

**RESCHEDULED
FROM
1/10/24**



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**OAKLAND TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2024**

- I. Call to order
The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Clerk Janice Porter
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
Michael Perkins Dana Wrigley Robert Nutting
David Groder Donald Borman
- Others present:
Kelly Pinney Michaud, Town Manager
Janice Porter, Town Clerk
Deputy Chief, Charles “Rick” Stubbert
Fire Chief David Coughlin
Boyd Snowden, Environmental Services
Sheila Thorne, Library Director
Abby Marshall, IT
Kelly Roderick Jon Cox Donna Griffin
Donald Ponitz Jean Ponitz Nathan Bernier
Susan Leigh Donna Doucette
- IV. Moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by David Groder and voted 5-0 approving the minutes from the December 27, 2023, Council meeting and signing the weekly warrant.
- V. Business Agenda:
1. Vote for Council Chair and Vice Chair
Secret Ballot Voting Conducted – Michael Perkins elected Chairperson (5-0) and Dana Wrigley elected Vice Chairperson (5-0)
 2. Boyd Snowden, reported the use of \$666, 300, ARPA Federal Funding, is being used for sewer system improvements, one of which started this past fall/winter of 2023. This project will start up again in the Spring of 2024, moving on to Railroad Avenue, Oak Street and Sawtelle Road. Any remaining funds

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would be used to line existing clay sewer main on Oak Street and possibly Water Street in fall of 2024 or spring of 2025. Councilors learned of an opportunity to apply for a MDOT Grant for Storm Water System replacement. Applications are due no later than March 29, 2024.

Boyd highlighted that there is an opportunity to seek MDOT funds for “Municipal Partnership Initiative” which has a maximum available of \$875,000. Oakland’s share would be 30% of MDOT funding the project. He noted that this arrangement would be different, as we would be participating in funding a project on a state road.

In another area the Transfer Station “closed landfill” site is in need of groundwork, of which MDEP staff has visited the site, on several occasions, and has requested this area be improved. Boyd stated that he will be applying for funding reimbursement with DEP.

Councilors agreed that Boyd should proceed in applying for grants to assist with the sewer system issues and the landfill.

3. Chief Dave Coughlin discussed the status of four (4) career staff members working within the department. Those individuals are being promoted to Lieutenant positions with an additional stipend. Moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Robert Nutting and voted 4-1 (Donald Borman opposed)
4. Moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by David Groder and voted 5-0 to accept donated funds from Joseph Hall to the Police Department in the amount of \$500 to be restricted towards purchase of tasers.
5. Moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by David Groder and voted 5-0 to accept the Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance award, to the Fire Department, in the amount of \$1,807.43 to purchase chainsaws and PPE.
6. Councilors signed the Sewer Commitment for the user period Oct – December 2023, in the amount of \$138,266.01.

Moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Robert Nutting and voted 5-0 to enter Executive Session: Union Negotiations, per 1 MRSA § 405(6)(D) at 6:30 pm.

Moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Robert Nutting and voted 5-0 to come out of executive session at 6:50pm.

Moved by Michael Perkins seconded by Dana Wrigley and voted 5-0 to approve placing an additional \$2.50, in salaries of those union members of the Police Department, effective July 1st, 2024. Kelly was asked to contact MMA for guidance concerning Council action taken. It was noted that there would be no negotiating as the Police Officers and Town Officials agree with the increase. The Manager will share her findings.

Moved by Michael Perkins seconded by Dana Wrigley and voted 5-0 to enter Executive Session: Acquisition of Real property or economic development, per 1 MRSA § 405(6)(C) at 6:52 pm.

Moved by Michael Perkins seconded by Dana Wrigley and voted 5-0 to come out of executive session at 7:00 pm with no votes taken.

Adjournment: Moved by David Groder seconded by Dana Wrigley and voted 5-0 to adjourn at 7:05 pm.

Upcoming Meetings:

1/22/2024 – Zoning Committee Meeting – 3:00 p.m. – Police Station

1/24/2024 – Town Council Meeting – 6:00 p.m. – Fire Station

1/25/2024 – Downtown TIF Committee Meeting – 3:00 p.m. – Police Station

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