

MINUTES

For a regular meeting of the Pittsfield Town Council held on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 at 7:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT: COUNCILORS: Mayor Tim Nichols, Deputy Mayor Wayne Fotter, Michael Gray, Gary Jordan, Jr., Donna Chale and Michael Cianchette. **ABSENT:** Louise Baker
Also present: Town Manager Kathryn Ruth and Town Clerk Nicole Nickolan. Audience members included: Donnie Hallenbeck, Eleanor Whitman, David Whitman, Rick McCarthy, Una May Lord, Paul Lord Jr., Walter Reuter, Harvey Eldridge, Steve Jemery, Bob Higgins, Sharon Mack, 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 May 20, 2008.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Gray** that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on May 20, 2008 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

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

Presentation on Brownfields Clean-up Grant for 8 Mount Road (formerly 10 Eelwier Road)

A Brownfields is “real property, the expansion, redevelopment or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.”

The site is a 14,000 square foot abandoned factory in our Corridor Development District off Route #100, a major trucking route. The property was acquired by the Town in the 1990’s through non-payment of taxes. The site is a deterrent to the neighborhood. The building has collapsed in areas and is bordered up. Several years ago, we put the demolition of the building out to bid and with all the unknowns, received bids far beyond the means of the Town to ever incur.

The property can be redeveloped, for example by the Pittsfield Economic Expansion Corporation. The first step was to determine if there were contaminants, if so, find funding to get the property cleaned up and then obtain grant funding or other sources to take down the building.

The Town of Pittsfield participated in the regional Brownfield Assessment grant project which KVCOG administered beginning in 2005. We had a Phase I engineering report which showed that there was evidence of possible contaminants at the site – asbestos shingles on the little garage, some interesting drums, etc. This assessment was completed in January, 2007. The Town then was one of the two sites chosen by the Brownfield Regional Committee with the KVCOG grant to have a Phase II assessment completed.

This was an intense survey of the project including water testing, soils sampling, sampling of the materials and building components inside the structure, review of the septic system and so forth. Contaminants were found on site. The Phase II Environmental Site Assessment was issued in December 2007.

The Scope of Work was:

1. Prepare a Site-specific Health and Safety Plan (HASP)
2. Perform an asbestos and hazardous material survey
3. Utility Clearance
4. Locate the former septic system at the site
5. Evaluate existing floor drain
6. Evaluate above ground storage tank (AST) Fill Pipe Area
7. Advance soil borings and install ground water monitoring wells-site wide
8. Collect and analyze soil and ground water samples
9. Survey monitoring wells
10. Collect and analyze surface water and sediment samples
11. Perform data evaluation and risk assessment
12. Prepare draft and final American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) Phase II report

The Results were:

The Asbestos and Universal Waste survey indicates the presence of asbestos containing building materials. Demolition of the building would require a licensed contractor in compliance with MEDEP and EPA requirements. The building also contains universal wastes, including fluorescent bulbs and ballasts, and a mercury-containing thermostat. Prior to demolition, universal wastes will require handling in accordance with Maine Universal Waste requirements.

No volatile organic compounds were found in any of the sampled media at the site, which included subsurface soils, sediment, ground water and residential well water from the neighboring property. Ground water near the septic system (MW-1, MW-3) was found to have concentrations of arsenic, chromium and lead exceeding the maximum exposure levels; however the elevated turbidity in the ground water samples likely contributed to the elevated total metals concentrations. Subsurface soil samples (SB-1, SB-3, SB-6) collected near the septic system were found to have arsenic concentrations exceeding the MERAGs for Residential Direct Contac; however the arsenic concentrations were all below the Maine groundwater leaching standard.

Analysis of the neighboring residential well indicated no detections of volatile organic compounds using the drinking water test method, EPA 524.2. Diesel range organics was detected in the surface soil (SS-1) near the former AST fill pipe exceeding the MEDEP remediation goals for the petroleum impacts at Stringent Sites. The AST is located outside of the building and above ground. Its horizontal distance between the fill end and where it enters the building is approximately 60 feet. The petroleum impacts to soil beneath the fill pipe are likely old and residual from intermittent spills or leaks along the piping and the impacts are probably localized to the shallow soils. The floor drain in the building was not fully assessed with regard to identifying the exact location of its terminus, because the video snake could not be advanced beyond where the building has collapsed. Field PID and laboratory tests of the soil sample collected from SB-2 located next to the floor drain inlet did not indicate a release. Samples of the surface water and

sediment along the eastern property line were non-detect for VOCs. One full 55- gallon drum and one half empty 5-gallon container of oil and hazardous materials were observed inside the building. The Town applied for a clean-up grant for the site in 2007 and was recently approved for a project for \$40,000. The Town is required to provide a 20% match for the project which can be cash, PW equipment, PW personnel, Transfer Station tipping fees for some special wastes, and other similar items.

The Town must submit a pre-award package consisting of forms, a work plan and a budget. The work plan will be discussed tonight. Once we complete these steps, we then receive the official Award documents. There are on-line computer forms to file in the federal database called a CDX Registration. We need intergovernmental review through the State and must enter the State DEP's voluntary clean up program and meet those requirements.

Work Plan Tasks: Cooperative Agreement Oversight-Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP)

Activity 1: Prepare request for proposals, evaluate applications, conduct interviews, hire contractor. Prepare scope of work. Prioritize, track and evaluate contractor products. Conduct periodic project status meetings with contractor to discuss project issues and priorities. Conduct annual performance evaluations for contractor.

Activity 2: Reporting: including quarterly reports, preparation and updating of property profile forms.

Activity 3: Request for reimbursements or advances.

Activity 4: Attend brownfields related meetings, training sessions and conferences.

Community Involvement:

Activity 1: Prepare Community Relations plan

Activity 2: Establish information repository

Activity 3: Public Meetings

Activity 4: 30- Day Public comment period on ABCA

Site-Specific Activities:

Activity 1: Hold a kickoff meeting with State, EPA and QEP

Activity 2: Oversight of cleanup activities

Activity 3: Collection of confirmatory samples

Cleanup Related Activities:

Activity 1: Prepare analysis of Brownfields cleanup alternatives and other State related remedial design and engineering cleanup documents

Activity 2: Specific quality assurance project plan and health and safety plan

Activity 3: Prepare State required cleanup completion/closeout documents, including AULs if needed

Activity 4: Obtain state approval of cleanup complete in writing or LSP/LEP determination in MA/CT.

Community Involvement:

For this task we anticipate holding up to quarterly community involvement meetings to inform concerned citizens about the project. We will post meeting materials and project updates on our Town website and notify neighboring residents of upcoming Site work via mailings. Costs assume representation at quarterly meetings, meeting material and

presentation aids. Town cost share includes assistance with public outreach activities (newspaper notification, website postings, etc.)

The grants are usually three years.

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

- a. **ORDINANCE 08-12:** (Public Hearing) That the Town Council hereby ordains to accept the payment of Eleanor B Whitman, respectively, including interest and lien costs, for the property at 224 Peltoma Avenue (Map 023, Lot 025), the Town having acquired said property as a result of automatic foreclosure of a 2001 sewer lien, recorded in the Somerset County Registry of Deeds on May 18, 2001, at Book 2796, Page 307, which matured on November 15, 2002; The Town Council further authorizes the Town Manager to execute a municipal quitclaim deed releasing the Town's interest in said property to Eleanor B Whitman.

Richard McCarthy was in the audience to speak in favor of Ordinance 08-12. Mr. McCarthy is Mrs. Whitman's counsel. Attorney McCarthy asked the Council to act favorably on this request. Mrs. Whitman has had some financial hardships since her husband passed in 1998. The property is currently under contract and the new owner plans to make some improvements and renovations. This is a win – win situation.

No one wished to speak in opposition. Public Hearing closed.

Moved by **Councilor Jordan** and seconded by **Councilor Gray** that Ordinance 08-12 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted all back taxes have been paid on this property, which is excellent. This is the second step under the Town Charter. The quitclaim deed will be ready first thing tomorrow morning.

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

Town Manager's Report: Town Council Meeting of 06/03/2008:

1. The FYI Folder: The FYI Book contains the following items this week: List Read

2. Egg Festival Committee: The Egg Festival Committee is geared up for a great event this year. Officers are Steve Craig, President & Chair; Lori Barker, Vice-President & Contact person; Eva Charity, Treasurer, and Tonja Metivier, Secretary. The Town's website has information on the event. For additional details as well as registration forms for the pageant and the marketplace, got to <http://eggfest.craftah.com/>

Something new this year: The Egg Festival Committee has a short audio and video that will be advertising the Town and the Egg Festival that will be out shortly. We can credit Lori Barker for the additional advertisements.

3. June Referendum: One of the items in June will be the MSAD #53 Reorganization/

Consolidation Referendum. The Referendum is scheduled for Tuesday, June 10, 2008 from 9:00 am – 8:00 pm in the Council Chambers. READ Article.

4. Sweeping Schedule: The Town Sweeper has been out of commission three times now, once fixed quickly and twice for parts. The sweeper is up and running again today as the part arrived yesterday. We ask for everyone's patience. The usual sweeping schedule is over 1 month behind now – we will continue to sweep until the work is done. Our highway equipment is very old and we are budgeting reserve funds to replace trucks for sanding and future plowing and for a sweeper. We are fortunate to have our own sweeper regardless of its age. Contracting sweeping is very expensive and towns have to wait for their place in the queue for the service. The sweeper should be up and running shortly.

5. Next Pool Fundraiser: There will be a Chicken Barbeque at the MCI Cafeteria on Saturday, June 21, 2008 from 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. so Mark Your Calendar. All proceeds to benefit the Paul E. Bertrand Community Pool Project. Adults are \$6.00 each and children \$4.00 each. There is a limit of 150 tickets. Tickets can be purchased at Heidi Ann's Flower Shop, the Town Office, from a Swimming Pool Committee member or at the door as supplies last.

6. Public Foreclosure Sale Auction: The former Hocus Pocus Restaurant on Main Street went up for auction and it appears that the mortgage company did not receive what was deemed as sufficient offers. The property is being listed by one of the local real estate companies.

7. Somerset County Transition Team: The next meeting of the group which functions as a clearing house of information, sponsors job fairs with other entities and provides a strategy to address layoffs will be meeting on Monday, June 09, 2008 at 10:00 am in the Town Council Chambers.

8. Sebasticook Valley Chamber of Commerce & Sebasticook Valley Healthy Communities Coalition: The Second Leadership Conference for the region will be held on Thursday, June 12, 2008 from 6:00 p.m. – no later than 8:30 p.m. at the E.W. Littlefield Community Room at the Irving Tanning Community Center. Notice read.

9. Pittsfield Public Library News: Notice read.

Finance Committee: No Report.

Ordinance Committee: No Report.

Recycling Committee: No Report.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **ORDER 08-06:** Ordered that the Town Council Adopt the Order for Delinquent Property Tax Collection Procedures Years 1998-2007

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Chale** that Order 08-06 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted this approval is to insure that the language of the Order is included on the Order. The Minutes of 04/15/2008 are very detailed, and we need to ensure that the Order is as clear. We may be writing off considerable interest and then setting amounts to proceed to small claims court or legal action, so it is important that language of the Order be typed on the Order.

Councilor Cianchette questioned the process of how we attempt to contact the residents that are delinquent. He has had some phone calls regarding residents that did not receive contact from the office. The Town Manager explained that we make repeated phone calls, but sometimes the phone numbers are disconnected. If the mail is returned we forward it to another address if available, but sometimes the search ends up a dead end.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

- b. **RESOLUTION 08-76:** Resolved that the Town Council Declare that the purpose of G/L #1-629-00 Sand/Salt Shed Reserve #31 is completed, re-name the reserve as Equipment Building and re-allocate the funds for the construction of an Equipment Building; and Authorize the Transfer and Expenditure of the remaining funds in G/L #1-629-00 for the Construction of the Highway Equipment Building.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Fotter** and seconded by **Councilor Cianchette** that Resolution 08-76 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted this Resolution satisfies many requirements.

To utilize funding in a reserve account for another purpose, it must be found that the original purpose is completed. The Salt Shed was completed prior to winter and utilized during the 2007-2008 winter.

Funds are still in the account and there is a pressing need for a Highway Equipment Storage Building, which we can put all of the equipment under cover and secured. This will alleviate the lack of space in the Highway Garage and constant moving of items.

The Town Council received a write-up from the Highway Department. The facility will be 24' X 60' and have a slab. The project has received Planning Board and DEP approvals.

Councilor Cianchette stated that public recognition is overdue for the Public Works Department. They do a fantastic job on their building projects.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

- c. **RESOLUTION 08-77:** Resolved that the Town Council Authorize the Transfer and Expenditure of up to \$4,000 from G/L #1-615-00 Sidewalk Reconstruction Reserve #08 for the paving of the sidewalk on Somerset Avenue along Hathorn Park.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Jordan** that Resolution 08-77 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted for decades, personnel had been told that we could not dig up this sidewalk due to infrastructure under the sidewalk. We have found no water or sewer lines under the sidewalk along Somerset Avenue by Hathorn Park. The Public Works Department found no deterrents to this long-standing problem area. We are collecting bids and Public Works will begin the project shortly.

Deputy Mayor Fotter stated he was happy to see this project finally going through. He has been concerned with this area for quite a few years. Fotter also mentioned that the sidewalks up towards Bud's Shop N Save are in urgent need of repair and we should start looking towards repairing that area.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

- d.* **RESOLUTION 08-78:** Resolved that the Town Council Approve the Request for Proposals for the Pittsfield Pool Renovation, Bathhouse/Restrooms and authorize the Town Manager, Highway Foreman and Volunteer Swimming Pool Project Manager to seek proposals for components of the renovation project as needed and to accept proposals that are under \$10,000 in cost.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Gray** that Resolution 08-78 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted the Town Council package contains a copy of bid specifications for a new concrete building as the bathhouse/restrooms. This is a very high quality building that will last for decades. These bid specifications will govern the work. The basic plan is for companies and contractors to volunteer to build the building and the Town to purchase the construction materials. The building is not being put out to bid as it would be very expensive. The parts of the manual will be used that is being bid – for example, roof – use the sections that are needed along with the Town's standard 2 page bid format.

As we know, the original plan approved by the Town Council was to finish the pool, run the recreation programs early in the summer, close down and then remodel everything. It's apparent that the situation has changed. The pumps originally were to be outside – they are outside pumps and do not need to be inside, however, they are a bit unsightly so people wanted them inside the building. This will also eliminate any noise and it does protect them more than the fenced in area that was going to be used. When the portable classroom was moved out, there was a full view of the bathhouse/restrooms which showed a building which we all know should have been taken down a long time ago. I do not need to go into details on the condition of the building. The facility is named after Paul, he is organizing all of the volunteers that are working on the building. Everyone wants a completely new facility and they, by working together, are going to make it a reality and they should be commended. The plan is full speed ahead.

The Recreation Program will start early. Programs are being added so that we have activities all summer long starting with Basketball, Field Hockey, Soccer and Tennis. Then Golf starts off. Then to Arts and Crafts and Swimming Lessons.

The pool will be done shortly. The pool company is here – they have laid all the pipes, next is the laying of the tile and edge, then the deck and plastering. Custom Pools is very pleased with the condition of the pool, it weathered the winter wonderfully.

Councilor Cianchette asked the Town Manager to clarify the last paragraph of the Resolution regarding accepting proposals under \$10,000. The Town Manager stated currently under the bid specifications the Town Manager or other designated people can accept proposals under \$5,000. With so many different components to the pool, raising the dollar amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000 will help avoid calling a special meeting for approvals or delaying work waiting for the next scheduled meeting.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

- d.* **RESOLUTION 08-79:** Resolved that the Town Council Authorize the Town Manager to Execute the Contract for Professional Engineering Services for the project of Design for the Reconstruction of the General Aviation Apron at the Pittsfield Municipal Airport, AIP #3-23-0036-09-2008 between the Town of Pittsfield and Hoyle, Tanner & Associates (HTA) after FAA and MDOT approval in the amount of \$93,000.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Jordan** that Resolution 08-79 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted in moving this grant project forward, the next step would be to execute the contract with the engineers. \$93,000 is the approved engineering cost after we went through the Independent Review and has been approved by the FAA.

The Town Council had received a number of updates on this project on a regular basis. This grant project addresses the engineering design costs of the apron. The apron area is approximately 101,500 square feet and estimated to have been built in the 1940's – 1950's. There is less than one inch of pavement that is seriously broken up - literally hundreds of spots. The design of this project and the subsequent grant application to be filed for the reconstruction of the apron next year are crucial for the economic development and vitality of the airport. The Airport Master Plan from the late 1990's recommended the replacement of the apron due to its condition.

The project's cost is \$96,000 of which \$91,200 or 95% is the federal grant and \$2,400 or 2.5% is the State grant. The Town is required to provide a match of 2.5% or \$2,400.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

- e.* **RESOLUTION 08-80:** 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 Gray** and seconded by **Councilor Cianchette** that Resolution 08-80 be adopted.

Mayor Nichols questioned if there was anyone else in the audience who would like to volunteer. Donnie Hallenbeck stated he would like to be considered for the Theater Committee to finish Rusty Haynes' term. **Councilor Gray** stated he would like to see

Rusty's term offered to his family before filling it by anyone else. The Council will hold off until the next meeting to ask Mrs. Haynes if she would like to finish his term.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Update on Paving Bids:

The paving bids came in and the Public Works is conducting due diligence. The bids were as follows:

S&G Construction \$89.95/ton, just C mix
Pike Industries \$89.70/ton, C mix and Superpave
Vaughn Thibodeau \$86.75/ton, just Superpave
Kennebec Paving \$68.90/ton, just C mix

Even with Kennbec Paving's bid, which is the lowest, we are way over the funds we have available and I had cut the list of roads. John is checking on items such as the mix formula, sample of the mix, pavers, etc.

Discussion Item on Revenue Collections:

I wanted to advise you now that we have the May revenue collections. Revenue collections are now steadily going down as we look at each month. Usually February – April are slow revenue months and then it picks right up. That has not happened and May has really made this clear. Excise Tax collection should be at \$268,800 at the end of May, it is \$255,700 or a difference of \$13,100. This is trending similar to 1990-1991, which is not good. We are very conservative in spending anyway so there is not a lot that can be put aside. The County tax situation is still unknown and there are few answers. We have been issued 1 county tax bill but we still do not know if there will be a second county tax bill that must be paid this year. Once we know the amount of a second bill or if there is going to be a second bill, then we can process the ordinance to determine how much additional funding will be placed against the budget to assist with the County tax situation. It could not be done last December so we have to basically appropriate revenue twice. If we do not know the amounts of all the county tax bills soon, the tax bills can not be issued. If the tax bills can not be issued, the TAN will have to be heavily drawn upon and that will cost more.

Our budgets are tight anyway so we are going to have to be very careful with spending.

Update on the Cooperative Fuel Bid

We received the results of the Maine Power Options Fuel Bid on 05/22/2008 and had a few hours to respond. The total gallons for the northern Maine bid was 8,999,045 (8.9 million gallons). The price Pittsfield received was \$4.59/gallon for #2 fuel; \$4.909 for Kerosene and \$2.50/gallon for Propane. Basically, this is about

double what we are paying now. We did not lock in prices. So we will watch the fuel prices, trends and the oil barrel costs to see when to go out for a town bid to do the best we can.

Update on the 05/21/2008 Dinner/Program on the Reorganization of MSAD #59 and MSAD #53

Councilor Chale and I attended for the Town of Pittsfield. There were representatives from both School Districts. The Reorganization team led a question and answer period about the proposal. A copy of the basic Question and Answer discussion is attached excluding any questions from the audience, which were interesting. These are the basic types of questions that people had. It is important to encourage everyone to get out to vote on June 10th. This whole process has been a tremendous amount of work on the part of the Reorganization Team members and the school personnel that have been involved.

Update on Water Project: Water Meter Replacement and Automated Meter Reading (AMR) System

For meter changeover completion, we have 827 meters of 1,354 meters changed over or 61% completed by May 31, 2008. The employees are now taking 1 day per week to change meters over.

The project started with new readings from the AMR meters with the January, 2008 readings:

In comparison with 2007 through May: Increase of \$8,618.86 in revenue from both water and sewer billings over last year. That figure is for 5 months. We still need to trend this and remember that the mobile home parks have not been converted over. Yesterday, I got the last piece of information that we need to have the Master Meter Resolution that was passed by the Town Council a few years ago reviewed to make sure it is appropriate for the Mobile Home Parks. If we master meter, then we do not have to change over every mobile home in the mobile home parks.

Update on Sewer Projects: Summer Street (and Summer Court) Sewer Separation Project; Work Plan/Study for Removal of Sludge from Lagoon System; Sewer System Engineering; etc.

Summer Street (and Summer Court) Sewer Separation Project: No word from the State or MDOT on our request to change the agreement back to the original submittal or at least change some of the language and explanations on why we can not hook up the residences. The work whether, we are allowed to use the Peltoma Avenue drainage ditch or we have to divert the water, is scheduled for mid-August. Manter Company has been very flexible on this project. We are planning another pre-construction meeting after the 4th of July.

Work Plan/Study for Removal of Sludge from the Lagoon System: We still have not been approved by DEP to proceed forward with the Work Plan proposed by

Acheron and approved by the Town Council. DEP had concerns over the testing that was done and Acheron provided the necessary submittal. It is obvious that no sludge will be removed this year as we are now coming up on 6 months since we submitted the work plan. The Town's Wastewater Treatment plant permit expires next year and we had planned to remove the sludge prior to that.

Sewer System Engineering: This is going along quite well.

Overall Sewer System Study: This project is being performed by Oliver Associates to review the infiltration and determine a priority list of areas to work on in the lines has involved several reviews in the field by the company during the large storms. They are measuring the flows in the lines in different locations to determine where the infiltration is making its way into these old lines.

Engineering for new projects: On-going with all fieldwork done by Plymouth Engineering. They are looking at one of the Main Street projects, Hamilton Cross Country and West Street. We will have bid packages ready to go for summer and need to decide which ones we can afford as we get more information in on the new water and sewer revenue stream. We have to fix Main Street, basically we have to fix these three locations. The revenue stream for the Sewer System has always been an issue. I have found documents that showed the Town struggling with this same situation back in 1984.

Grants Update:

Airport Grants: Vegetation Plan/Permitting Grant: Shortly we will have the last reimbursement together and reports to file to close out the grant.

Airport Grants: Runway Obstruction Clearing: Received the third payment on this grant so we are nearly complete. There is a small amount of stump removal with herbicides, which needs to be done prior to June 15. Then we have to file the last reimbursement and reports to close out the grant.

Airport Grants: Design Engineering for Apron Reconstruction: Hired the Independent Reviewer from the Council's Resolution earlier this year. The 2-hour scoping meeting was held and I have my list of assignments. This is the design work so that we can get a new apron. We got the grant. The contracts for the engineering work need to be filed with the State and FAA, then the project needs to begin.

Brownfields Grant: Cleanup Grant for 8 Mount Road (10 Eelwier Road): Report earlier on the agenda.

CDBG Grant/Business Assistance: Moosehead Cedar Log Homes: The bid for their distribution center came in well within budget so they are very happy. The project started and they have been trying to build the facility in between the storms. The owners are working with KVCOG on the required job creation. This project requires a lot of dedicated time.

CDBG Grant/Public Facilities/Historic Preservation/Library: The draft bid specifications are ready. The plans are being finalized. This project needs a lot of attention right now. We are gearing up for the whole bid process and there is a lot to do prior to the next Town Council Meeting. The project comes in to be placed out to bid at the 06/17/2008 Council Meeting. This project requires a lot of dedicated time.

CDBG Grant/Special Projects Matching Funds/GCS: Completed and signed off on by DECD. Check issued to GCS. Received close out documents from the DECD.

Efficiency Maine Business Program: The project was completed and we are waiting for funding.

Fund for Efficient Delivery of Services – Regional Curbside Recycling Truck: Filed that one away. Program funding was utilized for budget gap.

L&W Conservation Fund: Stein Park Renovation Project: Completed last year, 5% of project has not been receipted yet so the project has not been closed out – backlog of projects. Waiting for funds.

L&W Conservation Fund: Swimming Pool Essential Components: Project approved early May, paperwork arrived, bids issued, waiting for all contractors to come to the office to sign their contracts. Have insurance certificates. Paul is to call them when he needs the work done.

Library Grants from State of Maine: Several are tied to the restoration project and 1 needs to be spent by 06/30/2008 so this is definitely a priority.

Project Canopy: Mill Pond Loop: All grant paperwork filed and grant closed out, no inspection as of yet or reimbursement.

Safe Routs to School, Phase II: Filed Utility certification, ROW certification, Categorical Exclusion paperwork, preliminary plans and then many conversations with State and engineer. Complimented on our paperwork, however, waiting for state approvals through state agencies. These are behind. There is some concern now that the project will not be completed prior to school starting. Have to spend a lot of time with this as it goes to bid, etc.

Other Grant Opportunities: Municipal Investment Trust Fund Grant Program grant for \$250,000 – should be hearing shortly. The estimated timeframe was originally 06/09/2008, moved back a few days.

8. **REPORTS:** Audience, Council

Audience:

Harvey Eldridge was in attendance to discuss an issue, which occurred at the Transfer Station. Eldridge questioned why he was not permitted to use a commercial truck, which is a one-ton truck, to dump trash. He had to take the

trash back to his residence because he was not allowed to dump it on the weekend. He can only dump his trash on the weekend due to his work hours. Eldridge stated that he has been contacted by the Code Enforcement Officer to clean his property. Eldridge was offered to dump at the Transfer Station after hours, but this doesn't work for him. The Town Manager stated we would make accommodations to work with Mr. Eldridge, but the Town is not permitted to leave trash outside of the compactors and we will be in violation of our DEP licenses. Mr. Eldridge was advised to contact the Town Manager on Wednesday and the situation would be resolved.

Walter Reuter wanted to promote a training workshop in Newport in July on Positive Parenting. The seminar is free. There will be flyers posted at the Town Office and at area businesses for any who is interested.

Council:

Councilor Baker: Absent.

Councilor Cianchette: Wanted to thank the audience for attending. As the Chairman of the Neighborhood Watch would like to announce that Cianbro donated another \$250 towards the program. There has been almost \$1000 in donations. Councilor Cianchette showed the new signs to the Council and the audience. There will be a dozen signs installed around Town. The next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be July 7, 2008 at 6:30 pm.

Councilor Chale: Wanted to thank the audience for coming out tonight. Encourage everyone to come out and vote on 06/10/2008.

Councilor Jordan: Would like to encourage everyone to vote. It is very important to our community.

Councilor Gray: In light of Kathryn comments tonight we all are starting to feel the pinch, and can imagine what the Town will be faced with shortly. On the other side of the coin, interest rates have never been lower. Our borrowing power has increased. Perhaps it is time to look at our options to bond an amount of \$400,000 or \$450,000 for the Library. The Town Manager noted that the grant application that we spent so much time on will be decided upon in the next few weeks. The Town Manager stated that we could look into this as part of the borrowing for the upcoming Water & Sewer projects that are desperately need for our infrastructure. The Town Manager will get back to the Council within the few weeks with the information.

Deputy Mayor Fotter: I am very worried about the heating bills the Town will have to come up with. Taxes will have to go up to cover these costs. It was my understanding that we would stay out of the Library work. It was a project that was supposed to be a pay as you go project. I do not feel that the taxpayer's money should be involved and taxpayers pay bonds. They are already stretched with fuel and gas prices and we do not need to further strain them during tough times. Also, wanted to thank the audience for attending.

Mayor Nichols: Appreciate the audience attending tonight. Glad that things are working out for Eleanor. We will get the situation between Mr. Eldridge and the Transfer Station worked out. Would also like to encourage everyone to vote on 06/10/2008. The Towns that will survive this are the ones that are frugal with their money. We are one of those Towns and we will survive this.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Jordan** that the meeting be adjourned at 8:55 p.m. All in agreement.

Nicole Nickolan, Town Clerk