

Town Council Meeting Minutes 5/13/2014

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**MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
STANDISH, MAINE
TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2014
STANDISH MUNICIPAL CENTER
7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (S)

The minutes from the April 8, 2014 were not included in the Council packet, they will be submitted at the June meeting.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Clerk announced that she had received three emails from residents regarding order 99-13.

Chair Blanck noted that order 99-13 will come off the table and then be postponed to the June meeting, and at that time the emails will be read.

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Gordon Billington spoke on the following issues:

- The Oak Hill connector road project has started. Shaw Brothers was awarded the bid and construction started about three weeks ago. Many recall the failed referendum when we asked for a bond approval to do that project. He noted that the voters had previously authorized the purchase of the property associated with the cross-connector road. He said that there are some that are questioning how can this move forward with this project based on the failed referendum. He said what we asked the voters for was authority to bond the expenditure of over \$75,000 as required by the Charter. He said that we are moving forward with this project under a municipal partnership with the Department of Transportation. The Department of Transportation is funding the full cost of the project. The Council awarded the bid to Shaw Brothers, the funds spent to purchase the properties were applied to the matching funds that were required. In connection with this project a sidewalk will be constructed from Seavey's to the House of Pizza, it is hoped that LED street lights will be acquired through a grant from Efficiency Maine.
- Job and Chicopee Roads are being paved. Town roads and municipal parking lots are being swept.
- From Public Safety – One ambulance is being repainted under warranty; Engine 21 will be back in service next week after receiving pump repairs; and the Engine 4 replacement is in transit from Florida to Massachusetts where outfitting will be done, it should be delivered to us within about two weeks. This Engine will serve the White's Bridge area. The Council approved the purchase of breathing air compressor to replace a failed unit, it will be delivered within the next week.

- From the Code Office - Four new residences are under construction in town.
- He explained that he met with Walter Butler the owner of the Sensata Building last week, he is actively seeking tenants for the building.

He introduced Diana Mains-Allen from the Summer Spectacular Committee, who will make an announcement.

Diana Mains-Allen announced that Harold Warren has been selected as Grand Marshal for the Summer Spectacular Parade. She noted that their theme this year is celebrating freedom. Harold Warren has a long standing history of service to his family, community, church and county which all contributed to his selection. Harold is a longtime resident, he served on the Appeals Board for nine-years, and he is a lifetime member of the Fire Department. For years he flooded the ball field in Steep Falls in the winter for an ice skating rink, this tradition is carried on by his family. For many years he maintained the park and helped on the community build day for the Steep Falls playground. Harold is very active with the East Baldwin Church serving as a deacon. She went on to say that Harold is a great choice and will represent the community well.

Gordon Billington noted that the Steep Falls Farmers Market is open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Diana Mains-Allen said that the Steep Falls Library is also holding their market on Saturday at the same time. She noted that a number of vendors are at the Farmers Market, selling a variety of products.

Gordon Billington introduced Bud Benson who provided the Departmental report.

Planner, Bud Benson, explained that the Planning Department does a lot of different things. Currently, they are reviewing site plan and shore land applications. They recently approved a Family Dollar Store to be built in Standish Village with future development in the back of the lot. He noted that they worked on the Sebago Lake Village Plan, he's worked with the Ordinance Committee to put the final touches on the ordinance revisions. He said that they have also started working on the Steep Falls Village plan, he noted the village plans were a recommendation of the Comprehensive Plan of 2006. The Steep Falls Village Plan and information regarding the sidewalk plan is available online. If approved the sidewalk will be built from Route 113 to the bridge on Main Street. He said that this project will not raise taxes. Another project that he's working on is with the Standish Economic Advisory Group they will lay out blue flags along where the sidewalk in Standish will be if built. He's also worked with the Beach Committee with application process to obtain the National Guard to assist in the building the road.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

40-14 Application Submitted by St. Joseph's College dba The Chalet for Renewal of a Malt, Spirituous and Vinous Restaurant License [Blanck]

Chair Blanck said that the paper work was in order.

After a public hearing without additional Council or public discussion the Council voted on the order and the hearing was closed.

VOTE: 6 Yeas

41-14 Application Submitted by Cynthia Piacitelli dba Martino's for a new Malt and Vinous Restaurant License [Blanck]

Chair Blanck said that the paper work was in order.

Councilor Pomerleau asked the applicant to explain what they had planned for the restaurant.

Cynthia Piacitelli said that she had been looking for a number of months to open a business in Standish. She said that she would be reopening the Inlet as Martino's Italian and Seafood Restaurant. She said that they have had so much support from the community. She said that it will be – come as you are and sit down enjoy a great meal at a

great price.

Councilor Pomerleau noted that he was pleased that the Inlet was reopening.

She said Roland Hurtubise the former owner of the Inlet will be helping them, they'll be closed on Mondays, hopefully opening for business by the end of the month.

After a public hearing without additional Council or public discussion the Council voted on the order and the hearing was closed.

VOTE: 6 Yeas

June 10, 2014 Referendum Question

The Clerk read the referendum question aloud.

After a public hearing without Council or public discussion the hearing was closed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Thompson said that the Beach Committee continues to work on the management plan. At next month's meeting they will be working on the draft.

Councilor Stack said that the Route 113 Corridor Committee met last Saturday at the Inlet to for the annual clean-up of Route 113 from Route 25 to the Baldwin line. He thanked Steve Nesbitt and Lester Ordway for their help, additionally, thanks to Martha and Donal Drew for their assistance. He then announced that on May 29 they will host a meeting with the Shippers that will potentially use the rail-line once it's restored.

Councilor Olson noted that the Standish Economic Development Advisory Group will meet at 8 a.m. tomorrow at the Town Office. The Steep Falls Master Plan Design Committee will do a site walk on Thursday at 6 p.m. in Steep Falls to review the sidewalk plan.

Councilor Sargent explained that the Appointments Committee interviewed an individual this evening and will be bringing a name forward later on the agenda.

Councilor Sargent said that the Finance Committee met, taxes are coming in, and we are over in the fuel line due to the harsh winter.

Councilor Pomerleau said that the Capital Improvements Committee met and discussed paving, the Curtis Property and Walter Butler's property.

Councilor Pomerleau asked Councilor Olson to explain the \$1.50 sidewalk.

Councilor Olson said that this is a project that's being embraced by the Standish Economic Development Group to place flags on Routes 25 and 35 where the new sidewalks will be, so residents will get an idea of what's happening.

Chair Blanck explained that a house assessed at \$200,000 will pay \$1.50 more per year over a 10-year period to pay for the sidewalks.

Planner Bud Benson said that the rate is actually \$1.50 a year for a \$150,000 property value.

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no consent calendar items at this meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

99-13 Order of the Discontinuance of a Road – A Portion of Emery Road (Postponed at the 11/12/13 meeting for six months) [Blanck]

Moved by Blanck seconded by Olson and voted to take this item off the table. (Unanimous)

Chair Blanck noted that this item will need to be advertised and abutters re-notified. There are three emails have been received relating to this matter that will be presented when the order is before the Council at future meeting.

Councilor Thompson said that one of the emails cited a traffic study, she questioned if they will have the results of the study to review.

Gordon Billington noted that the Gorrill-Palmer traffic study is online on the Planning Board page.

This item remained postponed so that necessary notifications can be made.

NEW BUSINESS

42-14 Change Date of Regular Council Meeting in June to June 3rd [Blanck]

Chair Blanck said that this is standard procedure when Election Day fall on the scheduled Council day.

VOTE: 6 Yeas

43-14 Counter-Sign MSAD 6 Budget Validation Referendum Warrant and Notice of Election [Blanck]

Councilor Sargent asked if figures for the school budget.

Lester Ordway a member of the school budget advisory committee, didn't know the numbers, but it would be a .9% increase for Standish.

Chair Blanck said that every year we receive the information so late, is there way to change the process.

Lester Ordway said that the School is still waiting for information from the State.

Councilor Stack said that 1% from the Town of Standish represents approximately \$74,000.

Lester Ordway said that he did follow-up on Councilor Stack's question regarding the \$97,000 that was relating to teacher's retirement funding. When it's received the School will place it in a dedicated account to off-set taxes next year.

Council Stack appreciated him getting back to them.

VOTE: 6 Yeas

School Board member Carolyn Biegel said that the state has already reduced the amount that they were providing by \$16,000. She said that it is tricky with the state because they are always changing the rules of the game. She noted that Thursday night there will be a televised meeting at Central Office regarding the Budget.

44-14 Award bid and Authorize Contract for Various Paving Projects [Pomerleau]

Councilor Pomerleau noted that Pike Industries came in the lowest, they have done a good job for us in the past.

Councilor Stack asked which roads would paved.

Public Works Director, Roger Mosley, named a few of the roads and noted that the roads are listed in the referendum question.

Councilor Stack said that the contract will be subject to the referendum.

VOTE: 6 Yeas

45-14 Authorize Request for Curb Cut – In the Vicinity of 661 Whites Bridge Road [Pomerleau]

Councilor Pomerleau noted that this was discussed in Capital Improvements and they were concerned with cutting across the road. The committee discussed various options such as drilling under the road or the property owner

digging a deeper well. He noted that once a road is excavated there will always be a bump and this road is only three-years old.

Chair Blanck said that every nine years the lake level is taken down to a low level, which happened this year, and is probably the reason the well went dry.

VOTE: 3 Yeas – 3 Nays - Blanck, Pomerleau and Sargent. (Pursuant to the Town Council Rules of Procedure a tie vote is tabled until the next meeting)

46-14 Authorize Request for Curb Cut – White’s Bridge Road in the Vicinity of White’s Point Road [Pomerleau]

Councilor Pomerleau said the he supported this order which is called a short side tap, and most likely they won’t need to break into the pavement.

VOTE: 6 Yeas

47-14 Authorize Removal of Town Owned Buildings at 270 Northeast Road [Pomerleau]

Councilor Pomerleau noted that we have tried to sell the property on two occasions with no takers, the building is run down, it was his opinion that the land was more valuable without the buildings on the lot. This person is the same one that took down the Higgins property. The individual in question has asked to acquire a transfer station sticker to use the facility.

Chair Blanck said that it is an abandoned property that has suffered some vandalism.

Councilor Olson asked if there is any other use for the building.

Town Manager, Gordon Billington said there are no other options for the building that he’s aware of. He went on to say that our insurance carrier continues to pressure us to dispose of the building.

Councilor Stack asked what were the terms of the contract, would the cellar hole be filled and the land graded?

Gordon Billington said that is what he was going to ask for the contractor to do that.

Councilor Stack asked what will happen if he runs into hazardous materials.

Councilor Thompson said that the contract should be ironed out before this is voted on.

Councilor Pomerleau asked Roger Mosley how much would it cost if we had to fill in the cellar.

Roger Mosley said that if they had to do it they would use ditching materials, so it would be a minimal expense.

Councilor Stack said that the order says no cost to the town, if we supply materials and time there would be a cost to the town.

VOTE: 5 Yeas - 1 Nay - Stack

48-14 Authorize Sale of Tax Acquired Property to Previous Owner(s) and Authorize Finance Director to Issue Quit Claim Deeds on Previously Tax Acquired Properties [Spencer]

Moved by Sargent seconded by Pomerleau and voted to dispensed with the Clerks reading of the order.

(Unanimous)

Chair Blanck said that all taxes and fees have been paid on these two properties.

VOTE: 6 Yeas

49-14 Extend Finance Director’s Contract [Blanck]

VOTE: 6 Yeas

50-14 Emergency Amendment to the Standish Town Code, Chapter 263, Vehicles and Traffic, Establish Temporary No Parking Zone on Main Street (Route 11) and Heath Lane [Stack]

Chair Blanck explained that the bridge construction started on Monday and part of the road is closed due the project. He explained that in the summer, many use the Central Maine Power Company's parking lot so they can access the Saco River. That lot is no longer available, making people park on the street. This would cause a public safety hazard. He said that what he has noticed is that the construction workers need a place to park and the ordinance as written would not allow any parking. He said that he would suggest an amendment that would allow the construction worker to park on the street while they are working.

Councilor Pomerleau voiced his concerns regarding people walking through the construction area to get to the river.

Chair Blanck noted that it was private property and the owners of the property don't want the public to use it. He went onto say that it would be up to the contractor to address the safety matters around the site.

Moved by Blanck second by Olson and voted to amend the ordinance as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town of Standish hereby ordains the enactment of the following amendment to the Vehicles and Traffic Ordinance, with the exception of constriction related vehicles, on an emergency basis, to be effective May 14, 2014, which emergency amendment stands automatically repealed as of the 91stst day following adoption, provided, if circumstances still warrant such no parking restrictions after said 90 days, the Town Council may extend the same for additional time under Town Charter Sec. 212. (Unanimous)

VOTE ON ORDER AS AMENDED: 6 Yeas

51-14 Town Council Appointment to Saco River Community TV Board of Directors [Sargent]

Councilor Sargent noted that earlier tonight the Appointments Committee interviewed Maurie Hill regarding a seat on the Saco River Community TV Board of Directors.

Moved by Sargent seconded by Olson and voted to amend the order by adding the name of Maurie Hill. (Unanimous)

VOTE ON ORDER AS AMENDED: 6 Yeas

PUBLIC ITEMS

David Call announced he is a republican candidate for the newly formed state senate seat 26 that represents Baldwin, Standish, Windham, Frye Island, Raymond and Casco. He looks forward to the process.

The Clerk noted that Election Day is coming up and she encouraged voters to support the community tables that set up in the Council Chambers. She noted that a non-profit group will be there on Election Day collecting peanut butter and jelly for the summer lunch program.

Councilor Stack noted that the American Legion is holding an Armed Forces Day Event on May 17 starting at 9:00 a.m.

Carolyn Biegel noted the increase in the school budget and urged voters to go to the budget hearing on May 22.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Several upcoming meetings were announced.

Councilor Pomerleau noted that the GPCOG meeting with shippers is by invitation.

Councilor Sargent thanked Carolyn Biegel and Lester Ordway for their efforts on the school budget.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Blanck seconded by Olson and voted to move into an Executive Sessions for the purpose of discussions on the following matter:

Real Estate matters pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6) (C)

Chair Blanck noted that that there will be no further business after the Executive Session and the Town Manager will join them in the Executive Session.

Moved seconded and voted to arise from the Executive Session. The Council arose from the Executive Session by unanimous consent and the meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Clerk/Secretary

PLEASE NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS