



Maine Municipal
Association

60 COMMUNITY DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330-9486
(207) 623-8428
www.memun.org



TO: Key Municipal Officials of MMA Member Cities, Towns and Plantations

FROM: Stephen W. Gove, MMA Executive Director

DATE: July 27, 2020

SUBJECT: MMA Annual Election - Vice President and Executive Committee Members

Deadline: Friday, August 21, 2020 by 12:00 noon

Nomination Process – Each year member municipalities have an opportunity to vote in the election of the proposed MMA Vice President and municipal officials to serve on the MMA Executive Committee. A five-member Nominating Committee was appointed in March to review nominations submitted by municipal officials and conduct interviews with those municipal officials qualifying for and interested in serving as the MMA Vice President and Executive Committee. The MMA Nominating Committee completed its task in May and put forth a Proposed Slate of Nominees for 2020 to member municipalities.

Petition Process – As part of the May mailing, information was also provided on the MMA Petition Process. Pursuant to the MMA Bylaws, nominations may also be made by Petition signed by a majority of the municipal officers in each of at least 5 member municipalities. The deadline for receipt of nominations by petition was Friday, July 10, by 4:30 pm. There were no municipal officials nominated by petition.

It is now time for each member municipality to cast its official vote.

Election Process – Enclosed you will find the MMA Voting Ballot which includes the proposed Slate of Nominees to serve on the MMA Executive Committee as selected by the MMA Nominating Committee. A brief biographical sketch on each nominee listed on the MMA Voting Ballot is enclosed for your reference. You will note that unlike municipal elections, MMA does not provide for "Write-in Candidates" since our process includes an opportunity to nominate a candidate by petition, as noted above.

The MMA Voting Ballot must be signed by a majority of the municipal officers **or** a municipal official designated by a majority of the municipal officers, and received by the Maine Municipal Association by 12:00 noon on Friday, August 21. We have enclosed a self-addressed self-stamped envelope for your convenience. The MMA Voting Ballots will be counted that afternoon and the election results confirmed under the direction of MMA President Christine Landes, City Manager, City of Gardiner.

Election results will be available by contacting the MMA Executive Office or by visiting the MMA website at www.memun.org on Monday, August 24. A formal announcement of the election results will be made at the MMA Annual Business Meeting being held Wednesday, October 7, at 11:00 a.m. Newly elected Executive Committee members will be introduced at the MMA Awards Luncheon as well as the MMA Annual Business Meeting and will officially take office on January 1, 2021.

If you have any questions on the Election Process, please contact me or Theresa Chavarie at 1-800-452-8786 or in the Augusta area at 623-8428, or by e-mail at tchavarie@memun.org. Thank you.

MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF
PROPOSED SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR 2021 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MMA VICE PRESIDENT
(1-Year Term)

JAMES BENNETT (CITY MANAGER, CITY OF BIDDEFORD)

Professional & Municipal Experience:

- City of Biddeford, Maine – City Manager (August 2015 – present)
- Adjunct Professor, USM Muskie School, Masters level courses: (1) Public Budgeting and Finance, and (2) Managing Towns and Municipalities
- City of Presque Isle, Maine – City Manager (March 2010 - July 2015)
- Town of Sabattus, Maine – Interim Town Manager (September 2009 – March 2010)
- City of Lewiston, Maine – City Administrator (March 2002 – July 2009)
- Town of Westbrook, Maine – Administrative Assistant to the Mayor (October 1996 – March 2002)
- Town Old Orchard Beach, Maine – Town Manager (May 1990 – October 1996)
- Town of New Gloucester, Maine – Town Manager (February 1988 – May 1990)
- Town of Dixfield, Maine – Town Manager (February 1986 – February 1988)
- Town of Lisbon, Maine – Selectman (May 1982 – February 1986) Vice Chairman (1985 – 1986)

Other Experience, Committees and Affiliations:

- Member, Maine Municipal Association (MMA) Executive Committee (1992 – 1996) (2018 – present)
- Member, MMA Property & Casualty Pool Board of Directors (1992 – 1996) (2018 – present)
- Member, MMA Workers Compensation Fund Board of Trustees (1992 – 1996) (2018 – present)
- Member, MMA Strategic & Finance Committee (1995 - 1996, 2018 – present); Chair (1995 -1996, 2019-2020)
- Member, Governor’s Municipal Advisory Committee (1992 – 1996) (2019 – present)
- Member, MMA Legislative Policy Committee (served as member many years since 1990)
- Co-developed and presented 2020 MMA Webinar “Budgeting in Uncertain Times” in response to COVID-19
- Frequent presenter on behalf of MMA Training: Basic Budgeting since 1993; Cash Management for Municipalities since late 1990s; Top Ten Things I wish I Was Told Earlier in My Career since 2014, Leadership Training since 2018
- President, International City/County Management Association (2014 – 2015); Regional Vice President, (2008 – 2011) Chairperson, Conference Planning Committee, (2007 – 2008); Committee Member (various years 1997 – 2011); Small Community Task Force (1999 – 2001)
- ICMA Emerging Leaders Development Program Facilitator (2007 – present)
- President, Maine Town & City Management Association (1998 –1999); Board of Directors (1991 – 2000)
- President, Aroostook Municipal Association (2012 – 2014)
- Executive Board, Northern Maine Development Commission (2010 – present)
- Chairperson, Aroostook Tourism Committee (2011 – 2013)
- Member, Revolving Loan Committee, Northern Maine Development Commission (2010 – present)
- Executive Board, Maine Service Center Coalition (2011 – present)
- Treasurer, Martindale Country Club (2005 – 2008)
- Treasurer, Kora Klown Shrine Unit (2004 – 2008)
- Kora Divan, Kora Shriners (2004-2006; 2019 - present)
- Worshipful Master, Ancient York Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons (2007)
- Chairman and Founder, Ginger Bennett Memorial Scholarship Fund (2003 – present)
- Chairman, Joseph Graziano Memorial Scholarship Fund (2004 – 2012)

Education:

- Master of Business Administration, University of Southern Maine
- Bachelor of Science, Business Administration, University of Southern Maine
- Associate of Science, Accounting, Bentley College

Awards and Certifications:

- ICMA Legacy Leader since 2008
- All –America City, National Civic League (LEW) 2007
- Public Service Leadership Award, Androscoggin Chamber of Commerce 2006
- Maine Town and City Management Association’s “Linc Stackpole Manager of the Year” August 2003
- ICMA Credentialed Manager since 2002 (*initial year of program*)
- MTCMA Certified Municipal Manager since 1993

MMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS **(3-Year Terms)**

ROBERT BUTLER (CHAIR OF SELECTBOARD, TOWN OF WALDOBORO)

Professional & Municipal Experience:

- Town of Waldoboro, Select Board Chair (first year of third non-consecutive term)
- Town of Waldoboro committees, including: Budget Committee, Economic Development Committee, Culinary Arts Committee, Sylvania Task Force, Communications and Technology Committee, Town Manager Search Committee and A.D. Gray Committee, Water Department Committee
- Waldoboro Public Library, Treasurer
- Waldoboro Public Library, Member of Board of Trustees
- Waldoboro Business Association, Member, Board
- Municipal Review Committee, Member, Board

Other Experience, Committees and Affiliations:

- Peace Corps, Afghanistan 1968-1970: Taught English as a foreign language in a rural village in the Kuz Konar District of Nangrahar Province and at the Institute of Civil Aviation, Kabul
- Ashland Oil Company, Beirut, Lebanon: Middle East Representative
- Arabian American Oil Company, Dhahran, Saudi Arabia: Government Relations and Contracting Rep
- Bank of Boston, Boston, MA and Tehran, Iran: Middle East Africa Division, Credit Analyst and Middle East Representative
- The National Commercial Bank, Dammam, Saudi Arabia: Head of Corporate Banking, Eastern Province
- Mount Street Holdings, London, England and Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia: Partner and Financial Advisor
- A.I.N.V. (Arizona), Inc., President. Holding company for a private Saudi investment in a jojoba plantation located in Hyder, Arizona, which my wife and I subsequently purchased.
- Cottonwood Creek, Madera, California, Manager: Certified Organic Grape and Almond farm
- Boston Jojoba Company/The Jojoba Company, President and Co-Owner with my wife. Founded to purchase jojoba seeds and to process and market pure, unrefined golden jojoba world-wide. My wife and I sold the business to Israeli growers in September 2018. She retired immediately upon the sale. I retired in April 2019

Education:

- BA/MA German Literature, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland (1968)
- MA International Relations, The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (1972)
- Middle East Center for Arab Studies, Shemlan, Lebanon (1973), Advanced Arabic
- MBA Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts (1980)

TERRY HELMS (SELECTPERSON, TOWN OF GRAND ISLE)

Professional & Municipal Experience:

- Town of Grand Isle, Selectperson (July 2015 – present)

Other Experience, Committees and Affiliations:

- Assisted in organizing Congrès Mondial Acadien event in northern Maine as part of the Maine Regional Coordinating Committee and Executive Committee
- Self-employed: TH Enterprises, Caribou, Limestone, Lille and Grand Isle, Maine
- Historic Restoration Specialist
- Tom Sawyer Waste Management, Caribou, Maine

- Tony's Major Muffler Mechanic, Presque Isle, Maine
- Power's Roofing and Sheet Metal, Caribou, Maine
- Bacon Chevrolet General Mechanic, Greenwich, Ohio
- United States Air Force Sargent, Loring, Maine, Keflavic NAS, Iceland
- Saranac Central School System, Library Assistant, Saranac, New York

Education:

- University of Maine at Presque Isle, completed semester (left due to financial obligations)
- School Without Walls, Washington DC, completed high school education
- Ballou High School, Washington DC
- Saranac Central Elementary, Jr. and High School, Saranac, New York
- Conner Elementary School, Long Beach, Mississippi

Awards and Certifications:

- Maine Preservation Honor Award (November 2014)
- Paint and Plaster Repair Seminar (January 2007)
- Maine Preservation Honor Award (May 2006)
- Four Barrel Carburetor Systems (January 1985)
- Computer Command Control Fundamentals (January 1985)
- Transportation Award (June 1983)
- NCO Orientation Phase II – Security (March 1983)
- Steering Systems, Power Brakes, Wheel Alignment and Wheel Balancing (November 1980)
- Air Force Office of Safety and Health (November 1979)
- General Purpose Mechanic Course (September 1979)

DIANE HINES (TOWN MANAGER, TOWN OF LUDLOW & REED PLANTATION)

Professional & Municipal Experience:

- Town of Reed Plantation, Maine, Town Manager (2015 – Present)
- Town of Ludlow, Maine, Town Manager (2010 – Present)
- Town of Hammond, Maine Town Administrator (2006 – 2014)
- Member, Maine Municipal Association, Legislative Policy Committee
- Treasurer, Aroostook Municipal Association

Other Experience, Committees and Affiliations:

- Southern Aroostook Community School – Mathematics Teacher (2009 – 2010)
- Wood Prairie Farm, Bridgewater, Maine – Shipping Room Manager (2008 – 2009)
- Hines Sculpture and Stone Work, Hammond, Maine, Self Employed (1995 – 2012)
- Camden-Rockport School District, Camden, Maine – Substitute Teacher (1994)
- Fogg's Home Center, Houlton, Maine – Assistant Manager Home/Garden (1992 – 1994)
- MSAD #29, Houlton, Maine – Substitute Teacher (1985 – 1992)
- McLaughlin Textile, Houlton, Maine – Assistant Manager/Sales (1981 – 1985)
- Maine Glove Company, Houlton, Maine – Assistant Manager and trainer (1979 – 1981)

Education:

- University of Maine at Presque Isle, Presque Isle, Maine (Secondary Education Certification) (1994)
- Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science- Philadelphia, Penna. (B.S. Textile Design) (1974)
- SAD#29 School Board (2002 – 2007)
- Maine Municipal Association - Training Programs (2006 – 2018)
- Public Relations Chair, Houlton Rotary Club (2014 – 2018)



MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION VOTING BALLOT

Election of MMA Vice President and Executive Committee Members
Deadline for Receipt of Voting Ballots – 12:00 noon on Friday, August 21, 2020

VICE-PRESIDENT - 1 YEAR TERM

Vote for One

Proposed by MMA Nominating Committee:

James Bennett, City Manager, City of Biddeford

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS - 3 YEAR TERM

Vote for Three

Proposed by MMA Nominating Committee:

Robert Butler, Chair of Selectboard, Town of Waldoboro

Terry Helms, Selectperson, Town of Grand Isle

Diane Hines, Town Manager, Town of Ludlow & Reed Plantation

Please note that unlike municipal elections, MMA does not provide for “Write-in Candidates” since our process includes an opportunity to nominate a candidate by petition.

The Voting Ballot may be cast by a majority of the municipal officers, or a municipal official designated by a majority of the municipal officers of each Municipal member.

Date: _____ Municipality: _____

Signed by a Municipal Official designated by a majority of Municipal Officers:

Print Name: _____
Position: _____

Signature: _____

OR Signed by a Majority of Municipal Officers

Current # of Municipal Officers: _____

Print Names:

Signatures:

Return To:

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