

MINUTES

For a regular meeting of the Pittsfield Town Council held on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT: COUNCILORS: Robert Stackhouse, Timothy Nichols, Michael Cianchette, Heather Donahue, Trudy Ferland, Scott Strom and Marie Manning. **ABSENT:** None. Also present: Town Manager Kathryn Ruth and Town Secretary Karen Kelsey. Audience members: Fire Chief Bernard Williams, Don Hallenbeck, Alistair Herbert and Peter Logiodice.

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 October 04, 2016.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Nichols** and seconded by **Councilor Cianchette** that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 04, 2016 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

3. PRESENTATIONS, CONGRATULATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Presentation by the Fire Chief on the new Fire Pumper:

The Town Manager advised that she asked Fire Chief Bernard Williams to attend the meeting this evening to update the Town Council on the status of the new Fire Pumper as everything seems to be coming together. Bernard said that there have been a lot of meetings with the representative from Pierce Equipment regarding the Fire Pumper and that the Town Manager has started having a lot of discussions with PNC Equipment for the financing. The Fire Pumper has a Customer Enforcer Chassis. Pierce will be building the whole chassis. Mounting the fire apparatus onto a chassis is tough. It has a Cummins 450 diesel engine. The front and rear axles are bigger than they need to be. The cab is a 6 person with 5 self-contained breathing apparatus. There is a 1,500-gallon minimum pump. It has a husky 3 foam system and 2 permanently mounted lights on each side for great lighting. The 4,000-watt generator can be removed from the Fire Truck as needed. Bernard went on in detail to describe the components of the Fire Pumper. He has bid specs that have been compiled by the company with the options that he chose. The bid specs are over 100 pages in length and available if anyone would like them.

Deputy Mayor Nichols noted that a 2.99% interest rate is the lowest that we would ever get. The Town Manager advised that the interest rate for the 10-year lease-purchase which is 2.99% is excellent when compared to the marketplace and the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. She agreed that the Town would not get a better rate for an Equipment Lease-Purchase arrangement.

Councilor Cianchette asked when we needed to pull the trigger. The Fire Chief advised that we would sign the papers and once we do this, the company starts to build the Fire Pumper. He advised of a 3-5% increase that is being talked about around December 10, 2016 so we need to sign in November to avoid this increase.

Councilor Manning asked how long it takes to build the pumper. The Fire Chief noted that it would be 9-10 months.

Councilor Cianchette asked to have the budget defined as to what will happen to the mil rate in terms of an increase. The Town Manager advised that she has just received the department requests last week and the pricing on the fire truck yesterday, so the exact effect on the budget is not known. However, in first totaling all requests up and an estimate for the new debt service for the fire truck, the budget was \$230,000 higher. As this is unacceptable and unreasonable, she has cut this back so far to \$106,000 and will still be working on it up to the budget books being compiled for the Council's first budget session. The Town Manager advised that we knew this was going to be a very difficult budget year, however, she will work to get it lower.

Deputy Mayor Nichols noted that we needed the fire truck and there is going to be an increase in the mil rate. This has been talked about all year as we knew that this was going to happen. He advised that he does not think we will get a better interest rate. It is likely that the interest rate is going to go up so this is the time to get the truck.

The Town Councilors and Town Manager thanked the Fire Chief for coming in to provide an update on the Fire Pumper.

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

Pittsfield ARTS Club Meet the Candidates Night on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 6:00 pm in the Pittsfield Municipal Building Council Chambers

Report on New Business Activity & Opportunities in Pittsfield:

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.

The Dunkin Donuts' restaurant received its Planning Board Site Plan Review approval on Monday, 02/08/2016. The Traffic Movement Permit was officially issued by MDOT and received by the Town later in 02/2016. The DEP Permit for the transfer of Somerset Plaza from Apple Mountain LLC to Dana Cassidy, the current owner, was received. The developer and the Plaza owner continue to work on this project. The plans have been received for the building and reviewed by the third-party inspector. The contractor has been hired and we have been advised that the company will hire local subcontractors. The construction company has contacted the Town to start the sewer hookup process. On 09/01/2016, the Town received a copy of the DEP Site Location Permit for the project to proceed forward to construction. The Town has been advised that bids are being sought on the project. The Dunkin Donuts project began at the Plaza on 10/11/2016.

Cianbro Corporation officially purchased the Tech Center on Thursday, 02/18/2016 from the Pittsfield Economic Expansion Corporation. The building is under renovation inside as the building is to be tailored to Cianbro's needs. Cianbro has advised that now that they have completed their new Southern Maine location where they have a tenant that needed occupancy, that the company will be back working on the Tech Center. There has been some recent activity in the building.

Blue Sky Produce officially purchased Lot #7 in the Pittsfield Industrial Park from the Pittsfield Economic Expansion Corporation on Tuesday, 03/01/2016 for its Produce Shipping Depot. This is the last lot in the original Industrial Park and has a small developable window which works well for this project. The project received Site Plan Review approval on Monday, 03/14/2016 from the Planning Board. The company worked with the Building Inspector to obtain the building permit to begin the project. The driveway, parking area and foundation were underway at the last meeting with more work being conducted since the building has been erected. Employees have been hired for the summer to move the products. Blueberries are evidently going to be ready sooner than usual. The owner is working away to get everything into order and is very excited to be working in Pittsfield. The blueberry season was officially over with last week. The owner is now down in New York promoting wild blueberries. The Town is looking into how to assist with making connections and networking opportunities for the company. We have two groups that may work with the Town on scheduling a meeting to introduce Blue Sky Produce to the region.

Cianbro Corporation's Pittsfield Solar, a 9.9 Megawatt Solar Array Farm received Site Plan Review approval at the 03/14/2016 Planning Board Meeting. This is the first approval in a number of approvals required for the project to be built. This project is currently going through the CMP review process and discussions. The project is under development planning.

The Town continues to work with an upcoming small company Innovative Specialties, with a great skillset seeking an expansion in our community in the Industrial Park Phase II. This item was on the agenda for the 04/19/2016 meeting with three actions listed and on the agenda for 05/03/2016 with two ordinances set to public hearing and a resolution. The CDBG grant was approved for submittal after a very positive public hearing was held. The grant application was filed by the deadline in May. The project was approved at the 09/12/2016 Planning Board Meeting. All grant paperwork for the Phase II Project Development was filed on time at the beginning of October. The project is under review by the State. An RFP was drafted by the Town and reviewed by the State for engineering assistance for Innovative Specialties. The RFP has been provided to the company along with a list of suggested engineers to contact as well as any engineers that Innovative Specialties would like to obtain pricing from for assistance with the building.

Congratulations to Jillyann Butler on her purchase of the former Chalice on Main Street. She is expanding her business Amici Nail Spa from further up Main Street in Stan's building. As she expands her business, a nice leased space will be available on Main Street for a new, small or start-up company to utilize. This space usually goes quite quickly. The Town will list this space once Amici is close to her re-location which is estimated to be August 2016. This property at the corner of Main Street and Central Street is already starting to look better as it receives much overdue attention. The property is undergoing a large renovation and face lift. The project is nearing completion.

The Town Council has signed the following Business Certificates in 2016:

1. Puretech Window Cleaning at 115 Main Street
2. Pittsfield Redemption Center at 418 Main Street (new facility under new management on the other side of town).
3. Andrea Amara for Andrea's Salon at 11 Huff Road for a hair salon.
4. Kimberly Wick for The Sitter Center Daycare at 50 Mount Road
5. Steven Lamarre for Off The Wall Collectibles at 129 Morrill Street

The Economic Development Lead Generation Project is going well with the issuance of the Situational Assessment and recommendations for sectors to promote for business attraction for the UTC Facility, SAS Facility and the Pittsfield Industrial Park Expansion, Phase II. Lead generation is now underway.

In addition, we will continue to work with several companies that wish to expand and/or locate in Pittsfield. These are on-going in the development and feasibility phases.

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 12/31/2015, 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. The Town was able to receive a copy of the final paperwork for the inside of the building on 05/23/2016. 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 or another company may have to address this. Marketing has started again inside the State of Maine and then will start up outside the State of Maine with the Consulting Contract. The Town has contacted the company regarding a desirable business for the community that has interest in the building. The company has also received a proposal from someone else that is under consideration. The Town has learned that there is a Purchase Sale Agreement for the property. A tour was conducted of the facility at the end of July 2016. The Purchase Sale has been reported to be moving forward to its conclusion.

2. SAS Property: Please see the lengthy history in prior meeting minutes. 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 any type of deal for a business at this facility due to its current organizational structure. The interested company has made contact with the SAS representative and is awaiting approval. The Town then has followed up numerous times to request that there be a decision made. The Town has now learned that proposals will be reviewed on this property so we are working with a company on a proposal for a new manufacturing facility. The company is very interested in this facility. The company has been requested to provide their proposal for the project to the Town in writing so that we can proceed ahead.

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. As of the writing of this agenda item, information has not been received.

American Legion:

The American Legion's demolition project is well underway with the building coming down the week of September 12, 2016. The demolition was concluded by September 23, 2016. Now the Legion is working on the details for the foundation. The site looks great! There have been many good comments about how nice the area looks.

D. Somerset Avenue Projects:

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

The Town inquired into 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 with the proposed solution. MDOT has been trying to clean out and explore the catch basin system on Somerset Avenue due to issues.

E. Report on Meetings & Events:

Report on Meetings:

Sebasticook Valley Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting on Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 5:00 pm at the Chamber Office in Palmyra

Kennebec Valley Council of Governments Board of Directors Meeting on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 9:30 am at the KVCOG Office in Fairfield

Kennebec Valley Council of Governments Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Meeting on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 11:30 am at the KVCOG Office in Fairfield

Upcoming Meetings:

HealthySV Steering Committee Meeting on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 from 9:00 am – 10:30 am
at a location TBD

Recycling Committee Meeting on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 5:00 pm

Theatre Committee Meeting on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 at 6:00 pm

FirstPark General Assembly Meeting on Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 5:00 pm

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

1 The FYI Folder: FYI Folder which contains items that come in between the Town Council Meetings has the following this evening: See List

2. Upcoming Events:

Pittsfield ARTS Meet the Candidates Night on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 6:00 pm at the Pittsfield Municipal Building Council Chambers.

National Drug Take Back Day will be held on Saturday, October 22, 2016 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm in the back Municipal Parking Lot at the Police Station

The 2nd Annual Winter Holiday Celebration at the Hathorn Park Gazebo will be held on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 with the Warsaw School students. Check out "The Present" - A Quilt Raffle to benefit the Holiday Lights at Hathorn Park Tree Lighting. The Drawing is December 7, 2016, the night of the lighting. Tickets are \$1 or \$5 for 6 tickets. This quilt is beautiful - pieced by Donna Laux and quilted by Anna Bockis. For information call 660-2075 & 355-5935.

3. Election on November 8, 2016

Candidates running for local elections:

- 1- District 3 Council Member (3-year term)
- 1 – At Large Councilor Member (3-year term)
- 3 - SAD #53 Board Members (3-year term)
- 1 - State Representative
- 1 - State Senator

State of Maine Referendum Questions:

Question 1: Citizen's Initiative: Do you want to allow the possession and use of marijuana under state law by persons who are at least 21 years of age, and allow the cultivation, manufacture, distribution, testing, and sale of marijuana and marijuana products subject to state regulation, taxation and local ordinance?

Question 2: Citizen's Initiative: Do you want to add a 3% tax on individual Maine taxable income above \$200,000 to create a state fund that would provide direct support for student learning in kindergarten through 12th grade public education?

Question 3: Citizen's Initiative: Do you want to require background checks prior to the sale or transfer of firearms between individuals not licensed as firearms dealers, with failure to do so punishable by law, and with some exceptions for family members, hunting, self-defense, lawful competitions, and shooting range activity?

Question 4: Citizen's Initiative: Do you want to raise the minimum hourly wage of \$7.50 to \$9 in 2017, with annual \$1 increases up to \$12 in 2020, and annual cost-of-living increases thereafter; and do you want to raise the direct wage for service workers who receive tips from half the minimum wage to \$5 in 2017, with annual \$1 increases until it reaches the adjusted minimum wage?

Question 5: Citizen's Initiative: Do you want to allow voters to rank their choices of candidates in elections for U.S. Senate, Congress, Governor, State Senate, and State Representative, and to have ballots counted at the state level in multiple rounds in which last-place candidates are eliminated until a candidate wins by majority?

Question 6: Bond Issue: Do you favor a \$100,000,000 bond issue for construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities, equipment and property acquisition related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, freight and passenger railroads, aviation, transit and bicycle and pedestrian trails, to be used to match an estimated \$137,000,000 in federal and other funds?

A Guide to the Election is accessed through the Town's website compliments of Councilor Manning as well as another Guide is accessed by the Library's website compliments of the State of Maine. Both guides are very educational about the upcoming Election in November.

4. Library News:

Story Time for preschoolers has started up for fall. It is held on Mondays at 10:15 am. An informal play group for preschoolers is held on Wednesdays at 10:15. On the first Wednesday of the month, KVCAP will provide activities, snacks, and parent support. The other sessions are times for play and socialization.

The Pittsfield Public Library is hosting the book launch of "Where the Sky has No Stars". This is the first published works by poet Wesley Burton of Pittsfield, Maine. Wesley's contemplative and imaginative poetry entices readers to face moments of transition. His words explore the inner depths of the psyche, the healing power of nature, and the soul's resistance to move forward out of darkness. Wesley will read excerpts from his book and be available afterwards for a book signing during the reception. The event is Thursday, October 20 from 6:00-7:00 pm.

5. Pittsfield's Birthday on June 19, 2019:

The Town was incorporated on June 19, 1819 so our 200th birthday is coming up. We should start making plans in January 2017 and would plan on announcing our formation of a committee at the widely popular Annual Winter Holiday Celebration on December 7, 2016.

6. Spirit of America Award Ceremony:

The Somerset County Ceremony to honor the volunteers and volunteer towns will be held on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 6:00 pm at the Superior Court Room of the Somerset County Building at 41 Court Street, Skowhegan. Elaine Havey is planning to attend to receive Spencer's award in his memory.

7. Halloween Activities and Events:

Pittsfield Community Theatre Fundraiser on Saturday, October 29, 2016 with 2 Great Acts: Lucky the Clown Wes Booth - Magic Man. Doors open at 1:30 pm with Show at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$6 each to be picked up at the door the day of the show or ahead of time.
HALLOWEEN FUN FOR THE FAMILY.

Pittsfield Community Theatre Fundraiser on Sunday, October 30, 2016 with MONSTER HOUSE. Kids come in costume ages 3-13. The Theatre will give out a prize for the best costume - a gift certificate for our concession stand. Donation only for the movie. Doors open at 5:15 pm with the movie starting at 6 pm. HALLOWEEN FUN FOR THE FAMILY - THIS WILL BE GREAT!

Pittsfield Town Office will have candy for the children and be dressing up to celebrate Dr. Seuss books on Monday, October 31, 2016. The Town Office is open until 5:00 pm. Drop by to see the fun and then head over to the Fire Station.

Pittsfield Fire Department will be hosting treats for the children on Monday, October 31, 2016 beginning at 5:00 pm at the Fire Station. Check out the Fire Trucks and pick up some great treats from the firefighters.

Finance Committee: No Report;
Ordinance Committee: No Report;
Recycling Committee: No Report

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

ORDINANCE 16-16: (Public Hearing) That the Town Council hereby ordains to transfer property located at Detroit Street, Map 026, Lot 027 to David T. Odell for the sum of \$2,211.00 as the result of a Tax Acquired Property bid. The Town acquired said property as a result of automatic foreclosure of a 2013 property tax lien, recorded in the Somerset County Registry of Deeds on June 10, 2014, at Book 4793, Page 272, which matured on December 10, 2015. The Town Council further authorizes the Town Manager to execute a municipal quitclaim deed releasing the Town's interest in said property to David T. Odell

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Nichols** and seconded by **Councilor Cianchette** that Ordinance 16-16 be adopted.

Deputy Mayor Nichols advised that this is the little house on Detroit Street. He noted that Dave keeps his property in excellent condition so he will fix this property up.

The Town Manager noted that the transfer of tax acquired property is considered a sale of property. Under the Town Charter, a sale of property requires that a public hearing be set and then after public hearing, the Town Council would vote upon the transfer of property. All property sold as part of a Tax Acquired Property Sale is transferred by a quit claim deed.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

6. NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 16-17: (Set to Public Hearing 11/01/2016) That the Town Council hereby ordains to transfer property located off the Hussy Road, Map 005, Lot 020 to Ronald L. & Lyn E. Hawkins for the sum of \$51,100.00 as the result of a Tax Acquired Property bid. The Town acquired said property as a result of automatic foreclosure of a 2013 property tax lien, recorded in the Somerset County Registry of Deeds on June 10, 2014, at Book 4793, Page 134, which matured on December 10, 2015. The Town Council further authorizes the Town Manager to execute a municipal quitclaim deed releasing the Town's interest in said property to Ronald L. & Lyn E. Hawkins

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Deputy Mayor Nichols** that Ordinance 16-17 be adopted.

The Town Manager advised the Tax Acquired Property Bid was authorized by the Town Council with bids due on 09/07/2016. The minimum bid was \$15,000 to cover the taxes, interest and costs plus it was a large lot. The Assessor assisted with a value given the location. The bid was accepted by the Town Council at their 09/20/2016 meeting.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

ORDINANCE 16-18: (Set to Public Hearing 11/01/2016) That the Town Council hereby ordains to transfer property located off the Phillips Corner Road, Map 018, Lot 052 to James M. Kirk for the sum of \$1,800.00 as a result of a Tax Acquired Property offer. The Town acquired said property as a result of automatic foreclosure of a 2012 property tax lien, recorded in the Somerset County Registry of Deeds on June 05, 2013, at Book 4669, page 30, which matured on December 05, 2014. The Town Council further authorizes the Town Manager to execute a municipal quitclaim deed releasing the Town's interest in said property to James M. Kirk.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Deputy Mayor Nichols** that Ordinance 16-18 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted a town citizen came forward to request to purchase the remaining Tax Acquired Property from the most recent sale and agreed to cover all of the Town's taxes, costs, and interest. An offer of \$1,800.00 was received from Mr. Kirk. Mr. Kirk has purchased the property with a home in Palmyra which abuts this property and previously was under the same ownership before both the Town of Palmyra and Pittsfield both received ownership of the property by automatic tax foreclosure. Since he bid on the Palmyra parcel, he would also like to acquire the property that goes along with it in Pittsfield. As the property has been put out to TAP Sale several times, it is permissible under the Town's regulations to accept an offer made by an interested citizen.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 16-135: Resolved that the Town Council accept the proposal of AAA Energy of Pittsfield in an amount not to exceed \$9,336.00 for the Preventative Maintenance Service for the HVAC System at the Pittsfield Public Library for the five-year period of November 1, 2016 through October 31, 2021 and authorize the Town Manager to execute the contract for same.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Deputy Mayor Nichols** that Resolution 16-135 be adopted with AAA Energy of Pittsfield in an amount to not exceed \$9,336.00.

The Town Manager advised that two firms responded to the RFP for the maintenance of the heating and air conditioning systems at the library. The lowest bid is from AAA Energy Service in Pittsfield. They have provided service for the past three years. The Librarian has noted that AAA Energy's \$9,336 is the full amount for five years of maintenance. That is all. The regular time and overtime rates are only if we needed some sort of unexpected repair. The \$25 truck cost is for the supplies and materials in the truck when they come out on a service call. It is not charged in addition to the regular maintenance contract.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 16-136: Resolved that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager and Deputy Treasurer to Issue a Request for Proposals for the Investment of MainePERS funds

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Deputy Mayor Nichols** that Resolution 16-136 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted The Finance Committee has recommended placing the investment of the MainePERS funds out to proposals for investment in legal instruments authorized by the State of Maine Law.

The Town has received the same proposal for the same type of investments from the first choice from the last Request for Proposals. The Town Attorney, while not approving the approach of the bank's proposal, has also not indicated that it is not incorrect. There are two schools of thought on the investment of funds and we believe it would be better if we could receive the endorsement of the Town Attorney, which is the more conservative school of thought. Both schools of thought on the use of various instruments and agreements are well respected in the financial field, however, the Finance Committee has come to the conclusion that it is best to obtain new quotations. The Finance Committee's choice last year was the better proposal of all the proposals received, however, there still is a chance that the funds could depreciate at a point and then appreciate again. We would prefer to take the conservative approach here as these are not true endowment funds and are considered municipal funds by the Town. Again, each school of thought on the investment and agreement utilized is equally respected in the field, however, we would prefer to bid this out again.

The Town Attorney has indicated that with the actions taken in the past that the Town has the ability and right to go out to bid again as we are not totally comfortable with the bidder's proposal.

We would utilize the approach discussed in the Finance Committee report at the last Town Council Meeting which is to invest \$1,500,000 for a term of 3-5 years to build the interest, which could be utilized upon review of the Town Council each year or not, based upon the Council's discretion and the investment instrument utilized. The amount above the \$1,500,000 which today is \$307,299.83, would be invested separately and be more fluid so that the Town Council can decide on a yearly basis whether to utilize any of the funds. Frankly, we are going to need some of the monies soon until some of these large economic development projects or other economic development projects come to fruition. We would leave the \$307,299.83 where it is invested today which is in a rollover CD unless the interest rate was lowered, at which point, we can easily address this item for another authorization.

The draft Request for Proposals for Investment Services was included in the Town Council Package. The RFP was reviewed and approved by the Town Attorney.

Deputy Mayor Nichols advised that he likes the approach of the Finance Committee and Town Manager to invest most of the money in safe investments so that there is no chance that the funds can depreciate if the market goes lower. We could have the funds in a roll over CD where it will continue to be invested along with the interest. If we keep the remainder in funds that can be utilized, the Town Council can consider whether to use some of the funds each year. Some years we will not need it. The Town Council would decide whether to use the money on a yearly basis. There is no shortage of what to spend funds on.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

7. REPORTS: Audience, Council

Audience:

Don Hallenbeck updated the Town Council on the activities of the Historical Society. Please call Tom Brown if anyone would like a tour of the historic depot. He explained how to bring donations to the Historic Depot which is managed by the Pittsfield Historical Society. Don announced that he is now the Acting Curator.

Council:

Councilor Manning: Special thanks to the Maine Peace Walkers, a group of 25-27 individuals who were passing through Town and stayed at Marie's house. They came from a number of states as far away as Washington and were welcomed at the hospital. The theme this year was "Stop War on Mother Earth." They are focusing on what we have instead of what we lost. She received Jane's e-mail about setting aside money in the budget. This is for the celebration in

2019. Wesley Burton's book came in today and it is very exciting that there will be a book signing at the Library. She advised that Skowhegan has a video that is quite nice and that the Town is re-inventing itself and looking to new talents rather than filling the big old empty buildings.

Councilor Donahue: Nothing this evening.

Councilor Ferland: Nothing this evening.

Deputy Mayor Nichols: He thanked Bernard for coming in with an update on the Fire Truck. It is exciting news that there is an interested party in the UTC facility. We received great news on the economic development lead generation with the excellent report received on the opportunities available to the Town for the buildings that are available. The connection to the Canadian market is very exciting. The Town Manager noted that the clustering approach does work. **Deputy Mayor Nichols** advised that we all knew that there was going to be a budget crunch this upcoming year. He is totally against taking raises away from the staff. They work really hard and have stuck it out during challenging times for the Town. They need the raises and we need to provide them to the employees.

Councilor Strom: MCI's coach Tom Bertrand has had his 100th win. He has been put up for a National award for the most valuable coach. People can vote once per day on Facebook.

Councilor Cianchette: Welcomed Karen. Indicated that every meeting, Kathryn and the crew do a phenomenal and exceptional job holding the line. A positive attitude says a lot about what the Town is made of. Movers and shakers cannot move ahead unless there is investment in the Town. Advised Don that he looked at all the information available on the Historical Society website and spent 1.5 hours on-line. They do a terrific job at the Historical Museum. The website is great. Noted a Thomas Jefferson quote about how a free society cannot sit back and complain as it is one's right and responsibility to vote. Encouraged everyone to attend the Meet the Candidates Night at 6:00 pm on Wed., October 19.

Mayor Stackhouse: He advised that he will not be attending the Meet the Candidates Night. He is running for District 3. Spencer's family will be accepting Spencer's award that evening at the same time as the Candidates Night and he will be attending the Spirit of America Award Event to support them and to accept the Town's award. Advised that the Theatre has been packed on \$1.00 night. Spoke of the Water project being on track. He advised of the problem with the placement of the temporary traffic lights that were approved by MDOT. The Town Manager advised that she agreed with the hospital and had to intervene to have an accommodation made so that the ambulance could come down the side. She advised that there was no issue for the Fire Truck as it would just go through if it needed to do so. **Mayor Stackhouse** noted that Kathryn works hard every day. The raises need to stay intact. We do not want to be shorthanded with the staff. Kathryn does the work of 10 people and he does not want her to get sick. He thanked Karen for attending the meeting.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Not needed

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by **Deputy Mayor Nichols** and seconded by **Councilor Cianchette** that the meeting be adjourned at 8:06 p.m. All in agreement.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

Kathryn Ruth, Deputy Town Clerk