motion passed **2-0**.

Motion by Gray, seconded by Price to approve three sets of non-public minutes made public of March 19, 2024 as written. The motion passed **2-0**.

APPROVAL OF MANIFESTS:

Motion by Gray, seconded by Price to approve the Manifest of April 1 -8, 2024 in the amount of \$359,641.25. The manifest breakdown is as follows: \$63,501.40 for accounts payable; \$34,979.07 for payroll; \$11,160.78 for payroll liabilities; and \$250,000 for Madison school. The motion passed **2-0**.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were none.

DISCUSSION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS: There was none.

OLD BUSINESS:

ZBA Appointments – ZBA Chairman Gentile has made a request for changes to the membership appointments to the Board. Gentile has requested the following:

- Martin to Alternate through 2025
- Dempster from Alternate to Regular member through 2025
- Schilling from Alternate to Regular member through 2026
- Skaife to Alternate through 2027

All previous appointments will remain the same. The Board was agreeable to those appointments and will sign oaths with the signature items.

Conservation Commission Alternates – At the March 19th meeting the question of how many alternates are allowed on the Commission was discussed. Shackford offered the same information received from Town Counsel in March of 2022 that essentially stated that the Selectmen may appoint alternates and the Commission is not required to have any specific number of alternates and is not required to have more than two alternates as it currently stands. Gray offered to have a discussion with the Commission at their next meeting to obtain their preference on the number of alternates and report back to the Board.

Selectman Gray's List: Gray was told, from a third party, that a resident of Banfield Hollow suggests considering a bond to protect the roads that the Town agreed to accept at Town Meeting. The reason for the bond is because there are still vacant lots and dwelling construction has not been completed. Shackford offered to discuss this with Town Counsel. Gray also spoke about:

- Someone asked Gray about reporting road maintenance issues and if there could be a more formalized process for making DPW aware of road maintenance issues. Gray listed several roads that she has been told have issues. Price noted that there are some issues that cannot be addressed until mud season is over. Shackford said the current process is to contact Town Hall or the DPW garage by phone or email. DPW has a “to do” list that is addressed as conditions allow. Gray asked if DPW’s contact information is on the website, Shackford confirmed that it is listed on the website under Departments/DPW;
- Gray said folks have been asking her about the ballfield improvements related to cost, materials and timeline; the bigger plan. Specific attention to the materials being used that is coming from Casella, a waste company, related to PFAS contaminants. Shackford relayed that inquiries have been made about the superpeat material to DPW Director Shackford and he was assured by Casella that it meets all safety guidelines. Price concurred with Shackford and noted that the Director has a copy of the written breakdown of the material;
- An Advisory Budget Committee member has volunteered to look into shopping around for health insurance plans to get the best plan for the best price. Shackford has reached out to our HealthTrust representative and obtained other plan options with them, but has not looked outside of HealthTrust yet. This is something to start shopping for in the next three months for review in budget season;
- Gray inquired about a line on the manifest from Spectrum for a receiver at the Fire Station, hoping it could be looked into. Price suggested asking Chief Brooks, he is currently on a call for service.

Selectman Price's List: Price expanded on Gray’s ballfield discussion. Once the fields dry-up he and Brooks will be involved in peeling the infield and putting in material from Burke Quarry, estimating 450 yards of infield mix for both fields. An offer was made to donate the equipment and time to peel up the field which was accepted. The upper field will be done first, followed by the lower with a hopeful timeline by the end of May. Price does not expect anywhere near the \$63,000 in the fund to be spent; an estimate of about \$20,000 is more realistic for this part of the project;

- Price asked for two people to be appointed to the Old Home Week Committee, Denita Dudley and Jake Martin. Gray was still unsure of why the Selectmen appoint to that committee. Shackford tried to explain referencing a declaration of the Governor years and years ago. Both volunteers were appointed with Shackford checking on how long the term will be.

Administrator's List : No items.

Department Heads' Lists:

Chief Brooks – Brooks warned of unsafe ice conditions of water bodies telling of a dog that fell through the ice, please be careful. Brooks also mentioned:

- The 2023 property tax lien was executed as of noon time on Monday, April 1 with roughly the same percentage remaining due as in past years;
- In the signature items there are three requests for abatements of about \$38 each that were caused by payments that were made in the allowable timeframe but not received before the execution of the 2023 property tax lien. The \$38 was from interest and penalties.

Chief King – The boat and radar trailer will be out of storage soon. King also mentioned:

- Lt. Hayford will be attending an FBI training next week; and
- Drug Take Back Day will be announced soon.

Code Officer Boyd – The new applications for permits are being updated to the changes made at Town Meeting and should be on the website soon.

Price on behalf of Rec Director O'Donnell – The Eggstravaganza went swimmingly last Saturday with 50 children attending. Also mentioned:

- Softball starts on April 15th;
- Rec department merchandise is available for purchase on their website.

Cancellation announced:

- Wednesday, April 3 Planning Board meeting – due to storm;
- Thursday, April 4 Conservation Meeting – due to storm; and
- Friday, April 5 Rec Department Trivia Night Fundraiser

SIGNATURE ITEMS:

Manifest

Payroll & Accounts Payable Checks

MS-232 – Report of Appropriations Actually Voted

Oaths of Office: Conservation Commission – Lutjen, McKenna, Mosher

MWV Economic Council – Kramer

Rec Committee – C. Price, Thomas, Stackpole, Thomson

Vet Monument – Brooks

Vet Services – Palmer

ZBA - McAllister

Veterans' Tax Credit: McKnight 228-053

Sylvester 102-019

Abatements; Ursino 256-048 \$203.75

Owens Property Solutions LLC \$38.67

Kent 228-067 \$778.14

Owens Property Solutions LLC \$38.48

MacDonald 117-003 \$78.82

Robert E. Carr \$39.01

Richards 112-010-034 \$323.91

Intent to Excavate: Coleman Rev Trust 202-026

Alvin J. Coleman and Son, Inc. 202-001

Alvin J. Coleman and Son, Inc. 202-008

Alvin J. Coleman and Son, Inc. 110-002
Intent to Cut: Abenaki Conservation Associates 121-004
Request for Payment: Revolving Rec Fund - Conway Embroidery \$576.00

5:09 PM Motion by Price to enter Non-Public Session per **RSA 91-A:3II (b)** The hiring of any person as a public employee.

Roll Call Vote: Gray – aye; Price – aye

5:38 PM Motion by Gray, seconded by Price to return to public session and make public the minutes of **Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3II (b)** The hiring of any person as a public employee.

Roll Call Vote: Gray – aye; Price – aye

Motion by Gray, seconded by Price to adjourn at 5:38 pm. The motion passed **3-0**.

NEXT SELECTMEN’S MEETING – The next Selectmen’s Meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2024 commencing at 4:30 pm at Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Shackford,
Town Administrator