

# MINUTES

For a regular meeting of the Pittsfield Town Council held on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

**PRESENT:** COUNCILORS: Robert Stackhouse, Tim Nichols, Scott Strom, Trudy Ferland and Heather Donahue. **ABSENT:** Michael Cianchette. Also present: Town Manager Kathryn Ruth and Finance Clerk Tonja Lary. Audience members included: Edith Bickford, Tyler Strom, Marie Manning, Dominic DePatsy, Ryan Sigston, Molly Therrien, Hannah Walden, Emily Ford, Michael Niayesh, Representative Stanley Short, Barbara Jones, Sumner Jones, Alvah Wyman, Thomas Brown, Don Hallenbeck, Robert Beattie, Charles London, Carrie London, Billie Jo Reed, Jock Lasselle, Angie Stockwell, Lorna White, Wedon Wakefield, Jeanne Gallway, Gavin Gallway, Brooke Gallway, Taylor Gallway, Logan Rollins, Darcy Rollins and others.

1. **Mayor Stackhouse** opened the meeting by leading the **Pledge of Allegiance**. The Council observed a moment of silence.
2. Adoption of minutes of the regular meetings held on April 21, 2015 and May 5, 2015.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Tim Nichols** and seconded by **Councilor Ferland** that the minutes of the regular meetings held on April 21, 2015 and May 5, 2015 be adopted.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

### 3. **PRESENTATIONS, CONGRATULATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS:**

#### **Welcome MCI Humanities History Class Teacher Hannah Walden & Students**

Hannah Walden and her students not otherwise engaged in the Spring MCI Concert are here this evening to learn about how the Town government works. Ms. Walden has noted that there is a lot of student interest in understanding how their local government works and they have been scouring the town website for details. For those who are unable to attend, as a class, they will be re-enacting former town council meetings using the minutes that are posted on-line. That will be very interesting! Welcome to Ms. Walden and her students!

#### **Presentation of the Boston Post Cane to Mr. Weldon Wakefield**

The Boston Post Cane will be presented this evening to Mr. Weldon Wakefield, who is the oldest citizen in the community at the age of 94. Congratulations to Mr. Wakefield! The PHS had the Boston Post Cane replicated as it had been lost many years ago and has been presenting a certificate to the oldest citizen with the replicated Boston Post Cane displayed in a beautiful case in the Municipal Building. PHS and the Town Clerk conducted their research for several months to determine the oldest citizen. PHS has asked that the Mayor of the Town, Robert Stackhouse, present the cane. After the presentation, Mr. Wakefield may make any comments that he would like and take any photos that people would like. The Town Manager gave a brief history of the Boston Post Cane.

Mayor Robert Stackhouse officially presented the cane to Mr. Wakefield who thanked the Town for this recognition. A short break took place for photographs by family and friends.

**Presentation by Boy Scout Logan Rollins on his proposed Eagle Scout Project; Logan is at a required Concert and will arrive approximately at 7:10 pm.**

Logan is seeking to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. His planned project is to replace the old metal bookshelves in the Children's Room at the Pittsfield Public Library with new wooden ones. The bookshelves in the basement don't fit the atmosphere after the remodel. Logan has received approval of this project by the Scouts and now needs approval from the Town. This would be a great addition to the Children's Room as the metal bookshelves are old and rusting. The plan is to have wood bookshelves, which would be identical copies to what are in the adult room. Logan is raising his own funding. He will be having a book drive at Warsaw and sale to promote reading and community involvement. He will be working with employees from EW Littlefield on 6 bookshelves. Logan Rollins explained his project in detail with an excellent presentation.

Deputy Mayor Nichols asked how much Logan needs to raise. Logan stated \$250.00. Mayor Stackhouse questioned the project timeline. Logan stated that the start date would be June 1 with an end date of June 26.

**Presentation of the proposed 2015-2016 MSAD#53 School Budget by Superintendent Dominic DePatsy**

This is a follow-up meeting to the first discussion with MSAD#53 about the proposed 2015-2016 school budget. A copy of the proposed budget was included in the Town Council's package. In addition, a copy of the hefty MSAD#53 Master Plan Formal Report and Appendices to Formal Report dated April 13, 2015 were dropped off after the last Council Meeting. The documents are not easy to copy due to the light print and light color page headers, however, the copies were made readable. There are many 11 X 17 pages with data and drawings included. Therefore, I have copied the (1) Executive Summary; (2) Introduction and (3) Priority Improvements & Funding Sources.

Mr. DePatsy reviewed the Budget Summary Worksheet detailing the increase of 5.46%. We were here almost a month ago and had some preliminary numbers, with some still coming in. Mr. DePatsy discussed the planned Ipad initiative, which will provide all students in grade K-2 Ipads. We are looking for a 90% proficiency. We also eliminated the Librarian position. We have moved into a different model called learning confidence. Its an open space using technology with the traditional library skills. The other thing we have to do is a 9 – 12 Special Ed day treatment position. We currently do not have a program, but we are required to do this as we are mandated by the Special Ed audit. We are mandated to do proficiency based diploma. The numerous costs associated with this was discussed. We have the most amazing teachers. I am from down south and these teachers work was harder. We did eliminate the school psych provider and will be going out to bid with that. We also eliminated 2 Ed Techs at MCI as 2 of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are not going up there. We changed bank locally and our fees went way up. We have asked what they can do, as we do not want to pay ay fees. We do have a bank out of Town that is offering no fees. With only the increase in tuition, salaries and the medical benefits, its already almost half a million dollars. We somehow for 10 years, which we do not know why, had been paying for 2 Ed Techs with the Maine Retirement System for Teachers that we should not have been. We received a check refunding \$280,000. The Finance Committee took that money and put it down on the budget this year. Mr. DePatsy noted on June 8, 2015 at 6:30 in the Warsaw Library there will be a Master Plan Presentation. The Superintendent also noted that the list is going to open up this year in September so this is perfect time. Maybe in 5 years we can have the school completely funded. The most cost effective plan is to move off the site we are currently located at as it is swampy. The cheapest way to go is to buy land, build a K-8

school and a 9 – 12 school. Building a new school would get people to move here. This has been seen in other locations in the State.

### **Community and Economic Development Activities and Events:**

#### **Report on New Business Activity & Opportunities in Pittsfield:**

Important economic and community development events scheduled to be reported on:

Wednesday, May 13, 2015: 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Job Fair

Monday, July 13 – Saturday, July 18, 2015: 43<sup>rd</sup> Central Maine Egg Festival

#### **General:**

Several private sector business activities remain under review and small projects continue to be underway. Several commercial properties have recently been sold, are under option, or will be leased. To address remaining available small to medium locations, additional promotional pieces beyond our regular promotion of available properties had been provided to economic and community development resources and sites. All properties have been acquired or are in process except the former Ben's Breakfast which has suffered some internal damage that is currently being addressed (before being marketed). The Chalice is now back on the market as the Sebecook Valley Federal Credit Union now officially owns the property and has hired a real estate agent to market it.

As of the date of writing this agenda item, the Town continues to work on three proposals/background materials for three business proposals/property inquiries.

The Town Council will sign a Certificate of Welcome to S.P.C. Sacks Painting & Contracting which is located at 207 Waverly Street.

#### **UTC Factory:**

Planning continues for the announced factory closure of the local UTC facility by Global UTC Headquarters beginning in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2014 through full closure in March, 2015. Planning consists of two phases, which includes recovery for the employees and for the site/community. The first Kennebec-Somerset Transition Team Meeting took place on May 01, 2014. The Pittsfield Economic Expansion Corporation has met with UTC at the plant and reviewed the factory on a detailed tour on May 23, 2014. Several tours have taken place. UTC hired CBRE The Boulos Company which deals extensively with commercial real estate across the United States and beyond. Multiple tours of the property have taken place, however, the Town was not involved. Multiple opportunities are being made available to UTC employees to meet with resource providers during their lunch one-half hour in the lunchroom. A schedule of dates/subjects was being scheduled and several events took place. Discussions were also underway regarding small job fairs in addition to the yearly Regional May Job Fair that Pittsfield and the Ken-Som Transition Team holds for several counties. Several events were planned for UTC lunch breaks at the facility specialized in areas such as banking/financial planning; education opportunities; etc.

At the last Ken-Som Transition Team Meeting, it was agreed to combine a number of events into one large resource fair to take place during February vacation when the schools are available for use. This event was held on Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at Warsaw Middle School Gym from 1:30 – 4:30 pm. It was a great success with approximately 52 businesses and resource providers. Over 303 people attended.

The last notices were provided by UTC to employees. Approximately 60 will be left with some working on production until May 1, 2015. After that there will be a small group who will be on site during the Summer. Review of the UTC Facility continues by parties. We continue to be in contact with interested parties. A new meeting was held at UTC which representatives of the Pittsfield Economic Expansion Corporation (PEEC) attended since the last Council Meeting of 05/05/2015.

**SAS Property:**

SAS Property placed on the market by MTC Holdings, LTD of San Antonio, Texas and is offered by the LandVest, a Luxury Property Real Estate Company in Camden – The website promoting the property is linked to the Town’s website. The Town has recommended that the building be available for lease of needed space, however, the company would like to sell the entire building/s. The December appointment with the out of state developer/investor was cancelled due to the winter storm. The Town met with commercial interests about the property in January, 2014. Several projects are underway to enhance the ability to develop this unique and interesting property. The pre-application required for the Historic Status of the SAS property (former Waverly Mill) to proceed forward to the National Register was completed in April and submitted. The Town has been advised that the Mill has received approval of its pre-application and has been placed on the State of Maine Historic Sites database. The Town now has a State of Maine Historic Commission letter stating the Mill’s suitability for the National Register which can be presented to a developer who wishes to pursue the National Register application process or the Town can utilize the letter to hire an architectural historian or other expert to complete the process (upon receipt of appropriate funding source, i.e, grant or donation). The Town worked with the potential developer to line up interested agencies to tour the mill this summer. The first tour has taken place. Background research continues to take place to locate funding resources. Recently there have been multiple contacts regarding the future of this site and the property is now in the process of being auctioned off. The Town Manager attended the Preview of the property on Monday, 11/24/2014. The Auction was set for 12/09/2014. As many people have been contacted that we can think of who could be interested in the facility. After the auction took place, we learned that negotiations were underway to purchase the building. The negotiations were confidential. In the end, the negotiations did not yield a buyer. As of the writing of this agenda item, a party is reviewing this facility to determine if it is interested. The Town has not heard about the current status of the interest, however, continues to inquire. More information has been provided. The Real Estate Agent has been asked for a progress report again and upon this inquiry, sent the request directly to the Trust for an answer.

The Town was advised after the 05/05/2015 Council Meeting that the Real Estate Company LandVest is not marketing the property. A new contact has been provided. All information or requests need to be submitted to the Trust. A new tour took place last week through the buildings. This is the first time that we have seen deterioration in the Mill building since it was closed down.

**Somerset Plaza:**

The new Plaza owner has provided details on site vacancies to the Town and these have been advertised for the Plaza. Several referrals have been made to the Plaza. Some of the referrals have met with the Plaza owner to review possible leases. There are several potential business projects, therefore, reviewing the applicability of a Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) has begun and will continue once information is received. Further information required to evaluate this opportunity has not been received from the developer. The popular

**Ken-A-Set Thrift Shop operated by Skills, Inc.** will move to the Plaza to the former Family Dollar Store location once vacated. Many calls have already been received by the Town Office staff from citizens and neighboring residents asking when the store will open! People are very excited about Ken-A-Set moving to Town. **United Insurance Company** has announced that it will be moving to the Plaza to the former Natural Food Store location across from Subway. The **Discount Warehouse** space has been thoroughly reviewed for retail with **Advance Auto** expanding into the area.

Construction has been underway in the Plaza for **United Insurance Company**. The configuration of the space has been worked out so that the company has sufficient room and the plan meets state requirements.

Construction is also now underway for the **Ken-A-Set Thrift Shop**. The Thrift Shop sign is up now and we continue to receive more phone calls inquiring as to the Grand Opening Date!

**North Lancey Building:**

North Lancey Street Business Building placed on the market by Lancey Associates and is offered by Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate The Masiello Group. Gary has compiled a spec sheet for this property and it is on the web site as well as having been distributed. There has been interest in the location.

**Family Dollar:**

The Family Dollar Store is basically complete except for landscaping. Merchandise is being moved into the store to open the first week of April 2015. If a notice is provided of a Grand Opening, that information will be forwarded to the Town Council. **Family Dollar** was moved to its new home and re-opened late last week when the merchandise was in place. Many excellent comments from citizens and customers in the store. It is very user friendly, lots of new merchandise and easy to move around and find items.

Still hearing lots of good comments and the store has been packed at times.

**Hancock Lumber:**

Hancock Lumber continues to work on their development project to assist with production and has submitted the map for the agreement. The company is forwarding the Town agreement through the authorization process. We were advised that their project is scheduled for Spring 2015 when weather permits.

**American Legion:**

The American Legion has received engineering assistance from Kleinschmidt Associates. An application for site plan review is being prepared for the building. Grant funding reviews have been underway with a couple of distinct possibilities located. The American Legion has launched a fundraising campaign to raise funds for the rehabilitation of their Middle Street property. At the 03/03/2015 Council Meeting, the Town Council approved a lease agreement for spots in the parking lot in order to meet site plan review requirements.

**Former Corner Cupboard:**

Officially the former grocery store (and auto shop) will become the new home for Insource Renewables. The business vehicles and inventory will be stored on the site. The office will continue to be located at North Lancey Street. Work has been underway in the building. Progress is being made in the building.

**Pittsfield Redemption Center:** The facility had been closed for awhile when Ms. Goodridge's tenant ceased operations. The facility is now open with regular hours. It has been reported that the property has been sold. We have received good comments about the new management of the facility and the service. Bud's had been swamped with returnable bottles so it is good that there is now another location in the Town. The business seems very busy at times during the day so customers are coming back.

**Pittsfield Equipment Rental:** This facility had been shut down by the owner and put on the market. The property sale is in the process of being finalized. The prospective purchaser, who owns a business in Waterville, plans to have a garden type store with mulch and rentals. The building will receive some updates.

**Report on Somerset Avenue Sidewalk Project:** The Preliminary Punch List was issued to the contractor along with a list of paperwork which is required. The Town worked on the detectable basins for handicap accessibility which are needed on the additional section of Somerset Avenue that was added to the project. It is anticipated that a meeting will be set to address the need for the lienholder waivers and to address the punch list items. The Contractor called back on 11/12/2014 to our written request from early 10/2014. So far, the Town has not received the required documentation nor has the Contractor met with the Public Works Foreman on the punch list. Therefore, the final payment has not been issued. On 12/08/2014 the Contractor called back, a meeting took place and the Town received all of the necessary information in order to release the final payment (with 2% retainage held). Funding for the work completed for MDOT remains as an Accounts Receivable as of the date of this agenda item. As soon as the snow melts, the Town will inspect the sidewalk for any damages or issues in addition to the punch list compiled last year.

New issues in addition to the punch list have developed over the winter. In May 2015, a new punch list was created which will be presented to the contractor by the Public Works Foreman. Photographs of the issues have been taken for the record. The contractor is to arrive the week of 05/18/2015 to conduct the required landscaping. Paving repairs are in the process of being scheduled.

Our Public Works Foreman took pictures of the issues along the sidewalk which involve additional cuts that need to be cracksealed as they were not part of the plan; divots or impressions where the paving grade is not correct; and lack of vegetation or in a few places massive weeds. I took all the photos, created a new updated Punch List from the preliminary one created last Fall. The preliminary punch list indicates that other items may be added. I put all of this in a book for the Public Works Foreman to utilize in explaining to the Contractor the work that needs to be completed. At this point, the Town has not paid 2% retainage that was allowed to be held on the project after the Punch list review and discussion that was signed off on late last year. After the successful completion of an agreed upon Punch list, the funds will be released.

#### **Report on Meetings & Events:**

Sebasticook Valley Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting on Thursday, 05/07/2015 at 5:00 pm at the SVCC Office in Palmyra

Kennebec Valley Council of Governments (KVCOG) Broadband Meeting on Monday, 05/11/2015 at 1:00 pm at the KVCOG Office in Fairfield

Kennebec Valley Council of Governments (KVCOG) Board of Directors Meeting on Tuesday, 05/12/2015 at 9:30 am at the KVCOG Office in Fairfield

Kennebec Valley Council of Governments (KVCOG) Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Meeting on Tuesday, 05/12/2015 at 11:00 am at the KVCOG Office in Fairfield

Somerset Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) Meeting on Thursday, 05/14/2015 at 10:00 am in Skowhegan

Somerset Workforce Connect Committee Meeting on Thursday, 05/14/2015 at 1:00 pm in Skowhegan

Sebasticon Valley Chamber of Commerce Business & Community Expo Committee Meeting on Thursday, 05/14/2015 at 5:00 pm at the SVCC Office in Palmyra

Central Maine Egg Festival Committee Meeting on Thursday, 05/14/2015 at 6:30 pm

Kohl's Growing Healthy Communities Meeting on Sunday, 05/17/2015 at 10:00 am – 12:00 noon at MCI

HealthySV Executive Committee Meeting on Tuesday, 05/19/2015 at 9:00 am at the HealthySV Office in Pittsfield

**Upcoming Meetings & Events:**

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Committee Meeting on Wednesday, 05/20/2015 at 6:30 pm

Theatre Committee Meeting on Wednesday, 05/27/2015 at 6:00 pm

FirstPark General Assembly Meeting on Thursday, 05/28/2015 at 5:00 pm at T-Mobile in Oakland

Central Maine Egg Festival Committee Meeting on Thursday, 05/28/2015 at 6:30 pm

The remainder of the meetings are in the process of being scheduled.

4. **PUBLIC HEARINGS/OLD BUSINESS: NONE**
5. **REPORTS: TOWN MANAGER, FINANCE, ORDINANCE & RECYCLING COMMITTEES:**

**Town Manager's Report: Town Council Meeting of 05/19/2015:**

**1. The FYI Folder:** FYI Folder which contains items that come in between the Town Council Meetings has the following this evening: None.

**2. High on Life, Not on Drugs Run/Walk:** The Annual High on Life, Not on Drugs Race took place on Saturday, May 9, 2015 at MCI at 10:00 am. Registration opens at 8:30 am. The first 100 participants that arrived the day of the event received a FREE t-shirt. This event was a great success with approximately 166 people participating.

**3. Kohl's Care's About ME Grant Event:** A fun two hour event was held last Sunday, 05/17/2015 at the MCI campus focused around gardening and related topics. There were approximately 130 people present and likely more as they came in from all directions. This event was also a great success and a lot of fun for the participants.

**4. 43<sup>rd</sup> Central Maine Egg Festival:** The 43rd Annual Central Maine Egg Festival will be held Monday, July 13, 2015 through Saturday, July 18, 2015. The Egg Festival Committee schedules their events the same week as the Kiwanis Karnival which is set by the Greater Pittsfield Area Kiwanis Club when the Carnival company is available.

Egg Festival Committee meetings are being held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm until June - July when the group meets more often. For more information, contact Stephen McCarron, President at [president@centralmaineeggfestival.org](mailto:president@centralmaineeggfestival.org)

The 2015 Officers for the Egg Festival are: Steve McCarron, President; Casey Snowman, Vice-President; Taylor Owens, Secretary; and Marie Cole, Treasurer.

The 2015 Board of Directors are: Steve McCarron, Casey Snowman; Marie Cole; Dale Goodwin; Timothy Nichols; Taylor Owens; Steven Cianchette; Lisa Cianchette; and Kathryn Ruth.

The 2015 Egg Festival Theme is: The Central Maine "Egg"spierience

**Finance Committee:** None. **Ordinance Committee:** None. **Recycling Committee:** None.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS:

**RESOLUTION 15-56:** Resolved that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager and Assistant Treasurer to Transfer and Expend up to \$500 from the Hooked on Fishing Account at Peoples United Bank (G1-104-06) for the 2015 Hooked on Fishing School and Community events in June, 2015.

Moved by **Councilor Donahue** and seconded by **Deputy Mayor Nichols** that Resolution 15-56 is adopted.

The Town Manager noted it is time for Hooked on Fishing activities again this year. The fishing activities for the two classes will be held on Friday, June 05, 2015. The fishing activities for the community will be held on Saturday, June 06, 2015 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. All activities will be at Manson Park.

It is estimated that the cost will be less, however, I left it at the level of the 2013 and 2014 approval in case there is an unexpected emergency. This will avoid the situation of having to process a second Resolution.

The Hooked on Fishing Account has a balance of \$5,400.07 as of 04/30/2015.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

**RESOLUTION 15-57:** Resolved that the Town Council Authorize the Town Manager to execute the Federal Aviation Administration/Maine Department of Transportation Transfer Agreement for the 2015 Crackseal Project at the Pittsfield Municipal Airport.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Nichols** and seconded by **Councilor Ferland** that Resolution 15-57 is adopted.

The Town Manager noted the paperwork from the FAA which MDOT said on 05/12/2015 would be arriving soon has not arrived yet. I was just advised by the FAA that the paperwork is on our way to the Town and will arrive near the end of the week.

Since some airports have expiring funds that will lapse, they will be donated to the 5 towns (including Pittsfield) in this project so that the funds can be utilized. This will lower the amount of funds to be utilized from our entitlement or reserve.

I also received the good news from MDOT that it looks like the total cost of crack sealing at Pittsfield is \$102,232.65. This means that the FAA share will be 90% of that or \$92,009. The project has gone out to bid but MDOT cannot sign a contract until the FAA grant is completed. MDOT cannot get a FAA grant until the FAA does all the transfer agreements. Once all the airports involved sign the transfer agreements and get them back to the FAA it will begin the process of issuing a grant. MDOT had planned to have a construction timeframe of June 1, 2015 to September 1, 2015. It is now likely it will be later.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

**RESOLUTION 15-58:** Resolved that the Town Council Appoint members to fill the vacancies on the various Town Boards and Committees from the attached list.

Moved by **Councilor Donahue** and seconded by **Deputy Mayor Nichols** that Resolution 15-58 is adopted.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

## 7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### **Financial Reports as of 04/30/2015**

Budget Expenditure Report  
Revenue Collections Report  
Tax Acquired Property Report  
Economic Development Revolving Loan Update  
Housing Revolving Loan Update  
Transfer Station/Recycling Monthly Report  
Theatre Monthly Report  
Excise Tax Collections Comparison Report  
State Revenue Sharing Comparison Report  
Personal Property Tax Collection Report  
Real Estate Property Tax Collection  
**Briefly Reviewed by Town Manager**

### **Other Reports as of 04/30/2015**

Building and Plumbing Permit Reports

**Updates:**

**Water & Sewer Projects Update:** The Assistant Water/Sewer Superintendent reports that over the past few weeks the W/S departments have been quite busy: They have attended more trainings. The departments are continuing spring clean up of facilities and excavation sites. Hydro excavated gate boxes that were damaged. Continue to plan hydrant replacements.

The Assistant Water/Sewer Superintendent has also spent a lot of time researching aeration and floating berm for the lagoons as well as finding the best approach to removing sludge cost effectively. Spent time finishing updating our safety manual. Started planning our summer projects including riprap on both lagoon berms, fencing at the wwtp, trimming and clearing the sewer cross country runs at the airport and Curtis St. to Davis St., hydrant replacements, ditching on McCarty Road, repairing manholes and covers, and fixing numerous curb stops.

A number of RFPs have been written to include the Wastewater Plant Fence, Sewer Line Cleaning and Inspection Services, and Fire Hydrants.

The Assistant Water/Sewer Superintendent has leased the excavator for two months during the summer for many town projects. Some projects have already taken place. I am awaiting the week by week list of projects and estimated time so that the equipment will be fully utilized. It is usually \$1200 per week which is \$9,600. Because we would take it straight for two months the cost was cut to \$700 per week or \$5,600. We have a lengthy list of work compiled and this will need to be very organized in order to fully utilize the equipment. The backhoes just cannot do some of this work very efficiently.

**CWSRF Peltoma Avenue Project Closing:** The Town has received funds for Pay Req #4 for the project. The Award Notice was issued to the Contractor Nitram Excavation and we await the paperwork to schedule the pre-construction meeting. At that point, we will receive the schedule and can advertise it for public knowledge beyond the project area. All the parties along the project area will receive notification automatically as part of the project.

**Highway Projects Update:** A bit more sweeping has been done. We have been receiving compliments on the sweeping. The Public Works Foreman has been working on regular maintenance, grounds work, and addressing the Somerset Avenue sidewalk project. There has been a lot of building maintenance and special projects. Securing the TAPs takes up a lot of time!

**Metal Garden Art and Birdhouse Proposal for Stein Park:** Debora Short is taking the Master Gardener Course. She needs to work on a project which as 40 hours of volunteer assistance and chose the Town and Garden Club to assist. Debora has planned out a project with a nice piece of Garden Art made of steel in the flower garden at Stein park. It will be an imitation of a sunflower which will stand 8’ tall and at its widest point will be a maximum of 3’. It will need a foundation of concrete 8 inches diameter by 4’ deep. In the center of the concrete there will be a four foot piece of 1.25” diameter galvanized pipe threaded on top end to which the finished piece of artwork will be attached. Stanley Short will fabricate the garden art. There will also be two rocks to be added to the garden as well as a decorative bird

house (not a real one) on a 4' X 4' post using a mailbox post holder. I spoke with Debora about the plantings and explained the inability to cut the trees for more sunlight due to the bank stabilization issue and the safety of the park users. Debora will have mostly shade type plantings. This sounded quite nice and would spark up Stein Park, which is already quite beautiful. We are fortunate to have the Pittsfield Garden Club taking care of the gardens and the Town received several grants to revitalize the park. The Town Councilors thought this was a wonderful project by the Town.

**Proposed State Budget Impact/Legislation affecting Municipalities & Proposed**

**Legislation:** The proposed budget issues and legislation from the last two weeks has centered around the very complicated management and financing of the County Jail System. The Legislative Bulletin dated May 15, 2015 did an excellent job of laying out exactly what was going on. In addition, it discusses the Property Tax Fairness Credit and whether it is really working and is fair. If anyone has not received a copy of that bulletin, I can forward it to you.

**Code Enforcement/Junky Yards:** At the last meeting, we were awaiting the information from the Building Inspector regarding the property on Leonard Street so that the entire situation can be re-reviewed by the Town Attorney with a recommendation for the Town Council. He was to prepare photographs with 2-3 on a page for the Town Council so you can see what we are dealing with at the property. I obtained the photos and had the staff print them out so that the Town Council can see the disheveled property. The CEO was requested to provide his recommendation to proceed forward to court with this property. There must be a recommendation from the CEO in order to file the paperwork. Over the last years, I have received copies of violations and logs, but not a recommendation. I have requested this again as the attorney will not be able to proceed without it and the Town Council needs it to make a decision and action to proceed forward. It was noted by Town Councilors that this situation needs to be resolved. The Town Councilors indicated the Town has done much more than most communities would to assist and now needs to move forward with legal action.

**Regional Broadband Planning:** KVCOG is starting a regional process and if this is an area of interest to any of the Town Councilors, I can advise of the meeting schedule and activities, once established.

The first meeting was on Monday, May 11, 2015 at 1:00 pm at KVCOG. It was highly interesting, well-attended and obviously a subject of interest to most of the towns in the Kennebec-Somerset area.

**Grants Update:**

**New Grants:**

Airport Grants: Airport Master Plan Update – On-going, should have a summary document shortly. Town received projections of usage and requested they be revised.

Airport Grants: Airport Taxiway Reconstruction – to be completed late this spring/early summer.

Airport Grants: Airport Apron Expansion – to be completed late this spring/early summer.

Bangor Savings Bank Community Matters More – we will promote this program and award once the Bank schedules the presentation of the check. The Bank takes care of this as it is their project and then once they do everything they want, we would then create some promotion about the award.

HealthySV: Community Resources Program – Events have been scheduled in Warsaw Middle School, Vickery School and Manson Park School. Officer Mike Cote is the Visiting

Resource Officer. We need to bill for this project to receive our quarterly payment.  
Project Canopy Grant: Gateway to Downtown – The project has been approved by the State to proceed once the training video is available. No training video has been available so the project has not begun. We will need to revise this a bit as the students will be out of school once it is time to do this, however, there are many students at MCI during the summer who would likely find this project to be of interest as well as the ability to pass out flyers at Recreation at the Pool where hundreds of people go.  
USDA Sewer Rehabilitation Grant – Retainage is left and will be addressed later this year so that this grant can be closed out as punch list of work was completed on one of the projects.

### **Other Grant Opportunities:**

Efficiency Maine Incentives – will be exploring possibilities for some of the town buildings  
Local Roads Sign Replacement Program – The Town applied for a grant for replacement of directional signs that are outdated, not reflective, missing/damaged due to vandalism or would be new ones that should be installed. The match for the award will be 10% which is a wonderful deal. Depending upon the number of towns that applied and the funds available, we will see if we qualify later this year. The Town identified 84 signs for replacement. The Town would not receive a grant for 84 signs, but we could receive a grant for a percentage which would be great. Signs and sign posts are extremely expensive.

PeopleForBikes Grant – obtain funds for a variety of projects is under review. In order to apply the Bike Pedestrian Committee will need to meet and we have made another request to KVCOG's Planner who was organizing this project free of charge.

Rural Development – USDA has advised that they have RD funds available through loan and grant that would fit well with the future sewer work. If the Town would like, RD will meet with the Town. There was a discussion about our new debt and how it is being handled in the sewer enterprise fund.

## 8. **REPORTS:** Audience, Council

### **Audience:**

**Don Hallenbeck:** Congrats to Weldon. I rode his bus as a kid. He was my first bus driver. I also wanted to say Congrats to the young man working on the Eagle Project.

### **Council:**

**Councilor Donahue:** It was nice to have the kids from MCI in the audience. It is nice to have people aware. It sounds like a nice project that Logan will be working on. It is nice to see Weldon celebrating with family. He is an enjoyable character.

**Councilor Ferland:** I want to thank you for coming in tonight to learn about our process. It really is an interesting process. I hope you learned something today and will come back. I want to thank the Superintendent for coming in with an updated report. I am happy to see the lawns on Somerset Avenue fixed.

**Councilor Nichols:** Congrats to Weldon. He was also my bus driver. He is very funny and has a great sense of humor. I want to thank Logan for coming in tonight. It sounds like this is going to be a great project. The Council should recognize him when the project is done. I want to thank the MCI class for coming in. There is great history in Pittsfield. President Eisenhower walked right down Main Street. Check with the Historical Society for details. Please encourage people to fill the seats on the Boards and Committees.

**Councilor Strom:** I want to say thank you to the MCI class for coming in tonight. I am a graduate of MCI myself and it is where I developed my love for government. I really enjoy seeing high school students coming out and doing something like this.

**Councilor Cianchette:** Absent.

**Councilor Stackhouse:** I echo everyone's comments. It is nice to see some faces out there, especially when we give awards to people. I want to thank the MCI class for coming in. I hope you learned something tonight.

## 9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Executive Session for Title 1, Section 405, 6.C., Economic Development, Disposition of Property and Acquisition of Property

Motion by **Deputy Mayor Nichols** to enter into executive session to discuss Economic Development, Disposition of Property and Acquisition of Property under Title 1, Section 405, 6.C. at 8:14 p.m. The motion was seconded by **Councilor Donahue**.

Motion by **Deputy Mayor Nichols** to return to regular session. The motion was seconded by **Councilor Donahue**. The Town Council exited executive session at 8:39 p.m. No action was taken by the Town Council.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

## 10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by **Deputy Mayor Nichols** and seconded by **Councilor Donahue** that the meeting be adjourned at 8:40 p.m. All in agreement.

---

Nicole Nickolan, Town Clerk