

Standish Town Hall

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Town Council Meeting Minutes 12/11/2012

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**MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
STANDISH, MAINE
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2012
STANDISH MUNICIPAL CENTER
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Councilors present: Blanck, Olson, Pomerleau, Sargent, Spencer and Stack.
Councilor Thompson was excused.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (S)

Councilor Stack noted that on page 4 the following needed to be corrected:

Councilor Blanck said that the October 31 edition of the Shopping Guide had an ad placed by Mr. Orr stating that the Town Council wanted to eliminate the Budget Committee. He went on to say that the ~~as~~ ad was total misinformation.....

Moved seconded and voted to approve the minutes from the November 13th meeting after this correction. 4 Yeas – 1 Abstain, Olson

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

There were no petitions or communications at this meeting.

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Gordon Billington spoke on the following:

The tree lighting ceremony last week was a very nice event attended by approximately 150 people.

Last years budget process provided for an additional person as a seasonal hire in the Public Works Department. That position has been filled. Last week the concrete planks at the boat launch were replaced. It was a complex project completed by the Public Works Department.

The state has advertized the Route 35/White's Bridge Road intersection project. It is anticipated for construction to start in the spring with completion expected during the summer.

A new phone system has been installed in the town offices. It is an internet-based system which will be a cost savings to the town.

The Town of Lisbon recently upgraded their dispatch office and donated their old console to us. The console will allow two dispatchers to work in our dispatch office at the same time during peak periods.

His assistant Ruth Ann LaBrecque recently under went audits thorough the General Assistance and Passport programs. Both audits were passed with flying colors. In addition, our insurance audit passed.

Departmental Presentation was provided by Linda Brooks the Recreation Director. Linda explained that the Before

School Program was initiated this year, many families are now utilizing both the Before and Afterschool Programs. A number of fitness programs are available for preschoolers to the over-fifty age group. The programs are suited for the particular age group. Three pieces of outdoor fitness equipment have been installed at Johnson field. With Mother Nature's cooperation, the ice skating rinks will be operational soon. In addition, the Johnson Field Playground Committee continues to fundraise, a 2013 completion date is expected. The Halloween Spooktacular, a timed road race, and a scheduled middle school dance had all been fundraisers. She noted that the Department intends to apply for small grants from Lowes and Home Depot to help build that park. Fundraising efforts so far have reached \$5,858, they working and getting results. She went on to say that, the Summer Spectacular Committee has started planning for next years event, the theme is History in the Making. In closing she announced that the department acquired two 14-passenger busses to be used in the program, already many trips are planned.

Councilor Olson complemented Linda on the unique recreational activities that are available.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

107-12 Amendment to Standish Town Code, Chapter 263, Vehicles and Traffic, Section 263-5, Closing of Roads for Winter Maintenance [Blanck]

After a Public Hearing without public or Council input the Council voted on the amendment and the hearing was closed.

VOTE: 6 Yeas

The Clerk noted that the next items are all related to massage establishments, also an application was submitted today that needs to be added to the agenda.

Moved by Sargent seconded by Stack and voted to add order 127-12 Application Submitted by Danielle Belanger for Renewal of a Massage Therapist License at Kosmetikos Spa and Wellness Center Located at 1 Northeast Road [Spencer] to the agenda. (Unanimous)

Moved by seconded and voted to group these applications together and vote collectively on them. (Unanimous)

The Chair requested that the titles of orders be read.

VOTE: 6 Yeas

120-12 Application Submitted by Dawn Andersen for Renewal of a Combined Massage Establishment /Therapist License at the Center for Soul Enrichment Located at 80 Phinney Road [Spencer]

121-12 Application Submitted by Stephanie Biggs for Renewal of a Combined Massage Establishment /Therapist License at the Kosmetikos Spa and Wellness Center Located at 1 Northeast Road [Spencer]

122-12 Application Submitted by Valerie Veinotte for Renewal of a Massage Therapist License at Kosmetikos Spa and Wellness Center located at 1 Northeast Road [Spencer]

123-12 Application Submitted by Deborah Boxer for Renewal of a Massage Therapist License at Kosmetikos Spa and Wellness Center located at 1 Northeast Road [Spencer]

124-12 Application Submitted by Xiong Tran for a new of a Massage Therapist License at Kosmetikos Spa and Wellness Center located at 1 Northeast Road [Spencer]

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Blanck said the Ordinance Committee did not meet last month since two members were out of town, however, a draft of a Fireworks Ordinance was distributed to members for review. At their next meeting they will discuss the Fireworks and Light Manufacturing ordinances.

Councilor Stack announced that the PACTS – Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System will hold their annual seminar to discuss transportation in the area. The keynote speaker will MaineDOT Commissioner Bernhardt. He went on to explain that MMA legislative hearings will be moved to January 24 due to bill closure date so that they will be able to capture all of the bills submitted by the legislature.

Councilor Pomerleau said that Capital Improvements met to discuss police cruisers. He said that the county is looking to replace two cruisers, some councilors are looking at replacing just one, so he was not sure how that was going to go. He noted that the Town did replace two cruisers last year, he was not sure that we could replace two again this year even though we did get out the purchasing sequence. The binder coat has been placed on Manchester Road. The final paving will be done in the spring which will improve side roads and driveways where there is a difference in the pavement level. He explained that the Public Safety Committee debriefed the safety fair.

Councilor Sargent said that the Appointments Committee met to review pending applications. He explained there were three applicants for the Budget Committee, however, there were only two openings. He said that later on the agenda they will bring two names forward. He thanked the applicants for applying, he went on to say that a number of other boards still need members.

Councilor Olson said that the Economic Development Committee did not meet, however, a reprint of the informational brochure was authorized and is now being distributed. She thanked Bud Benson for his efforts on this project.

Chair Spencer said that the Finance Committee did not meet this month. The Personnel Committee met last week with employees, a follow-up meeting will be held this Thursday.

Chair Spencer announced the Bottles for Fuel Program needs donations to help fund the program. She noted that it is only early December and funding limited.

Councilor Pomerleau explained that he owns a fuel oil company. His company has started to receive supplemental checks from PROP and LiHeap for his customers. In the past, customers would be able to obtain 200-400 gallons of oil, this year most are only receiving approximately 100 gallons. With the federal cuts and the price of oil, it will be a really tough year.

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items on the Consent Calendar.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

29-12 Amendment to Standish Town Code, Chapter 181, Land Use Part 1 Zoning, (First Reading) [Stack]

Moved by Blanck seconded Sargent and voted to dispense with the Clerks Reading of the ordinance. (Unanimous)

Councilor Blanck explained that it was not being read because it is quite lengthy. He said that the Ordinance Committee was charged with reviewing drive-thoughts in the town center. During the review of the code it was discovered that drive-through's were not regulated in the entire town. These new amendments allow drive-through's throughout the town, however, low impact drive-through's in the back of buildings banks and pharmacies will be allowed at the town center.

Councilor Olson complemented the work of the Ordinance Committee on this amendment. A key issue for the Village Center Committee was that the Route 25/35 intersection had failed. The language added here calling for a traffic study as part of the site plan is in keeping with the Village Center Committee's recommendations.

Councilor Blanck said that when the Ordinance Committee meets regarding an ordinance such as this, they receive a lot of input from Bud Benson and the Planning Board, they do not do the amendment by themselves, it is really a group effort that's then channeled through the Ordinance Committee.

Moved seconded and voted to move this ordinance to Public Hearing at the January meeting of the Council. (Unanimous)

119-12 Amendment to Standish Town Code, Chapter 181, Land Use – Part 1 (Zoning) and Part 3 (Subdivision Regulations) (First Reading) [Blanck]

Moved by Sargent seconded Blanck and voted to dispense with the Clerks Reading of the ordinance. (Unanimous)

Councilor Blanck explained this is a 16-page document that establishes a Conservation Subdivision Ordinance. This type of subdivision provides for more buildable lots than a traditional subdivision if the developer sets aside in perpetuity some land for conservation purposes. A formula is used to determine the number of lots based on the number of special areas that are set aside.

Town Planner, Bud Benson noted that the Planning Board held its public hearing at which time Wayne Newbegin voiced his concerns regarding the bonus lots.

Councilor Olson said that the concept of Conservation Subdivisions came before the Planning Board when she was on the board a number of years ago. She noted that the time, effort and work that has gone into this has taken three years. She complimented all involved for their work on this amendment.

Councilor Blanck said not part of this document, but available from the Planner are examples of calculating bonus lots for developers to review.

Moved seconded and voted to move this ordinance to Public Hearing at the January meeting of the Council.
(Unanimous)

NEW BUSINESS

125-12 Town Council Appointments to Various Boards and Committees [Sargent]

Councilor Sargent explained that the Appointments Committee met this evening to review the applications and will forward two names for this order, the first is Terry Christy, the second is Walter Wasson.

Moved by Pomerleau seconded by Sargent and voted to add the names of Terry Christy and Walter Wasson to the order. 4 Yeas – 1 Nay, Stack

Councilor Stack said that he wanted to split the vote so they could vote on the applicants separately. He said that is has already been decided to add the names.

Chair Spencer asked why he wanted to split?

Councilor Pomerleau said that it is tough when you have three excellent applicants apply for a position when there are only two openings. He said that there are other boards that have openings that the applicant might be interested in. He encouraged all to take out nomination papers in the spring.

Councilor Olson noted that the manager could let him know what other openings are available.

Councilor Stack said that he wanted to vote on the Budget Committee applicants separately. He went on to say that he would not vote for the order because he finds it ironic that the person who came before them about dissolving the Budget Committee and complained about the restriction that Budget Committee members cannot serve on other town committees is now being selected tonight. He said that it was his understanding that two other applicants put their application in before the former Councilor yet he was chosen over one of them. He said that this strikes as cronyism and he was not in favor of it.

VOTE ON ORDER AS AMENDED: 4 Yeas – Nay, Stack

126-12 Approve Interlocal Agreement to Collect Excise Tax for Certain Surrounding Towns [Spencer]

VOTE: 6 Yeas

PUBLIC ITEMS

Dan Kasprzak of Manchester Road distributed a handout that showed newspaper distribution in the Standish area. It was his opinion that the town could be better served using various vendors for their advertizing.

Councilor Olson noted that she is amazed at the number of residents that tell her that they watch the town meetings on television.

Dan Kasprzak said that is awesome, but they are watching it after the fact.

Pam Slattery said that she agreed that the cable is great, she wondered if they would consider a call in program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A executive session was not needed at his meeting.

ADJOURN

Moved seconded and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm by unanimous consent.

Submitted by: _____
Clerk/Secretary