

Town Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday May 13th, 2015

Roll Call: Michael Perkins, Chairman Dana Wrigley Donald Borman
Byron Wrigley, Sr. Mark Fisher

Others: Gary Bowman, Town Manager Janice Porter, Town Clerk
Jon Cox Jeff Hall, Public Works Director
Boyd Snowden, Wastewater Superintendent
Peter McGuire, Sentinel Reporter

Business Agenda:

1. It was moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Byron Wrigley, Sr., and voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of the meeting held April 22nd 2015, and to sign the disbursement warrants.
2. Councilors requested an update from the Public Works Director, Jeff Hall, regarding road conditions after the harsh winter months. Jeff reported that the majority of roads in town held up well and have pretty much come back to their original condition. Our sand pile has approximately 3,000 yards left from the winter months. Upcoming summer projects will include:
 - reconstruction of 3,000 feet of Hussey Hill Road –
reclaim, ditch, grade, culvert repair and paving
 - paving and/or shimming- Oak Street, Sawtelle Road, Railroad Avenue and Maple Street
3. It was moved by Donald Borman seconded by Dana Wrigley and voted 5-0 to approve the first reading of the proposed Dog Ordinance.

Managers Report:

1. Councilors received the monthly Library report for April.
2. The Manager reported that the first Police Department Building Committee meeting is scheduled for 05/19/15 @ 4PM at the Fire House. The committee consists of the following members: Michael Willey, Richard MacKenzie, Jerry Haynes, Ned Hammond, Kelly Michaud, Jon Cox, Eric Sharpe and Don Borman

Other:

1. Sewer Rate Discussion - Councilors received information pertaining to the upcoming discussion on the Sewer budget and expected rate increase. The Manager reported that currently there is \$75,000 in the sewer reserve fund. That remaining amount is not enough to pay for operations, thus resulting in the need to start rebuilding the reserve account. It was noted that the sewer rate has not increased since 2005. On average a customer pays \$62.28 and with a 35% increase that bill would be approximately \$86.25 per quarter. Councilor Dana Wrigley asked that we get the sewer rates of surrounding towns. It was suggested that Maine Rural Water might have this information. The main reason for rising expenses is the immense volume of rainwater leaking into the system and then being pumped and treated at the Waterville Sewer District. Mr. Snowden estimated that close to 65 percent of all the sewerage Oakland is pumping through the Webb Road line is from outside the actual sewer system. The town has started a sump pump inspection program to identify those problem areas but in order to keep working on these problems the department needs funding. Earlier there was a proposal to purchase flow meters to test areas where the infiltration appears to be the worse. It was noted that Water Street and Oak Hill Drive are potential problem areas. The sewer budget will be discussed at the June 10th meeting.
2. Councilors were pleased and commented that the Town Meeting went well because of prior preparation by the Town Manager and department heads.
3. Councilors agreed to the following summer schedule for upcoming Council meetings:
 - June 10th meeting being held at the Williams Elementary School
 - July 14th
 - August 12th and additional meetings if required

Adjournment – It was moved by Byron Wrigley seconded by Dana Wrigley and voted 5-0 to adjourn at 6:45 pm.