

**Town Council Meeting  
December 8, 2009**

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Oscar Emerson, Fred Gifford, Lillian Coulter, Nicholas Wood, Audrey Wilcox, excused. Town Office staff present, Town Manager Melissa Doane and Code Enforcement Officer Charles Norburg.

**JIM GOOCH-CITIZENS REQUEST:** Jim Gooch did a presentation to the Town Council regarding the Green Printing project that started 2 years ago. This project was 12 towns; Bradley included that collected data regarding land use current and future. The data was used to create a map which is available for planning and economic development within the region.

**CITIZENS REQUEST:** Charles Norburg, Code Enforcement Officer spoke to Town Council regarding land use violations within the Town.

Muriel Besse: He stated that Ms. Besse has placed a blue tarp over the hut that is located at her home; however he is still concerned about the items causing rodent infestation. Manager Doane explained that she had sent a letter to Ms. Besse with pictures of her property circling the areas that needed to be addressed. Ms. Besse did not respond. Councilor Coulter stated that Ms. Besse has had items out for the garbage pickup and has stated to the Council that she is unable to get outside to get the items off her property as she can't do so with her daughter in the house. Her daughter is unable to be left alone. Manager Doane stated she understood Ms. Besse's contention that she is unable to clean the property up due to her daughter, however she manages to get the items there and out on the property. It was the consensus of the Town Council that Manager Doane moves forward with a complaint with the court.

Gerald and Diane Roy: Mr. Norburg explained that there had been no clean up on the property that they in fact have added more vehicles to their property. He added that the vehicles may have been moved from the back. Manager Doane explained that she and the attorney had spoken this morning and a complaint was being drawn up for the court.

Judith Tinkham: Mr. Norburg stated that he has spoken to Ms. Tinkham's son and he promised to have the construction debris cleaned up, however it is still not done. Mr. Norburg feels that he can work with this gentlemen, he suggested writing a letter explaining that a complaint may be drawn up for the court review if the property cannot be cleaned effectively.

Manager Doane added that complaints had been drafted for the court on Edward Buck, Heirs of Channel Roy, Gerald and Diane Roy and Michael Hayden and Robert Wing.

Mr. Norburg also addressed the issue with the residents of 114 Cram Street. Mr. Norburg stated that there was an incident regarding these residents that caused him to call the State Police. He further explained that Mr. Hayden and Mr. Wing had blocked his exit of Milford Mobil earlier in the month; he went around their vehicle not knowing who it was. The gentlemen then followed them out of the parking lot and down the Bradley road. They passed him and drove at a very low rate of speed, eventually stopping, when he went around he asked if "they were playing games", they responded to

him however he was not sure what was said. Manager Doane stated that Mr. Hayden and Mr. Wing had brought a letter to the office for herself, Mr. Norburg and Mr. Murphy the animal control officer. Manager Doane placed a copy of this letter with her response in Town Council's boxes. Manager Doane stated she wrote the response and had the municipal attorney review before sending it to Mr. Hayden and Mr. Wing. Manager Doane also authorized the municipal attorney to move forward with issuing a complaint to the court regarding their land use violations as the Town has not been successful in working with these residents. Councilor Emerson apologized to Mr. Norburg for having to have this happen, he asked Manager Doane what the response was from the attorney. Manager Doane stated she has met with the attorney, David Walker regarding the disturbance, he did suggest that Manager Doane file a notice of protection order for both residents. Manager Doane stated she was not 100% sure that this was necessary, she would like very much to be able to control when Mr. Hayden and Mr. Wing enter the municipal building to protect the staff and a judge may be able to require this once a restraining order hearing is done, however Manager Doane feels that the act may just make the situation worse. She noted that she is keeping written record of all incidents that occur and will file for a protection order if she feels it is necessary. Manager Doane explained to Mr. Norburg that the Town would fully support and assist him if he felt it was necessary for him to file for a restraining order. He agreed with Manager Doane and will monitor this situation.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES:** Councilor Gifford made a motion to accept the November 10, 2009 minutes as presented seconded by Councilor Coulter, no discussion vote 3/0 (Emerson abstained not present at meeting).

Councilor Gifford made a motion to accept the November 24, 2009 minutes as presented, seconded by Councilor Coulter, no discussion vote 3/0 (Wood abstained not present at meeting).

**MANAGERS REPORT:**

Manager Doane reported that Thomas Macho the gentleman that is cutting the wood for the fire station project broke down on November 24, he contacted Manager Doane on December 5 and plan on finishing the project as soon as the part arrives for his tractor, and he estimated it would be before the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in December.

The Jenkins Bridge Replacement public hearing was well attended with an audience of 24. Maine DOT has decided to move forward with either a temporary bridge or stage construction. After the researched the Cross Road detour they came to the conclusion that due to the timeline that would not be feasible. Councilor Emerson asked why the Cross Road detour was no longer a consideration. Manager Doane reported that because MeDOT would be required to get easements from each landowner on the Cross Road the timeline would not work, she further explained that there was some concern as it was a private road.

There has been some recent discussion regarding single stream recycling. Apparently Pine Tree Waste is developing a single stream processing center at their Hampden location. Currently they have stated

that the center will not be open to outside haulers. Manager Doane is encouraged that the area is exploring single stream.

The staff has started working on the Bradley Broadcast; if Town Council has suggestions for this year's addition, please let her know.

Manager Doane reported that 45 day notices were sent out on Monday December 7. There were 11 accounts that were affected. Manager Doane further explained that this notice gives the taxpayers 45 days notice that if payment is not made on their 2007 real estate taxes then foreclosure will automatically occur on January 21, 2010.

Manager Doane also reported that she sent letter to two taxpayers regarding their 2007 personal property taxes. Those taxpayers were Bruce Crawford and Frank and Susan Blake. These taxpayers were given until January 8, 2010 to pay the amounts in full or small claims procedure will take place.

Manager Doane has received a complaint from Carmon Michaud regarding the condition of West Street. Manager Doane has reviewed the road and admits that it is in poor condition, however is not exactly sure how to proceed as this road repair was not budgeted this year and the residents who use the road are Milford residents. Manager Doane stated she had contacted Tony Madden regarding grading, as they had done it in the past. Because the job is so small, they are not interested in doing. She also contacted Thornton's Construction, the cost of a grader for one day is \$1000, and a few loads of gravel will likely be necessary. Manager Doane stated that possibly a few loads of gravel and a bulldozer would help, she was not sure of those costs. Councilor Emerson suggested that each Council member review West Street during the next two weeks, he added that because of the lack of budgeted money the repair may have to wait until the new budget. Councilor Emerson directed Manager Doane to contact Peter Currier and get a price for a bulldozer and gravel and bring it back to Council.

Manager Doane notified Town Council that Virginia Oakes had given her two week notice today. Virginia will be working full time for the University of Maine Credit Union. She added that she had started discussing hour reduction with the staff. The reason for these hour reductions is because as the Town becomes more efficient, less work hours are actually needed, in addition this upcoming budget year will be difficult as the COLA is 0%, meaning that our budget by charter cannot increase, however there are automatic increases. Manager Doane had explained to Virginia that it was likely in January her hours would be reduced. Due to this staffing change, Manager Doane would like the Town Council to re-consider a 4 day work week. Manager Doane proposes that the Municipal Office be open 7 or 7:30 in the morning to 6 or 6:30 Monday through Thursday. She believes that this option would allow more accessibility to the Municipal Office as customers can come in before and after their work day. The municipal building is currently open 8-4 Monday through Thursday and 8-5:30 on Friday, the 4 day work week would add hours of availability. She added that the State of Maine is currently closed on some Fridays for furlough days, while she cannot predict the future, with the loss of revenue the State is facing more days could be included. Manager Doane stated that coverage for the office has been on an on-going issue, as the Town cannot afford to pay another full time person, as benefits and a higher wage

would be expected. The four day work week would have two part-time workers working a half day each. If the one part-time worker is sick or on vacation, only half day coverage is necessary not full days. Councilor Emerson directed Town Council to think about the proposal.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**MUNICIPAL WARRANTS:** Councilor Coulter made a motion to accept warrant 44 in the amount of \$138.50 and warrant #45 in the amount of \$6025.57 and warrant #46 in the amount of 94,666.85, seconded by Councilor Gifford, no discussion, vote 4/0.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is set for December 21, 2009 at 6:30 pm. Fire Chief Eric Gifford stated that the Fire Department will be having their annual Christmas Party at St. Ann's Church on Sunday December 13 at 6:00 p.m., all Council is invited.

**ADJOURN:** Motion made Councilor Gifford adjourn, seconded by Councilor Coulter no discussion, vote 4/0.