Town Council Meeting

May 9, 2023

Open Town Council Meeting: Council Chair Mark Ketch opened the Town Council Meeting, all other councilor members were present, Councilor Wade participated remotely. Town Manager Melissa Doane as well as Fire Chief Eric Gifford were present as well.

Review of Minutes: Councilor Ketch made a motion to accept the minutes of 04/25/2023, seconded by Councilor Lugdon, with correction of misspelling noted earlier. (Vote 5/0)

Citizens Request: None

Managers' Report: Town Manager Melissa Doane requested that the Town Council approved a real estate abatement in the amount of $12.99 for Larry Burton of 57 Penney Lane. This bill was for a mobile home that was moved in June of 2022. As per required by State of Maine law, Mr. Burton pre-paid the bill using last year's tax rate, with the rate increase the remaining balance is $12.99. Manager Doane caught this while preparing the annual town report. Councilor Clemons made motion to approve the abatement as presented, seconded by Councilor Delaware. (Vote 5/0)

Manager Doane reported that both her and Councilor Ketch attended a RSU Facilities Planning meeting last Monday. There was minimal discussion regarding Viola Rand School other than they expect when Carpenter Associates completes the facilities audits the school will need changes to meet current codes. There are many things happening throughout the RSU such as boiler replacements, retainer wall repair at Victory Field, heat pumps to be installed to add air conditioning to spaces used during the summer. They also discussed a collaboration with PCHS to create a school base health center. The health center would be funded by grant funds. The health center would help students to have access to school physicals, vaccinations, and other school health issues. Manager Doane stated she believes the health center would be at one of the middle schools. Councilor Ketch added that the health center would not replace the school nurses, it would just be an added addition. Town Manager Doane also said that there was a discussion regarding some possible partnership with the YMCA for upgrades to the fields behind the YMCA and Old Town Elementary School.

Manager Doane reported that the nomination papers were due today. There had been two returned for the Town Council, Mark Ketch, and James Hatch. There had also been two returned for the RSU Board Member. Reginald Dorr, who is currently serving on the school board until the election and Dustin Waller. With the submissions, the annual Town Report will be going to the printer Wednesday or Thursday. Councilor Ketch wanted to clarify that there was only one school board position open, in which Manager Doane confirmed. Manager Doane added that the school board position term will not expire until December 2024. Councilor Delaware asked if

John Milligan did not turn in nomination papers, Manager Doane explained that Mr. Milligan did come in and speak with her, if he was to run and be elected, he would not be able to help with town work.

Manager Doane stated the required public hearing regarding the annual referendum ballot will be on May 25, 2023 at 6:30. Councilor Ketch asked Manager Doane if the public referendum was to make comment about the intel in which Manager Doane state that the public hearing is so the people of the public can ask questions or make comments about what is on the ballot.

New Business: Councilor Delaware stated there is going to be a Senior Luncheon on May 17th at 11:30, located at St. Anne's Church.

Councilor Lugdon asked Town Manager Doane if she has any information regarding the resident at 114 Cram Street. Manager Doane stated that she has spoken to the resident and it had not gone to well, he has started putting signs on his car, in which the Town has no authority over. Manager Doane said the resident stated that he would not be putting up any more signs. Councilor Ketch asked Manager Doane if the signs were targeted at anything, in which Manager Doane replied that she was unsure because she was unable to read them

Unfinished Business: Councilor Delaware asked if there were any updates for the Solar Applications, in which Manager Doane replied that there are no updates and no application.

Manager Doane stated that Cindy is working on the Town Line signs. She also reported that that the roof should be started the first of June. Manager Doane needs the contractor to sign the contract, the day he originally was going to stop in, Melissa was in Augusta. Councilor Ketch asked if the contractor would be working on the roofs over the weekends and Mondays while the office is close, Manager Doane replied saying that she was unsure on what days they will be working on the roof.

Municipal Warrants: Councilor Ketch made a motion to accept the municipal warrants as presented, seconded by Councilor Delaware. (Vote 4/0, Councilor Wade did not see the warrants)

Next Meeting: The next meeting is set for May 23, 2023 at 6:30 with a public hearing regarding the annual referendum.

Motion to adjourn: Councilor Lugdon made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Clemons. (Vote 5/0)