

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

May 28, 2025

Council Members Present:

Michael Perkins, Chairman

Dave Groder

Dana Wrigley Vice Chairman

Robert Nutting

Kelly Roderick

Others Present:

Kelly Pinney-Michaud, Town Manager

Kathleen Paradis, Town Clerk

Rick Stubbert, Oakland Police Chief

Tiffany Warren, Detective, Oakland Police Department

Nathan Smart, Code Enforcement Officer

Kevin Quirion

David Savage

Wayne Cross

Debbie Cross

Jon Cox

Ray Gruber, Jr.

Kathy Bolduc

Kevin Bolduc

The meeting was called to order by Council Chairman Michael Perkins and led those present in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **Roll Call:** Roll call was taken, all five council members were present.
2. **To consider approving the minutes of the May 14, 2025, meeting:** It was moved by Dana Wrigley, seconded by Dave Groder, and voted 5-0 to accept the minutes of May 14, 2025.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Solar Ordinance-Motion to Extend Moratorium 180 Days:** Town Manager Kelly Pinney-Michaud stated that the 180 days of the original moratorium dated December 4, 2024, expired soon. Nathan Smart, Code Enforcement Officer, stated that the Planning Board met to discuss the changes to the ordinance that were recommended by legal counsel, but they needed more time to discuss, and they will take a vote at their meeting of June 17, 2025. They will discuss it again at their June 17 meeting. Councilor Kelly Roderick had stated that we needed to have more education on this subject. It was moved by Dana Wrigley, seconded by Robert Nutting and voted 5-0 to extend the moratorium.
2. **Accept Awarded Grant for Summer Library Children's Program:** Town Manager Kelly Pinney-Michaud advised the council that the library had received a grant from the Waterville Mother's Group in the amount of \$1200 and would like to have this approved by the council so the library can use this money

for their summer Children's program. It was moved by Dana Wrigley, seconded by Kelly Roderick, and voted 5-0 to accept the grant.

3. **ATV Road Access through MDOT:** Town Manager Kelly Pinney-Michaud advised the council regarding that the town had applied for the Municipal ATV Grant. There was a discussion about the Oak Street and Ten Lots Road area to open down to the Korner Store and Pleasant Street areas. The road is open from the Bates Chapel. The trail at the Oak Street/Ten Lots Road is all groomed on the left-hand side and is ready. The right-hand side is being worked on from the ten lots to the town property. Kevn Quirion from the ATV Club explained that he observed 43 machines operate in this area and they did so respectfully. Kevin Bolduc explained that the 7/10 of mile or so would be crucial to bring business into town to our local establishments. Kelly Roderick stated that she would like to see how this all goes before we continue to extend to the Pleasant Street area. David Groder suggested that the route be Bates Chapel, Oak Street, to the Korner Store and Fabian and to have the town waived for approval to access these roads. Mike Perkins stated that Oak Street to the railroad tracks down to the Korner Store and Fabian would be acceptable. It was moved by Mike Perkins seconded by David Groder and voted 4-1 to accept roads for ATV access.
4. **Sign RSU 18 District Budget Meeting Warrant:** The warrant for the RSU 18 District Budget Meeting was signed by all five councilors.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Axon Body Camera Update/Continued Discussion-Police Department:** Tiffany Warren Detective for the Oakland Police Department and Chief Rick Stubbart updated the council on the Axon Body Cameras. Detective Warren explained that there would need to be 9% down this would include the AI which would help the officers with saving time in writing their reports on incidents. This would be a 5- year contract and would be \$2,023.26 per month if approved. If this is not approved, they would wait 1 year and put into the budget. Chief Stubbart stated that he is quite sure that they will get the grant that they applied for and would cover all costs. David Groder explained he understands the timing and need. Town Manager explained that we would have to pay \$1200 in July and then in December \$11,000 and then \$2,023 for the remainder of the fiscal year. During budget season, we would need to budget this expense. Robert Nutting asked for an explanation for use of AI. Chief Stubbart said that it would transcribe the reports for the officers. Mike Perkins explained that he is on the Budget Committee for Kennebec County and knows of other departments that have this camera and believes this is a good program and a wise decision. Robert Nutting how many cameras? Tiffany explained that there would be a total of 12 cameras and all cameras would have the Officers Name and time stamp. Kelly Roderick explained that she is not opposed, but that she is not happy that this came in after budget and that she is not a fan of AI. Rick Stubbart stated again that he believes that we will be awarded the said grant. Detective Warren stated that the AI portion cannot copy information. Robert Nutting stated this is a good use of money. Ray Gruber, town citizen asked about the Police Department Budget. The Town Manager explained that we would have to have a special town meeting to have the first year of payments accepted in order to move forward now. Dana Wrigley explained that this is worthwhile, and we should move forward. Town Manager stated that we will go ahead and plan a special town meeting and ask citizens to use \$23, 455 from fund balance and plan to budget for the expense the following years. Mike Perkins also stated that this is a valuable tool for officer retention. Dana Wrigley made a motion to go to a special town meeting and include the AI portion with the cameras. It was seconded by David Groder and voted 4-1.

2. **Cemetery Tree Stumps:** Town Manager Kelly Pinney-Michaud gave an update on the tree stumps in the cemetery at Lakeview. She stated that there is a trust fund with available money to remove the stumps. She had asked AJ to obtain quotes for the stump removal and is still waiting to hear.
3. **Trespass Notice:** The Town Manager informed the council that there was an individual that was served with a trespass notice for both the boat landing and the library.

There was also a discussion regarding houseboats on the lakes. There is one on the island on Messalonskee Lake, but it is not used for anything and has not moved. Code Enforcement is aware of it.

Barbara Baldwin asked the council why the funding for the Homeless Shelter was cut out of the budget this year. The Town Manager explained that we had to cut out \$500,000 to our operations and no third-party request were granted.

Adjourn: It was motioned by Kelly Roderick, seconded by David Groder, and voted 5-0 to adjourn at 6:57pm.