

OAKLAND TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

April 10, 2024

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Council members present:	Michael Perkins, Chairman	Dana Wrigley
David Groder	Donald Borman	

Others present:	Kelly Pinney Michaud, Town Manager	
Abby Marshall, IT	Janice Porter, Town Clerk	Phyllis Capanna
Kathleen Paradis, Dep Town Clerk	Dr. Michelle Fontaine	Officer Chris Cowan
Anita Chadderton	Janet Lund	Laura Tracy
Michael Tracy	Nathan Smart, Code Enforcement Officer	
Max Bojarski	Dan Brewer	Caleb Daigneault
Zachary White	Matt Gilley	Brooke Blackler
Don Ponitz	Jean Ponitz	Chief Rick Stubbert
Geoffrey Ponitz	Alyssa Williams	Kelly Roderick
Sabrina Jandreau	Garvan Donegan	Raymond Gruber

IV. Moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by David Groder and voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from the March 27, 2024, meeting, and signing the weekly warrant.

V. Business Agenda:

Order:

63-2024 - Thomas College Student presentation

A group of Thomas College students conducted interviews with approximately 166 individuals.

The purpose of the survey was concentrating on the use of the “Bank Block” with questions addressing:

- *What type of business would you like to see occupy the Bank Block and adjacent properties?
- *If you chose food service/drinking establishment, what specific type of establishment would you like to see?
- *What type of business would you NOT like to see move into the properties in downtown Oakland?
- *What businesses do you find yourself frequenting the most in your daily life?
- *How important do you think occupying Bank Block and the adjacent properties is to the overall health of of downtown Oakland?
- *Do you know of a business that may be interested in viewing the properties? If yes, please let us know who/which business?

Students discussed several of the survey results and noted that most responses were very extensive.

Overwhelming, the surveys showed that there is a need/want for a food/beverage establishment locating on Main Street.

Students personally provided tours of the Bank Block to some business owners.

Matt Gilley, Thomas College advisor, stated that the results of all surveys, will be sent to the Town Office, in excel format, for distribution. There are plans for Channel Five to visit the Bank Block to highlight the building and discuss possible prospects for use.

Mr. Ponitz expressed his appreciation to the group for all of the work thus far with this project.

64-2024 -Approval of Downtown TIF Agreement & Guidelines and Application

Moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Donald Borman and voted 4-0 approving the Downtown TIF Agreement, Guidelines and Application along with the statutory requirements. All applications for the CEA will be considered by the Town Manager, TIF Committee and the Town Council with final approvals after a public hearing by the Town Council.

65-2024 - MMA Internship Grant \$3,500 – Awarded to Town of Oakland - Environmental Svcs Dept.

Moved by David Groder seconded by Dana Wrigley and voted 4-0 to accept the Internship Grant, in the amount of \$3,500, from the Maine Municipal Association. The intent of this grant program is to promote and support internships as a way of encouraging more young people in Maine to pursue municipal careers. Oakland Environmental Services, Boyd Snowden, has hired an intern who will assist this summer, working with Boyd while work/ construction continues in April replacing sewer lines lower Oak Street and additional work being completed on Railroad Avenue, upper Oak Street and Sawtelle Road.

66-2024 -FY25 Fuel Bid Results

Moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Donald Borman and voted 4-0 to approve the Town Manager's recommendation for the propane and #2 fuel bid from Fabian Oil and the gas and diesel from Dennis K.Burke.

- VI. Moved by Dana Wrigley seconded by Donald Borman and voted 4-0 to enter Executive Session per Acquisition of real property or economic development, 1 MRSA § 405(6)(c) at 6:29 pm.
The council came out of executive session at 6:42 pm. Moved by David Groder seconded by Dana Wrigley and voted 4-0 to proceed with the sale of a parcel of tax acquired property.

Adjournment – Moved, seconded, and voted 4-0 to adjourn at 6:53 pm.