

MINUTES

For a regular meeting of the Pittsfield Town Council held on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at 7:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT: COUNCILORS: Mayor Tim Nichols, Deputy Mayor Gary Jordan, Jr., Caleb Curtis, Wayne Fotter, Donna Chale, Christopher Carr and Louise Baker. **ABSENT:** None. Also present: Town Manager Kathryn Ruth and Town Clerk Nicole Nickolan. Audience members included: Kristyn Wing, Kevin Duhon, Scott Monroe, Scott Noble, Sharon Mack, Mike Gray, Mike Lange and others.

1. **Mayor Nichols** opened the meeting by leading the **Pledge of Allegiance**.
2. Adoption of Minutes of the Regular meeting on February 17, 2009.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Jordan** and seconded by **Councilor Baker** that the Minutes of the Regular meeting on February 17, 2009 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

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

Community and Economic Development Activities and Events:

SWIMMING POOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS: The next Pool Committee meeting is March 16, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. The focus of the meeting is to prepare for the next fundraiser and to meet with Recreation Director Ron Rollins to firm up plans for the Summer Swimming Program.

KENNEBEC - SOMERSET COUNTY TRANSITION TEAM MEETINGS resumed for 2009 on Wednesday, February 4, 2009. The next meeting of the group will be held on Wednesday, April 01, 2009 from 9:30 am – 11:00 am in the Council Chambers.

THIRD LEADERSHIP FORUM FOR THE SEBASTICOOK VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE will be held in Pittsfield on Thursday, March 12, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Pittsfield Masonic Lodge, catered by Eastern Star.

The next **REGIONAL ENERGY FORUM**, sponsored by the Pittsfield Recycling Committee, is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Vickery School Gym.

THE 13TH ANNUAL TRADE SHOW AND COMMUNITY FAIR FOR THE SEBASTICOOK VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE will be held at the Warsaw Middle School Gym and Cafeteria on Saturday, May 2, 2009 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

The next REGIONAL JOB FAIR FOR SOMERSET COUNTY, sponsored by the Ken - Som County Transition Team and the Town of Pittsfield, is scheduled for May 27, 2009 from 3:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Warsaw Middle School Gym and Cafeteria.

The PAUL E. BERTRAND COMMUNITY POOL COMPLEX GRAND OPENING is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2009 at 10:00 am at the Complex.

4. **PUBLIC HEARINGS/OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **ORDINANCE 09-03:** (Public Hearing) That the Town of Pittsfield Town Council hereby ordains the tax anticipation note borrowing for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009 on the following terms:

Ordered that, pursuant to Section 5771 of Title 30-A of the Maine Revised Statutes, as amended and the Ordinance adopted on the date hereof, the Town Treasurer is hereby authorized and empowered to borrow money from time to time during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009 in the principal amount or amounts not exceeding \$550,000 at any one time outstanding, in anticipation of the collections or receipts from taxes, by the issuance of tax anticipation notes of the Town, each of which notes shall be designated "Town of Pittsfield 2009 Tax Anticipation Notes." All of such tax anticipation notes, and any extensions, renewals or replacements thereof, shall be signed by the Town Treasurer and countersigned by at least a majority of the members of the Town Council, shall be payable on or before November 3, 2009, out of money raised by taxation during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009 shall bear interest payable at maturity at a rate determined in the manner as approved by the Treasurer, and shall contain such other terms and provisions, not inconsistent herewith, and be in such form, as shall be approved by the officers signing the same, whose approval shall be conclusively evidenced by their execution thereof, and
Be It Further Ordered that the Treasurer is hereby authorized to award the notes to such person or entity as approved by the Town Council, such approval to be conclusively evidenced by the execution of the 2009 Tax Anticipation Notes; and

Be It Further Ordered that the notes authorized by the foregoing are hereby designated as qualified tax exempt obligations for purposes of Section 265(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and

Be It Further Ordered that the Treasurer of the Town be authorized to covenant with the purchasers of the notes on behalf of the Town and for the benefit of the holders of the notes, that the Town will take whatever steps, and refrain from taking any action, as may be necessary or appropriate to ensure that interest on the notes will remain free from federal income taxes, including without limitation, the filing of information returns and reports with the Internal Revenue Service and the payment of any rebate due to the United States of America.

There was no one who wished to speak for or against Ordinance 09-03. Public Hearing closed.

Moved by **Councilor Fotter** and seconded by **Councilor Chale** that Ordinance 09-03 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted this is a yearly housekeeping process that the Town goes through as the property taxes, the major source of revenue for the Town, are due once per year. We processed the first ordinance in which the line of credit was approved and the RFP for borrowing was approved to be forwarded to financial institutions. We have established the TAN as a line of credit for the last several years, therefore, we are borrowing as we need the funds through the months that the revenue collections are lower. The revenue collections increase when the tax bills are released and tax payments start coming in.

The Town can require the funds as early as the end of April – July and then pays the TAN back after taxes are due in October of each year. This year it is estimated that the funds will be needed around June - July.

This is a second Ordinance involved with the Tax Anticipation Note. This used to be an Order and the Town Attorney has proposed that it should now be listed as an Ordinance, thereby it will require a public hearing.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

*b. **ORDINANCE 09-04:*** (Public Hearing) That the Town of Pittsfield Town Council hereby ordains improvements to the Town's water system and financing thereof pursuant to the State's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund on the following terms:

1. Pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Maine, Maine law, including Title 35-A and Title 30-A, Section 5772 of the Maine Revised Statutes, as amended, and the Town Charter, and all other authority thereto enabling, the Town of Pittsfield is authorized to sell its general obligation bonds and notes in anticipation thereof and to borrow from the Maine Municipal Bond Bank State Revolving Fund (SRF) and to expend, a principal amount not to exceed Two Million Four Hundred Fifty Thousand and Forty Dollars (\$2,450,040), the proceeds of the loan or loans to be used to finance the design and construction of improvements and upgrades to the Town's water system which may include, but are limited to: (1) replacement of 26 valves in the system to be able to turn the water off at locations rather than having to turn the entire water system off to fix a water break; (2) installation of a back-up finish pump as currently there is no backup pump in the water treatment plant; (3) replacement of 6,800 linear feet of water mains on 6 roads; and (4) replacement of 50 water hydrants needed to flush the system after water breaks (the "Projects"), or such of the foregoing Projects as are approved by the State for participation in the SRF, said loan or loans to be evidenced by a General Obligation Bond or Bonds of the Town, for a term not to exceed 30 years, and any Notes in anticipation of such Bonds, such Bonds and Notes to be executed on behalf of the Town by

the Town Treasurer and counter-signed by the Mayor of the Town and to be at such interest rates, if any, as may be established by the Maine Municipal Bond Bank and approved by the Treasurer and the Mayor, with such maturities, and to be on such further terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Maine Municipal Bond Bank and the State of Maine Drinking Water Program, and approved by the Treasurer and the Mayor (the "Bonds" and the "Notes"), such approval to be conclusively evidenced by their execution of the Bonds or Notes. If State Drinking Water Program approves only some but not all of the foregoing Projects, the Town is authorized to proceed with the borrowing of the amounts and projects approved by the State Drinking Water Program, even though the State may have approved only some but not all of the Projects described above.

2. The Mayor and the Treasurer are hereby authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the Town a loan agreement, relating to the issuance of the Bonds and any Notes in anticipation thereof, in such form and on such terms as the Maine Municipal Bond Bank shall require.

3. The Mayor and the Treasurer are hereby authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the Town loan application and other applications with the State of Maine Drinking Water Program and the Maine Municipal Bond Bank and an application to the Maine Public Utilities Commission for approval to issue the Bonds or Notes.

4. The municipal officers and officials of the Town are hereby authorized to execute all documents and certificates, and to take all action, including affixing the seal of the Town, as may be necessary or convenient to carry out the full intent of the foregoing votes or any one of them.

5. This Ordinance shall take effect 30 days after its adoption.

There was no one who wished to speak for or against Ordinance 09-04. Public Hearing closed.

Moved by **Councilor Chale** and seconded by **Councilor Fotter** that Resolution 09-04 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted this Ordinance establishes the terms for the borrowing for the Federal Stimulus Program for the Drinking Water Program. The Ordinance was specifically designed so that it can be utilized if the Town receives funding approval for all 4 projects or for 1 project. It is important that the Town is ready to go forward in case some funding is allocated for the Town for water improvement projects. One of the criteria for approval of the stimulus requests is that the Town be ready to go and have shovel ready projects. This also includes having the proper approvals on the books to submit the loan application to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank under the State Revolving Loan Fund.

The Town of Pittsfield has been approved for 1 project, which is the back-up finish water pump for the treatment plant. Olver Associates is working on the paperwork with the Town. This Ordinance is required as well as the SRF Loan Application.

The Town Manager questioned the Council if we should continue with the preliminary fieldwork that was authorized. These projects are vitally necessary although we will need to do them as funding becomes available from the regular SRF funding program. This included the mains, valves and hydrants. The need is there to have the preliminary work done in case additional funding comes available at some point. In addition, the valves project and fixing a few hydrants each year is important. The Council agreed that it was a good idea to continue the fieldwork for future projects.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

- c. **RESOLUTION 09-20:** (Public Hearing) Resolved that the Town Council hold a public hearing for the purpose of receiving public comments on the designation of its proposed Pittsfield Industrial Park Phase II Municipal Development District and Tax Increment Financing District and the adoption of a Development Program for the said District (and an amendment to the Industrial Park Tax Increment Financing District approved by the Town on 08/04/88).

Michael Gray was in attendance to speak in favor of Resolution 09-20. Mr. Gray noted he is a former Council member, a current business owner in Town and current member of the economic development team. This Council and past Councils have been very friendly to business in this Town. This is a great tradition to have. The Council has supported the Library expansion, the swimming pool and numerous other projects. We have been hampered by our Industrial Park because of the wetlands in that area. We have tried to utilize the space as best we can, but have run out of options. This is the best chance and maybe one of the last chances we have to expand the industrial park. With today's economic climate, this is the right thing to do. The taxes that can be generated there will more than pay for the cost and it will certainly help expand the tax base. It will attract business to the Town and more importantly, it will diversify our business that we have in Town. I highly support this resolution.

There was no one who wished to speak against Resolution 09-20. Public Hearing closed.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Jordan** and seconded by **Councilor Fotter** that Resolution 09-20 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted this public hearing is to present information and hear comments regarding the proposed Industrial Park Phase II Tax Increment Financing District (also called a TIF). The addition to the Industrial Park has been approved since 1989, however, has required funding.

The Town is in the process of filing for a federal economic development grant. The TIF would assist the Town in promoting the proposed addition by providing an incentive to the developers and businesses that would locate on the lots and the TIF will assist the Town to be able to build the addition. Even if the Town was not so fortunate as to receive the federal grant, having a TIF for the Industrial Park Addition would be beneficial as it would be an excellent marketing tool. This marketing tool would be added to the fact that the lots in the IP Addition are also part of the Pine Tree Development Zone (PTDZ).

In a TIF, the Town takes the taxes that are collected on the increment or the new value (building, lot improvements that take place) and can share those taxes with the developer or business. Each incentive package comes to the Council for approval. The other share of the new taxes on the increment can go toward the Town's Public Improvement Program for enhancements in the District. The Town can utilize its share of the taxes to pay back the Town for its match on the grant.

We are proposing a TIF be created for Phase II of the Pittsfield Industrial Park.

Phase II of the Pittsfield Industrial Park is a project that the Town has worked on for a number of years. The project was first approved in 1989-1990. In 2003 and 2009, we updated our intergovernmental permit requirements.

Phase II consists of 8 industrial park lots, of which 1 is already fully developed by an abutter, New, LLC which is the company for the new Varney Dealership. That lot is part of another TIF so it is not identified in the Pittsfield Industrial Park Phase II TIF. This leaves 7 lots. 1 land locked lot was previously identified as the detention basin, however, is no longer required as land was placed in preservation in the park. Therefore, 6 new industrial park lots would be created, along with water, sewer, roadway, and three-phase power.

The Town has applied for a federal grant opportunity for development of Phase II. This grant pays for 75% of the cost of the project. The Town's match is 25%. If the grant award takes place, it would be wonderful. If so, the TIF is required for two purposes as follows:

By providing for tax increment sharing, two direct benefits take place: (1) the Town will be able to collect a part of the taxes from the new development in the Industrial Park addition and utilize it to pay off any local match expended toward the construction of the addition; and (2) provide businesses with an incentive for investment in building in the Industrial Park expansion

If the town does not receive federal funding, the TIF is still invaluable. Tax increment sharing will allow the Town to phase in the Industrial Park. It will provide for the paperwork to be standardized so the Town will be ready to proceed ahead with TIFs when a beneficial project and/or economic development opportunity arises. This provides a strategic advantage for the Town as the TIF is on the books and we do not have to rush to set it up.

There is an additional benefit to having a TIF:

The increment or new value will be sheltered. Any valuation that is sheltered is a benefit to the Town. In other words, for the purposes of the state aid to education, state revenue sharing and county tax formulas, the captured tax increment is not counted as part of the state valuation of the Town for purposes of those formulas. This allows the Town to receive and use the tax increment, without losing state aid to education or revenue sharing and without increasing the Town's share of county tax. These reductions in state revenues to the Town or increases in assessments for the Town usually take place when the state valuation of a town increases.

In summary, the TIF will allow for three direct benefits:

1. A share of the taxes for the property owner/developer, usually this allows for the project to go forward.
2. Retainage of its share of the taxes by the Town to place against expenses from the Town's share of the costs of the Industrial Park Expansion and then later, capital costs or infrastructure so that enhancements take place; and
3. Sheltering of the increased valuation from affecting State Revenue Sharing, Educational Aid and County Tax.

Please note that this TIF simply provides the ability to approve future credit enhancement agreements with developers/businesses. Based upon the business, the Town Council will determine the % of the tax sharing. The approval of a tax increment financing district establishes the framework for the Town to be able to negotiate a TIF with a business which locates in the Industrial Park Addition when it is built. The final details will be determined based upon the type of business, building and improvements proposed, etc. It is an important framework to have on the books.

The Town Councilors and the Town Manager discussed the additional benefits of having the Industrial Park Addition (Phase II).

1. Industrial Parks employ hundreds of people. If people have income, they historically spend disposable income near their workplace due to convenience – buy gas, buy lunch, pick up groceries, visit local shops on lunch break, etc.
2. Assists in providing a stable economic base for the Town.
3. Supports other local businesses and services.
4. Offers opportunities for local entrepreneurs.
5. Protects and enhances property values town-wide.
6. Helps to retain profits in town.
7. Increases Tax Base.
8. Assists with business retention.
9. Provides for Economic Diversification so that the community is not dependent on 1 or more businesses.
10. Provides for a productive use of property – property is used for its highest and best use, thereby maximizing the value of the property.
11. With higher paying jobs, assists with the quality of life of the townspeople. More local tax dollars and jobs raise the economic value for the entire community including the overall standard of living.
12. Provides for recognition of local products and the community.

Councilor Chale questioned when we were trying to market the last parcel in the industrial park, how much interest was there. The Town Manager noted there was a lot of interest,

however, no one has been able to fit their building on the developable footprint. The Town Manager noted we were working with 8 active businesses, 3 of which wanted to commit to Pittsfield last fall before the economic crisis. At this time, everyone is waiting to see happens with our economy. Having this Resolution on the books would allow us to move quicker if a grant is obtained or allow us to work on this project in phases.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

Tabled from the 02/17/2009 Town Council Meeting:

RESOLUTION 09-26: Resolved that the Town Council Authorize the Town Manager to Execute the Assignment and Assumption of Lease and Landlord Consent for high-speed internet services subject to approval of the Town Attorney.

Motion by **Deputy Mayor Jordan** and seconded by **Councilor Chale** to remove Resolution 09-26 from the table.

The Town Manager noted two messages were left for the company and we did not hear back.

Councilors have two issues they are contemplating on this request. First, the documentation on the financial and technical capability of the new or proposed merged company needs more details such as a financial report, verification of the technical capability if there are issues at the water treatment facility, municipal building, etc.

Second, the Councilors were concerned that this agreement does not have a lease payment for the use of the water tower. This is no longer to be a small operation to make sure that the Town has some sort of high-speed internet. This is proposed to be a larger operation than that from 2001 when this all began.

Motion by **Deputy Mayor Jordan** and seconded by **Councilor Chale** to table Resolution 09-26.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

5. REPORTS: TOWN MANAGER, FINANCE, ORDINANCE & RECYCLING COMMITTEES:

Town Manager's Report: Town Council Meeting of 03/03/2009:

1. The FYI Folder: The FYI Book contains the following items this week: LIST READ

2. Board/Committee Openings: There are just a few board/committee openings available – Board of Assessment Review, Housing Revolving Loan Committee (RE Background) and Board of Appeals. We have found someone for the Board of Health. Anyone who is interested in serving on one or more of these boards/committees, please contact the Town Clerk at 487-3136 or clerk@pittsfield.org

3. The Welcome Table Opening: The Welcome Tables will be open on Fridays from 10:30 am – 2:30 pm at the First Universalist Church at 6 Easy Street. The volunteers are serving a free lunch every Friday for all looking for a warm place, warm food and warm friends.

4. Dog Licenses for 2009: Licensing is now overdue for your dogs. All dogs over 6 months old need to be licensed. This is so that we can have a record of your dog in case it gets loose and we can get animal back to you or contact you to come get your dog. Rabies certificates need to be up to date or still effective. Late fees are now being added per State law requirement.

5. Federal Stimulus Funding for Highway Projects – MDOT List of Projects: MDOT released its list of projects, which includes Pittsfield. One is a project that we have listed on our BTIP request forms in the past: See MDOT List.

6. Census 2010: There are promotional items that the Town can do to help make sure that everyone is counted. The Census is important to the Town as it is part of the basis for funding formulas, grants, and economic development. See Book

7. Town Training Calendar: The Town will be presenting Personal Protective Equipment Hazard Assessment Review Training and Bloodborne Pathogens training for applicable employees/departments on Friday, 03/20/2009 at 10:00 am and 6:00 pm here at the Town Office.

8. Federal Stimulus Funding for Airports – Pittsfield Municipal Airport: There is federal stimulus funding for airports and we are on the list for the potential. Caleb and I should meet on this as soon as possible to see if it is do-able.

9. GCS 1 Year Anniversary: We have been invited to Global Contact Services' 1 year anniversary and open house on Tuesday, 03/17/2009 from 1 pm – 2 pm. The company will be having refreshments, an employee appreciation drawing and other activities.

Finance Committee: The Finance Committee met today, from 4:30 pm until 7:00 pm. There were interviews conducted with 4 financial institutions. It has been narrowed down to two companies with some questions. There will be a meeting next week and will make a suggestion for the 03/17/2009 Council Meeting.

Ordinance Committee: No Report.

Recycling Committee: No Report.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. ***RESOLUTION 09-28:*** Resolved that the Town Council Accept a donation up to \$4,000.00 for the Pinnacle Ski Slope (G/L #1-131-00) for a gas fireplace inset; waive the bid policy for the purchase of said gas fireplace inset; and authorize the Pinnacle Ski Club Board of Directors to accept a quotation to not exceed \$4,000.00.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Jordan** and seconded by **Councilor Baker** that Resolution 09-28 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

- b. **RESOLUTION 09-29:** Resolved that the Town Council Sign the Earth Day Proclamation supporting community-wide activities (Earth Day is April 22, 2009).

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Jordan** and seconded by **Councilor Baker** that Resolution 09-29 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted this is our 6th Earth Day Proclamation.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

- c. **RESOLUTION 09-30:** Resolved that the Town Council Sign the Arbor Day Proclamation supporting community-wide activities (National Arbor Day is April 24, 2009) and Maine's Arbor Day Week is the 3rd full week in May: Sunday, May 17 – Saturday, May 23, 2009).

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Jordan** and seconded by **Councilor Baker** that Resolution 09-30 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted this is our 4th Arbor Day Proclamation.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

- d. **RESOLUTION 09-31:** Resolved that the Town Council Approve the issuance of a parade permit to the Make-A-Wish Foundation for a fundraising walk on May 28, 2009 from 5 – 7 pm and waive the permit fees.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Jordan** and seconded by **Councilor Baker** that Resolution 09-31 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted this is a yearly process for a very good cause.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Grants Update:

New Grants:

Airport Grants: Design Engineering for Apron Reconstruction: Design work is completed, will be most likely, filing just 1-2 reimbursements. This project was rushed in order to apply for the early grant round in February.

Brownfields Grant: Clean-up Grant for Eelwier (now know as 8 Mount Road): We submitted a request to EPA for an additional \$70,000 to remove the building as an option to removing it ourselves over the next couple of years. EPA is seriously considering our request.

CDBG Grant/Public Facilities/Historic Preservation/Library: We are in the process of completing the close-out documents.

FEMA Reimbursements: 04/28 – 05/14/2008: Still waiting for paperwork and final State match.

L&W Conservation Fund: Swimming Pool Essential Components:

Issued an RFP for 2 recycled plastic picnic tables; expend the funds and close out the grant. Would plan to submit 1 reimbursement. Needs to be done and closed by April-June in order to apply for another grant, this time to focus on Hathorn Park Basketball/Baseball Field. Have contacted the Recreation Director and the Bureau of Conservation to discuss this opportunity.

Riverfront Community Development Grant: A meeting took place on this project and research is underway. We need to make sure that the map will remain the same and then, if so, it can be sent as part of a package to all of the state and federal agencies that need to review the project. A Site Plan Review Application is underway for Planning Board Review in April 2009.

Safe Routes to School, Phase II: Approved to go as soon as weather permits.

Pending Grants:

CDBG Grant/Business Assistance: Moosehead Cedar Log Homes: Grant opened back up. The Town has acquired all signatures on the paperwork for the Accts. Rec. and has paid all 3 subs of the sub of the general contractor who were not paid.

State Library Grants dedicated to the Library Building Project:

Waiting for project. Kleinschmidt and Reed finished the documents for the Addition. The bid document for the Addition is being worked on by Cianbro and will be coming to a future Council Meeting (hopefully March 17) to put the project out to bid.

Other Grant Opportunities:

Airport Apron Reconstruction Grant Application: The grant application was filed for \$1.2 million dollars by the deadline and we received the grant. Special Council Meeting was held on March 02, 2009 to accept the funds.

Economic Development Administration Grant Application: I had been updating the Council on how I had a meeting with the EDA, reapplied for the pre-application and was still working on this project. Right now, there are no Industrial park lots for projects except for the tiny footprint on the corner lot across from Land Air Express. The Town sold all the other lots and buildings or businesses have been placed on the lots owned by the Town with TIFS/Long-term Lease-Purchase Options. The Pittsfield Industrial Park Addition, which is 6 lots, to be accessed off Industrial Park Drive or by Scrub A Dub where we have a ROW, is estimated at \$1,060,430. The Town would be eligible for 75% of the project or \$795,323. We would need to obtain a match of 25% or \$265,107. We can apply for a CDBG grant for a project. We have also talked about using some of the Ec Dev Revolving Loan Funds, which were a grant given to the Town many years ago. We would set up a TIF for the properties and all taxes/partial taxes for the property would come back to the Town to pay off the Town's use of the Ec

Dev Revolving Loan Funds. We were not going to go to the bank to finance the project to get a loan due to the cost to the taxpayers. There may be a possibility of economic stimulus funding or other types of funding being available. The reallocation of the use of the Ec Dev Loan Funds and the establishment of the TIF will be discussed at the next meeting.

8. **REPORTS:** Audience, Council

Audience:

Council:

Councilor Baker: No Report.

Councilor Carr: No Report.

Councilor Chale: Questioned where the Town is on the paperwork for the home that burned down a few months ago on Somerset Avenue. The Town Manager noted the paperwork is still in the court system and we are hoping to hear in March sometime on the matter.

Deputy Mayor Jordan: No Report.

Councilor Curtis: No Report.

Councilor Fotter: No Report.

Mayor Nichols: Glad to see the item pass on the industrial park. It is hard to imagine the economy turning around quickly, but it is best to be prepared, as you can never tell what may happen.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Jordan** and seconded by **Councilor Carr** that the meeting be adjourned at 8:21 p.m. All in agreement.

Nicole Nickolan, Town Clerk