

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
DECEMBER 13, 2023**

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Council members present:

Michael Perkins, Chairman
Robert Nutting

Dana Wrigley, Vice Chairman
Donald Borman

Others present:

Kelly Pinney Michaud, Town Manager
Chief Michael Tracy
Laura Tracy
Kathy Paradis
Sheila Thorne, Library Director
Rubee Stubbert
Donna Griffin
Michelle Fontaine
Brandy Robinson
Anita Chadderton
Officer Sirois
Karen Alley
Amy Calder, Sentinel Reporter
Eric Seekins, Recreation Director
Cameron McKay
Brooks Dillon
Rick Anzele
Officer Tifani Warren
Trisha Locke
Firefighter Antonio Rivera
Rachel Frost
Donald Ponitz
Tina Boag
Shawn Nava
Donna Doucette

Janice Porter, Town Clerk
Deputy Police Chief Rick Stubbert
Christine Nutting
Officer Fontaine
Charlee Stubbert
Angela Jurdak
Aldia Mullen
Kevin Quirion
Shane Savage
Janet Lund
Diana Sirois
Christian Alley
Aaron Parker, Parks & Rec Coordinator
Kelly Roderick
Jessica McKay
Tina Anzele
Officer Chris Cowan
Officer Tim Locke
Pastor Jamie Dickson
Kevin Purnell
Officer Tracey Frost
Officer Peter Tibbetts
David Boag
Penny Nava
Heather, Hannah, Leah, Reed, and Noah Adams

IV. It was moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Robert Nutting and voted 4-0 signing the warrant and approving the minutes from the November 15, 2023, Council meeting.

V. Business Agenda:

1. Mr. Craig Costello from Brantner, Thibodeau & Associates reviewed the Audit, via Zoom, with Council members. Mr. Costello reported that the Audit year ending June 30, 2023, was a clean audit and improvements being noted in many areas. The statement of revenues, expenditures showing a fund balance ending of \$6,146,717. The comparison schedule showed a net change in fund balances in the amount of \$723,958. There was a minor comment regarding payroll contracts and procedures. It was recommended to the Town either adopt a formal policy for payroll procedures or follow their own written processes.
2. Town Manager, Kelly Pinney Michaud, explained the process of replacing our retiring Police Chief, Michael Tracy. Three(3) individuals submitted letters of interest and held two (2) interviews. Deputy Chief Rick Stubbert stood out in the interview process. Kelly stated that she wished to officially appoint Rick Stubbert and for Council to confirm him as Oakland's next Police Chief. It was moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Robert Nutting and voted 4-0 to confirm the appointment of Rick Stubbert as Police Chief effective February 9th, 2024.
3. Mr. Aaron Parker introduced himself as our recent hire as Parks & Recreation Coordinator. Aaron spoke of his previous employment history with former Recreation Departments and as a teacher in Oakland. Currently the basketball season is in full swing with high numbers of boys/girls participating on the in house and travel teams.
4. Donna Griffin, Director of the Snow Pond Seniors, spoke of the "Meals To Go Program" offered free and open to everyone on Saturdays 11 am to 12 noon at the Baptist Church, 45 Church Street. Meals are available for pick up and arrangements made for those that are housebound and/or have transportation issues.
5. It was moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Robert Nutting and voted 4-0 authorizing Chief Coughlin to proceed with department training that would promote our basic level EMS Permit(s) to Advance Level.
It was noted that approximately ten (10) individuals would benefit from the higher level.
6. The Town Manager reported that MDOT has provided information pertinent to the Gagnon Road/County Road intersection. The town requested MDOT to study this location because of the number of accidents that have occurred. Based upon the criteria set by MDOT, an extensive study confirmed the following results. Permanent flashing signs will be installed/erected within one (1) year. MDOT promised that within two (2) months temporary signage will be placed at the four-

way intersection. Because of the dangerous hill going into the intersection others agreed that the signage must be placed in such a way that will provide plenty of notice coming from town on Fairfield Street, because of the dangerous hill going into the intersection. Making the intersection a four-way stop will be challenging for drivers and will be something that many will have to adjust to. It was noted that the closing of the Marston Road bridge is apt to cause more traffic in this dangerous intersection.

Executive Session:

It was moved by Michael Perkins seconded by Dana Wrigley and voted 3-0 to enter executive session at 7:00 pm, regarding Personnel Matters, 1 MRSA § 405(6)(a).

It was moved by Robert Nutting seconded by Dana Wrigley and voted 3-0 to come out of executive session at 7:15 pm no votes taken.

Adjournment – It was moved by Robert Nutting seconded by Dana Wrigley and voted 3-0 to adjourn at 7:15 pm.