

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 12, 2020
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM/FACEBOOK LIVE

Open Public Hearing: The Council requested public comments for the 2020-2021 budget that had been presented. Councilor Ketch confirmed that Manager Doane had posted the information. She confirmed that the Budget Summary, Expense Detail and Revenue Detail are posted on the town website, and has been emailed it to the citizen's email list. There were no written public comments, and no comments via Facebook Live or YouTube. The Public Hearing was then closed.

Open Town Council Meeting: Councilor Ketch opened the Town Council meeting. Councilors in attendance (virtually) were Councilor Ketch, Councilor Lugdon, Councilor Richard, Councilor Wade and Councilor Clemons. Town Manager Melissa Doane was also present, as was Fire Chief Eric Gifford.

Review of Minutes: Councilor Ketch made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 28, 2020 meeting, seconded by Councilor Richard. Vote 5/0 Councilor Ketch mentioned that the minutes reflect that the new health insurance savings account benefit line item will not affect taxes, though it will have a small effect. Melissa explained that the effect will be minimal and with the change in valuation and overlay, the effect can be zero.

Citizen's Request: none

Manager's Report: Melissa updated the Town Council on current office procedures. The Municipal Office opened to the public on a limited basis on May 5th. The procedure has been posted to the Town of Bradley website, Facebook page and is listed on both entry doors of the office. Basically, residents are asked to call the town office and make an appointment. At that time, the staff asks a series of questions to determine what information will be needed to complete the transaction. A questionnaire has been formulated to assist with this process. At the time of the appointment, the resident calls from the parking lot and the staff directs them to place the necessary items in the basket located at the entrance to the office. The service is completed while the resident waits in the parking lot, then they are contacted to retrieve the completed transaction items, again located in the basket. There is no direct contact with staff members. Staff members are working separate days to limit contact as well. There have been limited issues with this procedure and it will continue until further notice.

Melissa has issued a letter on behalf of the Council to Mark Gallagher of EDF expressing agreement in principal to the proposed solar project in Bradley. In her conversation with Gallagher, he indicated that he has been in contact with Rick Trimm, President of Great Works Stream Conservation Club. Trimm said that he expects members will be in favor as long as no

access is denied, and hunting and fishing is still allowed. Gallagher indicated that they will be doing a presentation to the group and their plan is to hopefully make access easier and there is no intent to limit current activities on the property.

The Municipal Ballot has been reviewed by Municipal Attorney, Ed Bearor, who has given final approval for the wording. The ballot will be presented at the May 26th budget public hearing. Nomination papers are due by June 9th, and Absentee ballots will be available June 12th.

Councilor Lugdon questioned whether any information has been received from RSU #34 regarding the school budget. Melissa indicated that no further information has been received at this time.

Chief Gifford has purchased a supply of hand sanitizer and disposable gloves from Maine Janitorial Supply. The supply is for the municipal building as well as the fire station.

New Business: Councilor Ketch made a motion to accept the Bradley Municipal Budget as discussed in the public hearing for the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wade. Vote 5/0

Melissa indicated that the fire department had a \$4,350.00 carry forward, which decreased his original estimate by that amount.

Councilor Wade stated that when reviewing the budget, he found no real place to control or cut costs. The largest increases for this year were for County taxes and health insurance, which increase annually.

Unfinished Business: none

Municipal Warrants: Councilor Ketch made a motion to accept the following warrants, seconded by Councilor Lugdon:

#76 in the amount of \$6,024.00

#77 in the amount of \$125,187.77

Councilor Ketch questioned whether physical signatures were needed at this time. Melissa indicated that all warrants are being tagged and can be signed at the next in person meeting.

The next Council Meeting is set for May 26, 2020.

Citizen Request Follow Up: none

Motion to Adjourn was made by Councilor Ketch, seconded by Councilor Richard. Vote 5/0