

TOWN MEETING MINUTES
MAY 5, 2026

Council Members Present:

Michael Perkins, Chairman

Robert Nutting

Dana Wrigley Vice Chairman

Susan Leigh

Kelly Roderick

Others Present:

SEE ATTACHED SIGN IN SHEETS

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Town Clerk Kathleen Paradis and led those present in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **Nominate a Moderator:** Nominations by the Town Council were taken and Andrew Carlton was chosen to preside over the meeting.
2. **Swearing in of Moderator:** Town Clerk Kathleen Paradis swore in Andrew Carlton as Moderator.

Business Agenda:

1. **Spirit of America Award:** Council Chairman Michael Perkins presented the Snow Pond Senior Center with this annual award.
2. **Employee Appreciation Award:** Town Manager Kelly Pinney-Michaud gave us background on the award and was honored this year to have Susan Giguere receive the award.
3. **Town Manager Synopsis:** Town Manager Kelly Pinney- Manager gave an informative speech regarding the increase in the budget this year. She also informed those present about current activities that would be happening in the town.
4. **Moderator Instructions for the vote on the Budget Articles:** Moderator Andrew Carlton informed the residents and council members how the process of voting on the warrant articles. He stated that the council will vote on such articles with a motion and a second, then residents will vote on the same articles.
5. **Voting on Budget Articles:**

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Council to pay any and all overdrafts from the 2026-2027 fiscal year that exceeds the \$10,001 limit authorize by Section 303 in the Oakland Town Charter. It was motioned by Michael Perkins and seconded by Dana Wrigley. Was passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to fix dates upon which 2026-2027 taxes shall become payable and to charge interest on same. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and was passed by Oakland Residents

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for General Government. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and was passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Debt Services and Contingency. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and was passed by the Oakland Residents.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Public Library. Robert Brown questioned why we have a library, the building is old and no one uses it anymore. Sheila Thorne-Rogers the Head Librarian stated that there are currently 300-400 patrons from Oakland that use the library. Robert Brown asked how many pay to use it. Sheila then stated that if you are from out of town, you will pay a fee, but Oakland residents do not. Doug Fischang then stated that he was in favor of the library and it is a great asset to the town. Stacy Linehan stated that they have a great children's section and she would rather have a book in a child's hand than a computer. Patrick Linehan stated that the American Legion shares the parking lot with the library and when the library is open the parking lot is full of patrons. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and was passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Recreation Department. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Fire and Rescue. Jamie Phair questioned what the Fund Equity was. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Police Department. It was motioned by Mike Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 10: To See if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Protection Services. It was motioned by Michael Perkins and seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 11: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate for Animal Control. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Transfer Station and Recycling. It was motioned by Michael Perkins and seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Public Works and Road Improvements. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Property Maintenance. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Capital Improvements. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Miscellaneous Requests: Robert Brown inquired why the town does not put out to sealed bid any properties that have been foreclosed upon. The Town Manager explained that the law has now changed and a different process of using an attorney is required. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Conservations Organizations. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to apply estimated General Fund Revenues in the amount of \$1,346,091 towards the appropriations to reduce taxation. Last year-\$1,372,614. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Council to sell or dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for nonpayment of taxes. Except that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to see it to anyone other than the former owner(s). It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Council to accept any and all donations, gifts, reserves or grants and to expend such monies for the purpose stated. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 21: Shall the town of Oakland vote to approve a Community Development program and a possible Community Development Block Grant application and submit same to the Department of Economic and Community Development? If said program is approved, to authorize the municipal officers to accept said grant funds, to make such assurance, further assume such responsibilities,

and exercise such authority as are necessary and reasonable to implement such program. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector and Treasurer to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 35 M.R.S. Sec 506 with no payment of interest by the town. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Dana Wrigley and passed by Oakland Residents.

Adjourn: Moderator Andrew Carlton asked for a motion to adjourn. It was motioned by Michael Perkins, seconded by Susan Leigh and unanimously voted by Oakland Residents to adjourn at 6:44pm.