

Machias Town Board Meeting

July 20, 2026

Present: Stephen Cornwall, Supervisor
Robert Shenk, Council
Tom Reese, Council
Frank Bork, Council
Timothy Byroads, Highway Superintendent
Rebecca Grimmelt, Town Clerk
Absent: Nicholas Glasner, Council

The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag at the Machias Town Hall at 6:01 p.m.

Council Bork made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 15, 2026, Board Meeting. Council Shenk seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Dave Zilker, from the Board of Assessment Review, asked that the Town Board look into changing the date of the annual Grievance Day so that they can have the Town Assessor present during their meetings. The Board will find out what needs to be done and what date will work with the Assessor.

Kyle Fisher, one of the owners of the Bear Creek Lake Resort, spoke in regard to a letter that the Town Board had sent him about noise from the campground. He said that they have rules in place for patrons. There is caution tape restricting access to certain places. The riders must stay on the marked trails and off of the public roads. They are only authorized to ride from 9 am to 9 pm. The Dice Runs are on Saturdays from 12 pm to 4 pm; they have three scheduled this year. The Town Board thanked him for coming to the meeting and having an open line of communication.

Supervisor Cornwall told the Board that a member of the Youth Commission, Jenna Hehl, resigned her position. She thanked the Board and other members and wished them well in the future. The Board will need to find one more member for the Youth Commission.

Highway Superintendent Byroads said that they are hand-patching roads and doing shared services with other Towns. On July 29th and 30th, they will be cold-patching Canada Hill Road. It will cost \$248,000 for one mile. They put millings on Bear Creek Road. West Valley Fire Department gave us their old tanker truck through shared services. The Volvo engine is in and is being put back together; there was no warranty coverage. The mini-loader with broom should be delivered soon.

Code Enforcement Officer Scott Ludtka provided his report to the Board. He was not present at the meeting.

Town Clerk reported that the registration for Summer REC went well. Everyone seemed okay with the new procedures. There were 126 registered. The new roof was put on the cemetery garage and there were some burials and grave sales.

Caleb Henning and Jonathan Rogers from MDA Engineering reported on the water district project. We have completed the engineering report and will complete the SEQR Review. The NYS Department of Health will not accept the "partial treatment" of nitrates. They require that we treat all water produced. The options are to make two new wells where there is not a nitrate problem or treat all of

the water from our current wells. The new wells would be more costly than treatment. They have added the additional costs of the treatment equipment to the engineering report. The capital cost increases due to treatment costs; two 100-gallon/minute treatment units plus one spare unit (required) will raise the cost about \$800,000. This would increase the EDU cost from roughly \$290/unit to \$365/unit per year. We are not able to meet the CFA funding deadline for this year's grants. The WIIA Grants have fall deadlines and they hope to have everything complete for that grant cycle. The SEQRA does not change anything. It was started last month with the lead agency proposal and a thirty-day coordinated review. There were no objections to the Town acting as lead agency. The next step would be working on a Bond and will require a public hearing. We will finish the full EAF Parts 2 and 3 tonight. The negative declaration will need to be approved and then notices will be sent to the required organizations and be posted on the DEC site.

Katie Cornwall gave a report for the Youth Commission. She said that they have had between 70 and 95 kids per day at REC. The lifeguards have been helping the other staff with the kids. There have been issues with the parents parking in Schwab's lot, but they are continuing to remind them where to park. They have had themes each week and been going to the library. They earned \$650.00 in profit from McTeacher night. The Color Run will be held on July 31st and is \$15 per family. There are fundraisers at Scoops and Subway coming soon. Thank you to everyone who volunteered for park clean-up. Thank you to Jenna Hehl for her years of service.

Old Business – Chris Czarnecki brought up the issue of a noise ordinance. The Board has repeatedly said that they have no way to enforce it. Mr. Czarnecki contacted the NYS Police and they said that they will not enforce local ordinances; he also contacted the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Office and they said that they would enforce it. The Board said that we need to work on zoning first. A noise ordinance cannot be a one size fits all approach.

The Board will contact the Town Attorney to move forward with the procedures to start the zoning process.

The Highway Superintendent asked about the purchase of land on McKinstry Road to build the salt shed. They are running out of time to get that built this year. Frank Bork made a motion to spend up to \$30,000 to purchase two acres of land from the Schwab Companies to build the salt shed. Tom Reese seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried. Frank Bork will reach out to Jason Schwab to discuss the purchase.

RESOLUTION #44

RESOLUTION WITH REFERENCE TO THE PROPOSED TOWN OF MACHIAS WATER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEQRA) NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Motion by Council Bork seconded by Council Shenk

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Cornwall, Shenk, Bork, Reese

 Nays 0

 Absent 1 Glasner

RESOLUTION #45

AUDIT OF CLAIMS FOR JULY 2026

Motion by Council Bork, seconded by Council Shenk

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Cornwall, Shenk, Bork, Reese

Nays 0
Absent 1 Glasner

A motion was made by Council Bork, seconded by Council Shenk, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Grimmelt, Town Clerk

July 2026 Vouchers

GENERAL	\$	82,776.66
HIGHWAY	\$	86,807.57
STREET LIGHTING	\$	1,695.99
WATER	\$	10,979.68
LIME LAKE SEWER DISTRICT	\$	10,829.09