

## Town Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday January 8th, 2020

Town Council members present: Michael Perkins Dana Wrigley  
Robert Nutting Donald Borman David Groder

Others present: Gary Bowman, Town Manager  
Janice Porter, Town Clerk Megan Robbins, Sentinel Reporter  
Kelly Roderick David Coughlin, Fire Chief  
Jon Cox

Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman was conducted by secret ballot - Michael Perkins was elected Chairman and Dana Wrigley as Vice Chairman for the ensuing calendar year.

### Business Agenda:

1. It was moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Robert Nutting and voted 5-0 in favor of approving the minutes of the meetings held on December 18th, 2019, and to sign the disbursement warrant.
2. It was moved by Donald Borman seconded by Michael Perkins and voted 5-0 to accept the Fire Station generator grant from FEMA for federal funding provided in the amount of \$55,875, which is 75% of the total approved project cost of \$74,500. The project is for the installation of a backup propane generator and tank at the Fire Station currently under construction.
3. It was moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Robert Nutting and voted 5-0 to approve the Waterville Regional Communications Center revised dispatch fee for Oakland effective July 1, 2020. The increase will bring Oakland dispatch costs from the yearly fee paid of \$42,894 to \$92,185.26 with Waterville. The Manager noted that the increase is still less than the cost of creating an in-town dispatch system. At this time Somerset County Regional Communications Center is not being considered for the upcoming year as the agency is not equipped to handle the extra workload. A long -term contract with Waterville dispatch has yet to be negotiated.
4. It was moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Donald Borman and voted 5-0 to place an increase in the town's retirement contribution, in the upcoming budget, from 6.5% to 7% with the employee contribution up from 1.5% to 2%. In the future the Manager would like to offer town employees the option to join the Maine Public Employees Retirement System plans.
5. It was moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Robert Nutting and voted 5-0 to approve the purchase of seven (7) tickets, for those members involved in the various town

committees that will accept the Chamber's Community Service Award along with the Town Manager. The event will be held on Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at the Enchanted Gables in Oakland. The town of Oakland and its various community development efforts throughout the year will receive the Community Service Project of the Year Award honoree for 2019.

6. The Manager reviewed the "Oakfest Student Volunteer Program" document with Council members. The purpose of the program is to provide Messalonskee High School students a real time, hands on opportunity to learn the value of civic volunteerism with an established and successful event that is held on the RSU 18 property. Oakfest looks forward to volunteers for their participation and thoughts for improving the event.

#### Managers Report:

1. The Manager reported that the new Fire Station has a completion date of the first week in February.
2. The Manager reported that construction of the solar site will start this month. Sundog has been waiting for the site review plan before proceeding.
3. Councilor Nutting reported that the Comprehensive Plan is ready in draft form. The document will be presented to the Council and to the state for their review. During the months of February/March Council members will be provided an opportunity to review. A public hearing will be held in April to hear/consider comments on the Plan and then voted upon by secret ballot in June.

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

