

**Town Council Meeting**  
**8/3/2010**

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Sally Strout, Audrey Wilcox, Fred Gifford, Lillian Coulter, Nicholas Wood. Town Office staff present, Town Manager Melissa Doane

**REVIEW OF MINUTES:** Councilor Wilcox made a motion to accept the July 20,2010 minutes as presented, Councilor Strout stated that the discussion regarding the plowing of the new fire station parking lot was initiated by Councilor Strout not Wilcox, change noted seconded by Councilor vote 4/0. (Gifford not present at 7-20-2010 meeting)

**CITIZENS REQUEST:** Dan Lawson of Alliance for American Manufacturing presented to Town Council information regarding imports of coated paper from China and Indonesia and how this affects paper mills in the State of Maine. The paper is imported illegally by “dumping” it into to the market; “dumping” refers to selling the product in the market cheaper than what United States manufactures can make it for. This illegal dumping obviously can cause the loss of paper mills in the State of Maine, obviously affecting the outlining communities. The Alliance for American Manufacturing has teamed up with the United Steel workers in filing antidumping petitions with the International Trade Commission. Mr. Lawson is looking for grass root support from communities that are affected by the paper industry. Recently Maine Congress representatives, Michaud and Pingree wrote letters of support as well as Senators’ Snowe and Collins. Councilor Gifford made a motion to support the paper trade case resolution, seconded by Councilor Strout, no further discussion vote 5/0.

**MANAGERS REPORT:** The bids for the Salt Shed Facility were advertised on July 30, 2010, with a due date of 8/19/2010. The proposal calls for the construction to be completed on November 15, 2010. All applications have been submitted to Maine Department of Environmental Protection, no delay is expected.

The auditor was in the office on July 27, 2010, no evident problems or issues were reported. Manager Doane discussed the school fund balance with the auditor and he was confident that the remaining balance could be forwarded to RSU as the plan called for. The amount of \$473,353.03 is included in the warrant #10 present today. This amount equals the June 30, 2008 ending balance of \$481,686 minus a July payment of \$8333.34 out of the \$100,000 Town Council voted to use for this fiscal year. The ending balance as of June 30, 2011 will be \$373,353.03 which the Town can use for future years commitments.

The reconstruction of Bullen Street from Route 178 to Highland Avenue is slated to begin before the end of August. The first phase of Highpoint Place is slated to receive an overlay within that same time period.

Mark Gibson and Manger Doane completed the tax commitment on July 29, 2010. Tax bills were mailed out today by Wise Business Forms. Town Council signature is needed on the 2010 Municipal Valuation

Return which is sent to Maine Revenue Service and the Assessors Return which is sent to the County Treasurers.

Peter Currier finished the road at Knapp Cemetery which provides access to more cemetery plots.

Peter Currier gave Manager Doane a quote of \$4000 to plow the municipal building parking lot for the 2010-2011 seasons, \$4400 was budgeted. This is the same price as last year; Manager Doane would like to know if Town Council would like to move forward with that contract. Town Council agreed.

Manager Doane stated that she had spoken with Robert Fenney regarding the fire station project. There have been no delays or problems to report. He did hear from the State Fire Marshall and he approved the sprinkler system proposed by Dunbar and Brawn. This new system will save the project around \$2500; he would suggest putting that extra money into raising the driveway to avoid any damage from wetlands. Town Council agreed.

Manager Doane reminded Town Council that she will be on vacation the week of August 16-20<sup>th</sup>, that week is a scheduled payroll and accounts payable week. She will direct Terry to call Town Council when the warrants are ready so they may come to the office and sign them. She also reminded Town Council that the August 17, 2010 Town Council meeting was cancelled, the next meeting is scheduled for August 31, 2010 unless something of importance comes up.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Councilor Wood asked about the letter Manager Doane had placed in Town Council box regarding funds that were not received from the Department of Conservation. Manager Doane explained that up until fiscal year 08-09 the Town of Bradley had received funds from the Department of Conservation equaling 25% of money the State received from Bradley State owned lands, these funds include rental and stumpage. Those monies have stopped coming to the Town, when Manager Doane inquired about them she was told that that funding had stopped. In speaking with Chuck Simpson, the local Department of Conservation representative, she discovered that that may not be true. She therefore wrote a letter to the Department asking for clarification, she also cc'd Senator Rosen. She will update Town Council when she hears something.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Councilor Wilcox asked if there was anything the Town could do regarding the bamboo that is located at Knapp Cemetery. She stated that with the new road, the bamboo blocks the view for the road. Manager Doane stated she could look into having someone cut them down. Councilor Wilcox mentioned that she had received information in the past from the University on how to permanently remove them.

Councilor Strout stated that there is a sign that has been broken off on Cram Street, right before the intersection of Highland Avenue. Councilor Wilcox stated that the stop sign on Boynton Street was stolen. Councilor Gifford mentioned that if there was going to be maintenance work performed that perhaps the sidewalks could be trimmed of weeds and growing bushes. Manager Doane stated that she will contact Bernice Dill to see if he is interested in the odd jobs.

Councilor Wilcox stated that in the Treasurers report there seemed to be a lot of 2010 prepayments. Manager Doane stated that most of them were because mortgage companies do not pay the correct amounts due to incorrect figuring of interest. The policy is that amounts of overage is placed onto the next year, in addition when homeowners re-finance the mortgage company will often times pre-pay to avoid missed escrow payments.

Councilor Wilcox asked how the new office hours were going. Manager Doane stated she felt they were going really well. She stated that she was working this morning as Terry is on vacation and there were two customers waiting for her at 7:00 am. The evening also seems to be busy. Manager Doane has not received any recent complaints regarding being closed on Mondays; customers seemed to have adjusted easily. The office hours were on a six month trial basis, which is up for discussion in October. Councilor Wilcox stated that she had noticed that Milford was only open 4 days a week, however there hours were 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, she wondered if we should reduce our hours. Manager Doane stated that she liked offering early hours to residents because it accommodates work schedules. She also added that that issue may have to be addressed when the City of Old Town starts offering license plates. Currently registrants come to Bradley to get new plates rather than going to Bangor, this may affect the need for extended service.

**MUNICIPAL WARRANTS:** Councilor Coulter made a motion to accept warrant #9 in the amount of \$4051.00 and warrant #10 in the amount of \$614586.71 and warrant #11 in the amount of \$4166.15, seconded by Councilor Gifford, no discussion, vote 5/0..

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is set for August 31, 2010 at 6:30 pm.

**ADJOURN:** Motion made Councilor Gifford to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Wilcox, no discussion, Vote 5/0.