

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 22, 2025

Council Members Present:

Michael Perkins, Chairman
Dana Wrigley, Vice Chairman
Kelly Roderick

David Groder
Robert Nutting

Others Present:

Kelly Pinney-Michaud, Town Manager
LT. Adam Sirois OPD
Donna Doucette
George Bailey
David Savage
Victor Esposito

Kathleen Paradis, Town Clerk
David Coughlin, Chief Oakland Fire Department
Ray Gruber
Laurie Brann
Su Leigh
Nathan Smart, Code Enforcement Officer

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Council Chairman Michael Perkins and led those present in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Roll call was taken, all five council members were present.
2. To consider approving the minutes of October 8, 2025, meeting and sign the weekly payable warrant. The motion was made by Dana Wrigley, seconded by Robert Nutting, and voted 5-0 to accept the minutes and sign the warrant.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2nd Reading of GA Maximums: Town Clerk Kathleen Paradis informed the council of the GA Maximums for the year 2025-2026. She explained that every year starting October 1st, the State sends the towns new overall Maximums for guidelines to use for general assistance. She explained with the SNAP benefit cut that this program may be getting more applicants than before, but we are working with the local food pantry on that aspect. Dana Wrigley asked if we should have a third meeting because of the cost and situation for the SNAP program. Town Clerk stated she believes we should be all set with these new guidelines. It was motioned by Dana Wrigley and seconded by Robert Nutting and voted 5-0 to accept the new guidelines for GA.
2. Signing of Sewer Commitment for July 2025-September 2025.: The sewer commitment was signed by all five councilors.

3. Overlook Pot-Holes: Town Manager informed the council that the potholes at the Overlook are now fixed.
4. Outdoor Wireless Cameras: The Town applied for and received a MMA Risk Reduction grant in the amount of \$1,817.36 for outdoor wireless cameras for the Library and Pleasant Point Park. Resident George Baily asked if the cameras would have a time imprint as there is a lot of activity in the park after dark. LT Adam Sirois stated that the night shift is aware of the situation and does their best to move any unwanted individuals out of the area. It was motioned by Dana Wrigley, seconded by David Groder, and voted 5-0 to accept the grant funds and new wireless cameras.
5. Library \$10,000 Gift: Town Manager Kelly Pinney-Michaud informed the council that the Oakland Public Library is among the 1280 Carnegie Libraries that is still in existence to receive a gift of \$10,000 from the Carnegie Foundation. It was asked if we should vote to accept the gift or wait until we receive money in hand. Councilor David Groder suggested that we wait to make a vote on the gift until we have received the money. It was then voted 5-0 to wait on accepting the gift.

Other Business:

Town Charter Discussion: The Town Manager opened the discussion by noting that in April 2024, the Town Council reviewed and discussed the Town Charter. Since that time, new laws have been enacted regarding the foreclosure process. The Town Manager also stated that former Town Clerk Janice Porter had previously identified additional revisions that should be considered for the Charter.

The proposed updates include:

- Section 204 Filing Deadline: Changing the filing period from *50 calendar days before elections* to *60–100 days*.
- Special Town Meeting Threshold: Increasing the minimum amount requiring a special town meeting from \$10,001 to \$24,000.

Robert Nutting explained that the process to revise the Charter typically takes approximately two years. The Council would need to appoint and elect a nine-member Charter Review Committee to review and recommend changes.

Mr. Nutting noted that there has only been one special town meeting since 2004—for the approval of \$100,000 to purchase a new heater for the school—and that was the only Charter amendment in that time. He further explained that each proposed amendment must be considered separately and requires:

1. A vote by at least three councilors to move forward.
2. A special meeting and subsequent vote in November.
3. Legal review by an attorney prior to any ballot vote.

If a proposal does not receive support from three councilors, the nine-member committee could still submit it to the attorney, after which a petition with at least 619 signatures would be required to place it on a secret ballot.

It was suggested by Robert Nutting that all ideas should be submitted in a formal proposal from the individual who is making such suggestion, Submit to a council member or the Town Manager. Ray Gruber questioned why an attorney? Mr. Nutting explained that we need to have an attorney review before the secret ballot. Donna Doucette asked if we must look at the charter and get a committee and then have 3 councilors vote? George Bailey asked if the council had any items that they would like to look at? George Bailey asked about the town budget, would it be an amendment or revision? Kelly Roderick stated that if we do revisions, we should look at the entire document. She also asked about wording for a petition how do we manage this. Town Manager stated that we would consult with MMA for an answer. Michael Perkins then suggested that we put this on our website for residents to send in their proposals for changes in writing addressed to the Town Manager. Then we will set up a date to review all documents. It was suggested that we put this item on the agenda for the first council meeting in January.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Kelly Roderick and seconded by David Groder at 6:50pm to end the public hearing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: It was motioned by Kelly Roderick and seconded by Dana Wrigley to open the executive session at 6:55pm. It was then motioned by Kelly Roderick and seconded by David Groder to end the executive session at 7:25pm.

Adjournment: It was moved by Kelly Roderick, seconded by Robert Nutting, and voted 4-0 to adjourn meeting at 6:45pm.