

## Town Council Minutes

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

### Councilors present:

Michael Perkins, Chairman  
Robert Nutting  
Donald Borman

Dana Wrigley  
David Groder

### Others present:

Ella Bowman, Town Manager  
Chief David Coughlin  
Justin Richard

Janice Porter, Town Clerk  
Michael Rossignol  
Jeremy Lizzotte

### Business Agenda:

1. It was moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by David Groder and voted 5-0 to approve of the minutes of the previous meeting and signing the weekly warrant.
2. Chief Coughlin discussed his replacement proposal for Engine 5 fire truck, which the town acquired in 1993. It is now underpowered with top speed of 10-12 mph, a 30-year-old apparatus lacks current safety features, CAFS and foam systems outdated and no longer functional, and air valves weak, leak air and don't function properly.  
The Chief explained that both the increase in cost and the lead time required to order and purchase the replacement fire truck is changing daily. The current purchase price for a basic Freightliner is approximately \$497,000 from E-One Manufacturing. The life expectancy of the unit is approximately thirty (30) years. The Chief proposed the sole source as E-One Manufacturing, for the purchase of the vehicle. The unit would meet the community's needs, and the best product and price. In addition, would be asking for permission to order now so that the town would be in the lineup for the truck along with locking in the price to avoid future increases with delivery in 2025.  
It was moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by David Groder and voted 5-0 authorizing Chief Coughlin to order the truck after Town Meeting approval in May. It was moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by David Groder and 5-0 to by-pass the current "Purchasing Policy" . Thus, approving the proposal for the new truck being sent to the sole source being E-One Manufacturing.
3. It was moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Donald Borman and voted 5-0 approving a list of "Personal Property Write-off Requests", covering a period of 2017-2019, in the amount of \$1,403.83. The taxes were found to be uncollectable as some have moved out of town and gone out of business and individuals that have passed. List attached.
4. The Manager initiated the discussion regarding a proposed four (4) day work week for the Town Office, with the office being closed on Friday. Ella received responses from several municipalities that have started this trend. Discussion continued regarding the pros and cons of the schedule being implemented in Oakland. It was agreed that the residents of the town should receive plenty of notice, placing this on the town website, Facebook page and additional signage located at the Town Office. Implementing the change will take into consideration that the residents of town must be properly notified.

5. It was moved by David Groder seconded by Robert Nutting and voted 5-0 to follow the state guidelines when declaring a snow day for nonessential town employees. With the understanding that weather could be different than forecasted and employees may be asked to report to work.

Adjournment – It was moved by David Groder seconded by Robert Nutting and voted 5-0 to adjourn at 8:00 pm.