

# Standish Town Hall

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## Special Town Council Meeting Minutes 3/24/2015

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**MINUTES  
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
STANDISH, MAINE  
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2015  
STANDISH MUNICIPAL CENTER**

**TO BEGIN AFTER THE CLOSE OF THE COUNCIL WORKSHOP WHICH BEGINS AT 7:00 PM**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sargent called the meeting to order

### **ROLL CALL**

Councilor present: Blanck, Nesbitt, Newbegin, Olson, Pomerleau, Sargent  
Councilor Pomerleau and Spencer were excused.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **21-15 Forward Fiscal Year 2016 Municipal Budget to Budget Committee [Blanck]**

Councilor Newbegin questioned if a change needed to be made to of the amount of the property tax commitment on page one.

Town Manager, Gordon Billington said that is the correct number based on the changes that were made at the previous meetings. Since the Steep Falls Library numbers were in the budget document there are no amendments to the document tonight.

Chair Sargent said that these numbers do not include the school budgets since we haven't received that information.

Scott Gesualdi noted that the net municipal amount is down by almost \$100,000, which is about .10¢ in the mil rate.

### **VOTE: 5 Yeas**

Jane Cirone suggested that a meeting be scheduled to review the Budget Committees recommendation.

Councilor Nesbitt proposed that a meeting be held on Thursday to review the committee's recommendations. That would give the Council an opportunity to consider the recommendations prior to voting on them on April 14.

Chair Sargent suggested that there be an agenda item on the Budget Committee's recommendations on April 14 Council agenda.

Gordon Billington explained that two items need to be added to the agenda, one regarding bonding and the other is regarding Frye Island legislation.

Moved by Olson seconded by Nesbitt and voted to add orders 22-15 Town of Standish Orders of Town Council Authorizing issue of 1,088,719 Principle Amount of Bonds and Notes in Anticipation of such Bond and order 23-15 Resolution Concerning Frye Island Legislation. (Unanimous)

#### **22-15 Town of Standish Orders of Town Council Authorizing issue of 1,088,719 Principle Amount of Bonds and Notes in Anticipation of such Bond [Spencer]**

Scott Gesualdi explained that this order is standard procedure for the bond process. He said that the August submission was missed due to the referendum date. The application needed to be submitted now and the April Council meeting is too late.

Gordon Billington began to read the order then it was moved by Olson seconded by Nesbitt and voted to dispense with the reading of the order. (Unanimous)

After no additional Council or public discussion the Chair called for the vote.

**VOTE: 5 Yeas**

**23-15 Resolution Concerning Frye Island Legislation [Sargent]**

Chair Sargent said that hopefully this will stop the pending legislation LR 691. He said that our legislators met with the Town Manager this week and they would not support the bill if the town opposes it. He said that this legislation would benefit the Town of Standish, but it would be a detriment to the other towns in the district.

Gordon Billington said that on two other occasions Frye Island has tried to secede from MSAD 6, these actions were blocked by the legislature on both occasions. LR 691 was presented to the school board where it was not received very well. He explained that it would have to be a vote of the entire district to alter the funding formula. He said that Frye Island is committed to this change, in fact they have suggested that they will disorganize and become an unorganized territory. He went on to say that a town disorganizing would take a vote of the legislature. He said that our legislators wanted a written statement from the Town of

Councilor Newbegin questioned if other towns were joining this effort.

Gordon Billington said that he didn't think that other towns would participate. He said that Senator Diamond will support Standish's opinion on this matter. He recalled that Frye Island made a presentation regarding this issue a while back.

Councilor Blanck questioned how far are their taxes out-of-whack based on the valuation.

Gordon Billington's opinion was that it may seem like an unfair burden to them since they are a seasonal community that sends no students to MSAD6. He said that same argument could be used to anyone that has a summer home anywhere in the state.

Chair Sargent said that the people that have purchased properties on Frye Island did so knowing the property tax issues relating to the island. He said that this legislation would hurt MSAD 6 and we can't support that.

**VOTE: 5 Yeas**

**PUBLIC ITEMS**

There were no public items at this meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements at this meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was not an executive session at this meeting.

**ADJOURN**

Moved seconded and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. by unanimous consent.

Submitted by: Mary Chapman for Gordon Billington  
Clerk/Secretary