

# MINUTES

For a regular meeting of the Pittsfield Town Council held on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

**PRESENT:** COUNCILORS: Robert Stackhouse, Michael Cianchette, Scott Strom, Heather Donahue and Marie Manning. **ABSENT:** Tim Nichols and Trudy Ferland. Also present: Town Manager Kathryn Ruth and Town Clerk Nicole Nickolan. Audience members included: Don Hallenbeck.

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 meeting held on February 16, 2016.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Donahue** that the minutes of the regular meeting of February 16, 2016.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

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

Presentation by Gail Chase, Kennebec Valley Council of Governments (KVCOG) Community Development Manager regarding upcoming opportunities for collaboration on broadband enhancements.

Gail Chase explained that she was meeting with the Town Councils and Boards of Selectmen in the interested towns in Somerset County regarding the need for enhanced and/or improved broadband. She explained some of the opportunities coming up for the region including the State of Maine's ConnectME Planning grant filing. KVCOG will file an application for a county-wide planning process to assist the communities with determining their needs for broadband and how to meet those needs. Right now, there is not a lot of information available and a planning grant would determine exactly what is available, how the Towns can receive assistance to grow with broadband and provide the needed technical assistance. She noted that Kathryn has been great to work with on many grants and projects and is very proactive. For this particular project, KVCOG would like to branch out beyond the town's staff and have citizens on the committee. Therefore, she has come to the meeting to talk to the Town Council about this. The Councilors expressed interest in having KVCOG submit the Town as part of the regional broadband project.

The Town Manager noted this presentation is very strategic and well-timed as the Town has completed the following steps regarding broadband:

- Created a Community Broadband Team compiled of citizens;
- Authorized the Community Broadband Team members to join a Regional Broadband Team;
- Held a Community Broadband Meeting to solicit information from residents and businesses;

- Researched the current records of mapping of broadband opportunities within the community;
- Shared information regarding the results of the ConnectME mapping for the community;
- Submitted information regarding the lack of companies servicing the rural areas of Pittsfield in some areas surrounding Route #2;
- Requested information about the Maine Fiber Company's fiber optics that the Town has learned are located in the right-of-way of Route #2 which runs through Pittsfield;
- Authorized citizens from the rural areas of Pittsfield to join the Community Broadband Team;
- Contacted the federal government about funding opportunities; and
- Continued to work on the vision, goals and objectives for broadband with members of the Community Broadband Team.

Some of the items that the Town's Team looked at were connection enhancements that were needed for the following areas:

1. Unserved and Underserved areas located in the rural areas of the community;
2. Telecommuting and/or Remote employees;
3. Student homework access;
4. High Tech Business Start-ups; and
5. Internet Cafe or Hot Spot for public use/visitors when the Library is not open.

Any grant opportunities would work much better if the Town had multiple community partners. The attempt with the Somerset Economic Expansion Corporation (SEDC) resulted in very small groupings of towns that did not seem productive as we would all compete against each other. The approach by KVCOG is much more promising and will allow the towns in our region to work together as we have in the past to solve regional issues. Since broadband is very technical, a planning grant opportunity and/or opportunities in which our region can obtain technical assistance would be the best approach in order to proceed forward.

The Councilors were very pleased with KVCOG's approach and wanted the Town to be involved. Mayor Robert Stackhouse and Deputy Mayor Timothy Nichols are members of the Community Broadband team in addition to members of the Pittsfield Economic Expansion Corporation (PEEC) and town residents.

Community and Economic Development Activities and Events  
 May 11, 2016: 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Job Fair

**Community and Economic Development Activities and Events:** Further updates will be provided regarding projects as information becomes available:

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

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Job Fair for Kennebec-Somerset Counties and the Sebec Valley co-sponsored by the Kennebec-Somerset Transition Team at Warsaw Middle School Gym and Cafeteria 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm

**A. General:**

A few private sector business activities remain under review and small projects continue to be underway. To address the few remaining available small locations, additional promotional

pieces beyond our regular promotion of available properties had been provided to economic and community development resources and sites. As of the date of writing this agenda item, the Town continues to work on two proposals/ background materials for two business proposals/property inquiries on a regular basis. One additional project is not moving forward as the company cannot logistically move their multiple facilities this year to Pittsfield. The company plans to look at this option again in 2017.

The Town has received a number of new inquiries about available buildings in Town and provided information and assistance to business representatives collecting information on potential sites for their business or client. Some of the inquiries were from our website marketing materials while others were from the economic development information that we sent out on the internet. Still other inquiries were from advertising conducted on behalf of the property owners by their real estate agent or themselves.

Cianbro Corporation officially purchased the Tech Center on Thursday, 02/18/2015 from the Pittsfield Economic Expansion Corporation.

We are working with SAS intermittently to see if a company can utilize the factory for storage as it is great space that is going to waste. It has been very hard to have a deal at that facility with its current organizational structure. The interested company has made contact with the SAS representative and is awaiting an approval.

The Town has received inquiries from businesses desiring to move to Town from our marketing campaign as well as several parties interested in the community for their projects. One of the projects is going to the Planning Board on Monday, March 14, 2016. A tentative closing date has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 1, 2016.

The Town continues to work with an upcoming small company with a great skillset seeking an expansion in our community.

Several other projects are on-going with hopefully an announcement shortly on one of the projects.

## **B. Properties for Sale:**

**1. UTC Factory:** Please see the lengthy history in prior meeting minutes. On August 6, 2015, the Town was advised that the property will be available for occupancy in three months. Work continues at the facility. The Town has been advised that the property can now be marketed as of mid-November 2015. As of last contact with UTC on 12/31/2016, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection paperwork for closure of the facility had not been received. The Town was notified by UTC on 02/09/2016 that the property likely cannot be sold until later this year. The internal industrial cleaning was completed with very good results. MDEP is working on the final paperwork. The outside work was not totally completed prior to winter, therefore, it will resume this summer with MDEP signing off likely by early Fall 2016. If marketing starts in the near future outside the State of Maine, we could have a possible new owner later this year.

**2. SAS Property:** Please see the lengthy history in prior meeting minutes.

**3. Pittsfield Redemption Center:** Mrs. Goodridge has taken the facility back and has family members running it. The property and business are now for sale for \$35,000. The property is also being advertised by the Town. Due to illness in the family, the facility is now closed. We have been advised that the facility is no longer approved as a Redemption Center.

Another company to be located on the other side of Town has applied for a business permit for Pittsfield Redemption. This facility will be located in the front of the former Corinne's Cleaning. A photography shop is scheduled to be located in the back of the building.

**4. Pittsfield Equipment Rental:** The building remains for sale and another buyer is being pursued. The property is also being advertised by the Town.

### **C. Projects Under Review:**

**Hancock Lumber:** Hancock Lumber was working 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.

This is being checked upon to see if the Town can assist in any way.

**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. The group continues their fundraising efforts. The group continues to work with the Code Enforcement Officer to obtain Site Plan Review. Offers have been made to assist with grant opportunities, which are limited in number. Another offer was made the week of 07/06/2015 to assist with writing grants for the organization. As of 08/19/2015, the American Legion has decided to tear down and remove the existing fire damaged structure and move in a different structure. On 11/11/2015, the Town Manager spoke with the Legion after the Veterans' Ceremony at Veterans Park. It has been advised that we need to move forward with a project and to work together on it. I have indicated that the Town and its staff will meet the American Legion Post leaders to discuss how to move the demolition project forward in 12/2015 for a Spring Project. I have some ideas and will note that this will need to be a community project. The meeting with the American Legion representatives and departments has been scheduled for Friday, 12/11/2015. We had a very productive meeting resulting in a preliminary plan of action. There are a number of items that people are checking on in order to make demolition of the burned apartment complex a reality for the Spring/early Summer 2016.

### **D. Somerset Avenue Projects:**

#### **Report on Somerset Avenue Sidewalk Project and Impact of the Somerset Avenue Mill & Fill Project**

The Town has been looking forward to a meeting with the State of Maine to discuss the changes made in the road by MDOT during the paving in the Mill & Fill Project and the

resulting water issues by Hartland Avenue. On 12/07/2015, the Public Works Foreman met with the Bangor Division Engineer John Devin about the continuous water problems at the end of Somerset Avenue and its intersection with Hartland Avenue, a very flat area without enough catch basins in the State system after the mill and fill project. To date, the Town has not been contacted regarding a proposed solution.

### **Report on Somerset Avenue Speed Limit Request**

Preliminary information was submitted to MDOT in late Fall 2014. Additional information was requested. Several extensive details were completed by the Police Chief to provide the additional information on days when the weather was clear, the roads were not snow covered and at a time in which the Police Chief did not have any commitments and the police department was fully staffed here in Town (not at court, out sick, etc.) MDOT has the additional information and will provide their answer on whether the speed zone from I-95 to the Varney Dealership can be lowered to 25 or 30 mph. With the information collected in 2014, it could not be lowered to 25 mph pursuant to their requirements. We will see what the additional information provides for an allowable speed limit under MDOT regulations. The Town has not been advised of a decision as of yet. There has been no response to requests for updates.

On 09/16/2015, the MDOT Division 4 Engineer agreed to meet with the Town Police Chief, Public Works Foreman and Town Manager when he was in the area for other projects to discuss how we would like this area approached with the results received. The 25 mph speed limit does not meet MDOT regulations. Another arrangement may be able to be made. The Bangor MDOT Engineer has agreed to move forward a 30 mph speed limit for Somerset Avenue from the Varney Dealership down to the I-95 Exchanges. This will take a few months and likely, if approved, would be received in February 2016. In addition, a new 25 mph sign was erected prior to the old 25 mph sign. The MDOT may have found that the actual approved 25 mph zone was actually further down toward the Somerset Plaza than signed for many years.

On 02/08/2016 the Town received a copy of the approved lowering of the speed limit to 30 mph from 35 mph. The staff are to review all the signs in place vs. the Traffic Ordinance to make sure that there are no other items to address. If so, we will amend the Traffic Ordinance at the same time rather than conducting a public hearing and amending the Ordinance for one sign if there are more items to address. The staff's review showed that there are multiple items to update including an addition of a proper no parking area or loading area in the Municipal Parking Lot for the Recycling Multi-Bin and new language for the removal of vehicles that park on town property that are constantly in the way for snowplowing.

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

Theatre Committee Meeting on Wednesday, February 24, 2016 at 6:00 pm

First Park General Assembly Meeting on Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 5:00 pm at T-Mobile in FirstPark in Oakland

Upcoming Meetings:

FirstPark Marketing Committee Meeting on Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at 2:00 pm at the FirstPark Office in Oakland

Sebasticon Valley Chamber of Commerce Strategic Planning Committee Meeting on Thursday, March 3, 2016 at 4:00 pm at the Chamber Office in Palmyra

Sebasticon Valley Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting on Thursday, March 3, 2016 at 5:00 pm at the Chamber Office in Palmyra

Recycling Committee Meeting on Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at 5:00 pm

Somerset Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at 10:00 am in Skowhegan at the Community Center

Central Maine Egg Festival Committee Meeting on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at 6:30 pm

Other meetings will be scheduled for the remainder of the month of March shortly.

3. **PUBLIC HEARINGS/OLD BUSINESS: NONE**

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

**Town Manager's Report: Town Council Meeting of 03/01/2016:**

**1. The FYI Folder:** FYI Folder which contains items that come in between the Town Council Meetings has the following this evening: N/A

**2. Upcoming Events:**

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Sat., April 30 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at the Police Station at the Pittsfield Municipal Building

Regional Job Fair on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 from 3:30 - 6:30 pm at the Warsaw Middle School Gym and Cafeteria

44th Annual Central Maine Egg Festival on Monday, July 11 - Saturday, July 16, 2016 at Manson Park, Hathorn Park, and many other locations!

The next Egg Festival Committee Meeting is on Thursday, 03/10/2016 at 6:30 pm for those who can attend. The group does need some volunteer assistance with all of the upcoming work to do for planning the event.

**3. 2016 Pittsfield Spirit of America Award:** Spencer Havey was honored on the front of the Rolling Thunder for the presentation at the last Council Meeting as the 2016 Pittsfield Spirit of America award.

**4. Scrub-A-Dub Auction:** See poster details on the upcoming auction on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at noon at the site.

**5. 2015-2016 Somerset County Broadband Survey - Very Important!** The surveys were being distributed through the mail to every household. Completing this two page survey will help the Town be able to apply for funding to assist in obtaining enhanced broadband for areas of the community, especially the rural section. Please utilize this link for the on-line survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KVCOGbrobandsurvey> The Town also has paper copies of the survey which you can pick up and/or drop off at the Town Office. The results need to be tallied so please get your survey in today.

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

## 5. NEW BUSINESS:

**ORDER 16-07:** Ordered that the Town Council Authorize Equipment Lease Purchase Financing and Appropriation of the Proceeds thereof.

Moved by **Councilor Donahue** and seconded by **Councilor Cianchette** that Order 16-07 is adopted.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

**RESOLUTION 16-22:** Resolved that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to execute all necessary paperwork for the lease-purchase of a Xerox WorkCentre 5875PT at a cost to not exceed lease and service contract totaling \$292.50/month for a 5 year period, an increase of \$7.50 per month or \$450.00 for the term over the current copier lease.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Strom** that Resolution 16-22 is adopted.

The Town Manager noted on 12/01/2015, the Town Council approved the paperwork to commit to the Xerox 5775PT Digital Network Copier which worked well upon arrival, however, started to malfunction within one week. The Town did not execute the paperwork, continuing to work with the company on a solution. It was determined after multiple servicing that the copier would need to be replaced. The company brought another Xerox 5775PT Digital Network Copier. This machine also malfunctioned so it became very obvious that these copiers had internal computer issues as the malfunctions had absolutely no pattern. The Town requested a different model. It took over a month for the company's new selection to arrive. The Town has had the Xerox WorkCentre 5875PT for three weeks now and it works quite well. This was also a brand new machine with a very low number of copies on it. The Town had a WorkCentre earlier model for many years that worked well and nearly made it to the end of its five-year term before malfunctioning.

Therefore, it is recommended that the paperwork for the new WorkCentre 5875PT be authorized so that we can conclude the purchase. The purchase price is the same as the model approved on 12/01/2015 which is \$7.50 per month or \$450.00 over the old purchase

agreement. Language was added to the Order and Resolution to void out the first approval on 12/01/2015.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

**RESOLUTION 16-23:** Resolved that the Town Council approve the acceptance of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) from the Maine Cardiovascular Health Council and if approved, further authorize the Town Manager and Librarian to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the Maine Cardiovascular Health Council & MCD Public Health Rural Access to Emergency Devices (RAED) and the Town of Pittsfield.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Strom** that Resolution 16-23 is adopted.

The Town Manager noted the Pittsfield Public Library applied for an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) as part of the Rural Access to Emergency Devices Grant Program. The library was awarded an AED to be placed at the library

The local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) will place the AED and train the staff and other interested members of the community in how to use the AED.

The Memorandum of Understanding between Maine Cardiovascular Health Council, MCD Health and the Pittsfield Public Library needs to be signed before the AED is delivered. The Agreement will need to be listed under the name of the Town of Pittsfield rather than the Pittsfield Public Library.

The agenda item was originally filed after the closing date for the 02/16/2016 meeting and luckily provided time for the Town Manager to check into the immunities available under the State Law and the Town's insurance coverage. The State Statute was provided.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

**RESOLUTION 16-24:** Resolved that the Town Council Appoint members to fill the vacancies on the various Town Boards and Committees.

Moved by **Councilor Donahue** and seconded by **Councilor Cianchette** that Resolution 16-24 is adopted.

The Town Manager noted Robert Engelhardt is interested in being on the Board of Appeals. There are three openings. Bob is interested in the regular position. This board only meets when there is an appeal of the Code Enforcement Officer's decision so the Board meets as needed.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

## 6. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

### Updates:

**Water and Sewer Projects Update:** In the past few weeks the water/sewer departments have been busy as we continue cleaning and organizing the building. We have been doing winter preparations and maintenance at the facilities. The Department dealt with another water break, this time at a sprinkler system for the former Cedar Mill which drained down the water supply for a few hours. This took place last Sunday morning early into mid-morning. Also, have been working on the DWSRF with the Engineer and Town Manager as well as working on the Industrial Park water and sewer lines with the Town Manager.

**Highway Projects Update:** Highway has been quite busy with many highway and building projects. Several pieces of equipment are being updated and/or repaired. We are going to have some Municipal Building Work done by the employees during non-winter storm and cleanup period. Since there have been a few lingering storms since the last Council Meeting, nearly all time has been spent on the storm cleanups and various equipment repairs.

Public Works has been spending all of its time on the tree removal projects on Peltoma Ave. & Stein Park, day to day operations/maintenance, occasional snow removal and trying to get misc. equipment spec's and proposals started to obtain a loader, dozer, & tractor with boom mower so that they can hit the road running this spring. Also, PW will be going through the hot box for a complete review, re-build the gravel bucket, go through the Traffic Ordinance for the speed limit updates and Parking ban re-write for Snow Removal plus the construction costs for Library Street. the time that I can take a look at it and come up with a plan/ costs over the next couple of weeks.

The Foreman is organizing the work projects this year which is an astronomical list of projects. The Foreman will be in with a request to utilize Reserve funding for an advanced post hole digger due to the installation of the grant award for 105 signs. We had applied for 84 signs. The ride through with the State officials resulted in adding some signage that would be necessary. This will also help when the sign posts lean over in the winter. The pieces of wood blocking only holds up for so long. In addition, PW will be a partner on the small Project Canopy grant that we need to complete by May 2016.

**MDOT Grant Opportunity: Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons/Speed Feedback Signs:** The Town was apprised of an opportunity to apply for another RRFB similar to that at School Street/Somerset Avenue as well as a Radar sign showing travelers how fast they are going. Both were for the equipment and the Town would pay for installation. The Town was approved for the list for the RRFB and on the waiting list for the Radar Sign. Thanks to Anna Bockis who is on the State Bike/Pedestrian committee as she received notice early on this and we applied. Everything that was available was gobbled right up in a few days so the regular MDOT correspondence did not even go out to the Towns. The next day after Anna sent the notice, we received a notice from HealthySV, so we have two partners who alert the Town to these quick grant or free equipment opportunities.

**Recycling Curbside Pickup Suspension & Action Plan Update:** There have been 4 advertisements paid for in the Rolling Thunder as of Monday, 02/29/2016 as well as 3 press

releases placed into the BDN The BDN did call and I left three messages with information, but have not seen anything as of yet.

**Fuel Oil Bid Results:** Sheet was reviewed

**Bicycle Pedestrian Plan Draft:** We did receive this, however, it was difficult to follow. I tried to use it to apply for a large grant opportunity that required background and proof of our history working on these type of projects and that they were documented. I was unable to utilize it as it was very incomplete. KVCOG's Community Planner was working on this with the Committee. A future meeting to discuss the plan has not been set.

**Ordinance Amendments Update:** The PB has its public hearing on the 22 wind turbine definitions and the 1 Site Plan definition set for their meeting on 03/14/2016.

The Planning Board is to receive the information that Councilor Cianchette compiled on scenic view and how it could be determined regarding wind turbines at their 03/14/2016 meeting. Also the Planning Board will have on its agenda a discussion regarding the legal advice from the Town Attorney on the proposed language for home enterprises on the questions raised by the Ordinance Committee.

The process is on-going with reports from the Ordinance Committee. If all goes well with the Planning Board public hearing in March, then we would be looking at a public hearing in April. The Ordinance Committee did have some suggested revisions and/or questions on a couple of items out of the 30 or so amendments moving forward. The Planning Board has scheduled their public hearing for March 14 on the 20 or so more definitions and 1 amendment to the Site Plan Review Ordinance. The Home Based Enterprises section is not exactly clear and/or very restrictive. The Town Attorney reviewed it and questioned or suggested changes in a number of areas. That information was provided to the CEO. It was not discussed at the Planning Board Meeting on February 8, however, hopefully will be discussed at the March 14, 2016 meeting. If changes are proposed by the Planning Board to that section, the board may need to hold another public hearing – this will depend upon where the intent is changed, etc.

**Codes Enforcement:** With the recent rush in building permit and building concepts as of late, the codes enforcement concentration has not taken place as time needed to be spent preparing for the Planning Board meeting and reviewing projects.

**Theatre Events Center Rental Fee Schedule:** Copy provided as part of the Council Package for your background.

**Maine Service Centers Coalition Legislative Updates:** I put the last copy received into the Town Council package.

The last two week's updates prior to the Council Package were provided in the Discussion Items – Other Items. The last week's received after the Council Package was placed in the FYI Folder for your review.

One Councilor asked for the Maine Service Centers Coalition Legislative Updates and the MMA Legislative Updates by e-mail. The Town Manager inquired as to how the rest of the

Councilors would like to handle this item. If you want them sent by e-mail, the Town Manager can forward them, however, if you have too much e-mail now, she can attach them to the Discussion – Other Items or place them in the FYI Folder for copies.

**State News Update from Senator Rod Whittemore:** Thanks to Councilor Strom for getting the Town on the e-mail list for updates. It was very informative. I also am receiving U.S. Representative Polquin’s update received after the Council Package was compiled.

**Loan Review for Street/Road Resurfacing/Paving & Bridge/Culvert Deficiencies:** In order to pave this year and/or to address the deficiencies reported by the State of Maine for the town bridges and recommended engineering repairs, the Town will need a loan. These items were proposed to be addressed through the use of the MainePERS surplus funds, however, the plan was not approved for use for the budget for 2016. Therefore, loan authorization was placed into the budget. The Town Manager discussed the possible options as we had waited for the fire truck purchase as part of the application for a Spring Bond Issuance. The Fire truck replacement was not pursued by the Department in time for the bond issuance so the Town has two options. A Request for Proposals can be issued for a loan for these two projects. It is small enough so that we will receive proposals. If the interest rate is not to our liking, we can then submit for the Fall Bond Issuance and then plan and bid out the projects over the 2016-2017 Winter Season.

**Fire Truck is Done Report from the Fire Chief:** The Department’s oldest piece of equipment which is now 35 years old is unable to pass inspection. It is likely to be very expensive to repair and hard to obtain parts plus is very old to repair. The Town Manager noted that she asked the Fire Chief to write up materials for an agenda item with his recommendation to resolve this issue. This item should be on the next agenda. In the interim, background information has been compiled by the Chief and a copy is on your desk this evening to take home and review. The Chief’s basic recommendation is for an aerial device. It would be very difficult financially for the Town to purchase a new aerial device and likely will need to be a used model that is traded in or was used as a demo. It should not have too many years on it per the Chief which makes sense. To finance this now or during the summer, the Town would need a lease-purchase. If the project was planned out and we found a piece of equipment that we could hold pending the funding, we could submit the paperwork for the October Maine Municipal Bond Bank Issuance. This will depend upon the lease-purchase interest rate and when the vehicle is located.

7. **REPORTS:** Audience, Council

**Audience:** None

**Council:**

**Councilor Donahue:** I am very happy to hear about the blueberry processing facility.

**Councilor Manning:** It was a wonderful week in the neighborhood. We lost power this morning and all the neighbors were calling each other. We all ended up going to a home that had a gas stove and had coffee.

**Councilor Ferland:** Absent.

**Deputy Mayor Nichols:** Absent.

**Councilor Strom:** I just want to remind everyone that the Republican Caucus is Saturday, 03/05/2016 at 3:00 pm in Skowhegan and the Democratic Caucus is Sunday, 03/06/2016 at 1:00 pm at the Pittsfield Town Office.

**Councilor Cianchette:** It is good news to hear about the proposed sidewalk in front of the shopping plaza. We have been talking about this since at least 2008. As I have said before, we are poised and ready for business. I want to thank you for your patience in my absences. Kathryn, the work you do is so well done and well appreciated. You take pride and it shows.

**Mayor Stackhouse:** I want to thank Gail for coming in to discuss the Broadband Plan. I attended the Chamber dinner the other night. It was a great event. It is good to see Don Hallenbeck back in the audience. I read the wind turbine information. It is very well written.

## 8. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

Motion by **Councilor Donahue** to enter into executive session to discuss Economic Development, Disposition of Property and Acquisition of Property under Title 1, Section 405, 6.C. at 8:09 p.m. The motion was seconded by **Councilor Cianchette**.

Motion by **Councilor Donahue** to return to regular session. The motion was seconded by **Councilor Cianchette**. The Town Council exited executive session at 8:56 p.m.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

Motion by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Donahue** to authorize the Mayor and Town Manager to apply for the CDBG Economic Development Grant for Innovative Specialties.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

## 9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Strom** that the meeting be adjourned at 8:59 p.m. All in agreement.

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Nicole Nickolan, Town Clerk