

MINUTES

for a regular meeting of the Pittsfield Town Council, held on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at 6:30 PM in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT: COUNCILORS: Mayor Timothy P. Nichols, Deputy Mayor Heather Donahue, Councilor Matthew Bolster, Councilor Howard Margolskee, Councilor Robert Stackhouse, Councilor Caleb Curtis, Councilor Debra Billings

Also present: Town Manager Kathryn Ruth, Assistant to the Town manager Michael Feole

AUDIENCE: Jan Laux, Joe Sanborn, Anna Bockis, Joe Getchell Sr. Don Hallenback, Kelly Mitchel, Michael Cianchette, Jim Cianchette, William Cunningham, Ben Hall, Michael Cray, Ron Watson, Andi Vigue, Jason Harding, Hope Willbanks, Dean Billings, Jessica Ouellette, Pete Logiodice, Sharon Stewart, Rachel Ohm, Deborah Bartlett, Becky Thompson, Don Chute, Chris Blomgren, John Blomgren, Ben Small, Pete Bickmore, Amanda Callomore, Mike LeBlanc, Peter Vigue, Caroline Vigue, Rochelle Varney, Marie Manning, Josh Englehardt, Denver Small.

1. Deputy Mayor Stackhouse opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. The Council observed a Moment of Silence.
3. Adoption of minutes of the regular meeting held on December 18, 2018.

Moved by Councilor Nichols and seconded by Councilor Margolskee that the minutes of the meeting held on December 18, 2018 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

4. Council members elected at the November 2018 Election take the oath of office and are seated:

District 1: Timothy P. Nichols
District 4: Heather Donahue
At-Large: Debra Billings
5. **PRESENTATIONS, CONGRATULATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS:**
Bicentennial Committee presentation on the Boat launch: William Cunningham presented the boat launch project final design which included stairs to the Mill Pond and a Boat House to store canoes and kayaks.
Community and Economic Development Activities and Events:
The 2018 Central Maine Egg Festival made \$1,853.00. The committee will be assessing how to reduce costs
The Theme contest for the 47th Annual 2019 Central Maine Egg Festival has been started and will end on Friday, January 8, 2019. We hope to have a theme that ties in with Pittsfield's Bicentennial. The contest has been announced in the schools and we are receiving many interesting entries from the students.
We have several new businesses in town: Amanda Sharples opened Gracielyn Photography located at 168 Estelle St. Paris and Renee Bacon opened Central Maine Motors, located at 485 Main St. Suzy Morton opened a Flower and Gift shop in Somerset Plaza. Holly Zadra has opened a Yoga Studio named Sun Dew Studio located at 113 North Lancey St. Dental Lace's order fulfillment operation to fill on-line orders was announced back in October and is located at the former Auto company on Main St.

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

7. **REPORTS:**

A. COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

FINANCE- No Report

ORDINANCE- No Report

RECYCLING- No Report

B. BOARD AND COMMITTEE UPDATES BY TOWN COUNCILORS AND MANAGER

Bicentennial- The next meeting is on Wednesday, January 9th at MCI

Communications- Heather Donahue met with Michael Feole about the website and created a report which she has sent via email to the council and staff.

C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1-Tax Acquired Property- The tax liens have matured for the 2016 tax year. Normally we have 0-1 property. We did pick up a few properties this time. We will have a full report at the next meeting after review by the Code Enforcement Officer. Properties taken through liens are never good properties. They tend to have an issue, whether it is contamination or mortgage issues. The banks may have walked away. There are usually items that need to be addressed. We will look at that and recommend to the council how to proceed forward.

2-We are very fortunate to have wonderful movies at the Pittsfield Community Theater:

Jan 4-Jan 10: Ralph Breaks the Internet

Jan 11-Jan 17: Spiderman-Into the Spiderverse

Jan 18-Jan 24: Bumblebee

Jan 25-Jan 31: Mary Poppins Returns

8. **NEW BUSINESS:**

ORDER 19-01: Ordered that the Town Council elect from among its members a Mayor to serve for the 2019 year.

Councilor Curtis Nominated Timothy P. Nichols as Mayor, Councilor Bolster seconded the nomination. Councilor Margolskee nominated Heather Donahue as Mayor, Councilor Billings seconded the nomination.

Timothy P. Nichols – Councilor Nichols-AYE, Councilor Bolster-AYE, Councilor Donahue-NAY, Councilor Margolskee-NAY, Councilor Stackhouse-AYE, Councilor Curtis-AYE, Councilor Billings-NAY

Heather Donahue- Councilor Donahue-AYE, Councilor Bolster-NAY, Councilor Margolskee-AYE, Councilor Nichols-NAY, Councilor Curtis-NAY, Councilor Stackhouse-NAY, Councilor Billings-AYE

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Bolster that Timothy P. Nichols be Mayor for 2019.

VOTE: Councilor Nichols-AYE, Councilor Bolster-AYE, Councilor Donahue-NAY, Councilor Margolskee-NAY, Councilor Stackhouse-AYE, Councilor Curtis-AYE, Councilor Billings-NAY

ORDER 19-02: Ordered that the Town Council elect from among its members a Deputy Mayor to serve for the 2019 year.

Moved by Councilor Billings and seconded by Councilor Curtis that Heather Donahue be Deputy Mayor for 2019.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

ORDER 19-03: Ordered that the Mayor appoint from among the Councilors a Finance Committee, an Ordinance Committee and a Fair Hearing Authority consisting of three (3) members each and a Police Labor Negotiating Committee consisting of two (2) Councilors and the Town Manager.

Mayor Nichols appointed:

Finance Committee: Councilor Donahue, Councilor Margolskee, Councilor Stackhouse

Ordinance Committee: Councilor Donahue, Councilor Stackhouse, Councilor Bolster

Fair Hearing Committee: Councilor Billings, Councilor Bolster, Councilor Curtis

Police Labor Negotiating Committee: Councilor Margolskee, Councilor Billings and the Town Manager

Moved by Councilor Stackhouse and seconded by Councilor Donahue that The Mayor's appointees form the committees for 2019.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

ORDINANCE 19-01 Reconsideration of Amendment to Ordinance 18-5, which removed \$130,000 from Police Department to add as line item for roadwork under the Highway Department.

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded be Councilor Bolster to move the public comment.

Mayor Nichols opened Public Comment:

Michael Cianchette-

- Concerns about a "Reconsideration".
- Noted communications between himself and the Assistant to the Town Manager.
- Concerns about the town attorney input.

Andi Vigue-

- Can't have an 8% increase to make up for 10-15 years of no tax increases.
- Must have meetings in this room and be public.
- Police Chief was not treated fairly.

Michael Dugas-

- We can't just add spending and bill the taxpayers.
- We do need paving but there has to be a plan.

Joe Sally-

- Why are we adding positions when we should be cutting them?
- Our tax rate is 5.48 Mills above the average for Maine.
- The school and County budgets are going to increase on top of the 10% municipal increase.

Don Chute-

- I don't want my taxes to go up 10% but we need improvements around town.
- We need to look at the statistics to decide where to increase.
- I may have to move if the taxes and the Water/Sewer rates both increase.

Joe Getchell Sr.

- How are people on fixed incomes like me supposed to live with this tax increase?

- We don't get any extra money or raises.
- We need better ways of getting money without raising taxation.

Joe Sally-

- Our valuation is declining, so an increase will be spread thinner and have a bigger impact.
- The TIF from the Solar Farm can go into the General budget but you give up the shelter
- Not one penny has gone to tax relief (Town Manager-It goes in as a revenue source/reallocation toward economic development, which lowers the use of taxes.)

Jessica Ouellette-

- 7.5% of Pittsfield middle schoolers use alcohol regularly, 7.3% use marijuana and 3.9% use prescription drugs.
- 25.5% have tried alcohol, 11% marijuana and 8.1% prescription drugs.
- We are working with the Police Department to lower those averages.

John Blomgren-

- Since 1976 my taxes have doubled and I have to tear down my barns to keep my taxes lower.
- We need to fix the potholes because they are ruining my car and I can't afford a new one.
- You can't get nothing from nothing, I live on a fixed income.

Pete Logiodice-

- Why raise taxes when the Theater is losing \$90,000 per year?
- The Police Department's needed more than the Theater.
- I am disgusted that \$130,000 is being pulled from the Police Department.

Amanda Collamore-

- It was unfair to the Police Chief, who does a great job reaching out to children in the schools.
- We have crumbling infrastructure.
- Cars drive off of my road and into my yard. It is not safe for my son to play in his own yard.

Denver Small-

- We have a huge elderly population where I live. We encourage them to stay in their homes as long as they can. Will they have to go without food, heat or their prescriptions to pay for this tax increase?
- We lose \$90,000 a year on a theater, that is bankruptcy.

Mike Dugas-

- I have nothing against the Police.
- We are not taking the \$130,000 out of the police budget that was already there, it was added.
- We are talking about adding it to paving instead of adding it to the Police Department.

Don Chute-

- We are adding 26% to the Police Department budget.
- Did the crime rate go up 26%? (Pete Bickmore-No, but the calls for service went up 24%)
- I checked today, you did 4000 calls?

Peter Vigue-

- 4884 to be exact, 4300 last year and 3900 the year before that. We had 5 overdoses and 2 deaths and who knows how many administrators of Narcon.
- We should not be in the plowing business, the two trucks will not last more than 3 years.

Citizen-

- State law requires you to get 3 bids. You can't just give it to a guy you know. It is Federal law.

Nancy Monteyro-

- I don't see people working together in this town.
- I don't want to invest here if everyone is going to move out.

- We have to listen to each other and collaborate.

Jason Tardy-

- We have both a crime and a road problem.
- I am the School Superintendent and I see our kids coping with issues of crime every day.
- Our schools are safer than most because of the School Resource Officer and the Police Chief.

Marie Manning-

- We need a balance sheet for the Theater.
- All of the kids know "Chief Pete".
- You should stay to the agenda and either allocate or re-allocate the \$130,000.

Ron Watson-

- Did Chief Bickmore ask for more than \$130,000? (Councilor Donahue-Yes, but it was actually more and the Finance Committee went through the items that Chief Bickmore asked for and the other department heads asked for. We went through those items in a four and half hour meeting and discussed them ad-nauseum over and over again trying to figure out what to keep and put into the budget and what not to keep. So yes, the \$130,000 was approved by the Finance Committee to be added to the budget. It then went to the full council. So it was not as much as he originally asked for.)(Councilor Billings-So the \$130,000 was a compromise?)(Councilor Donahue-Yes.)

Don Chute-

- I would like the taxes to increase less than 2.2 mils this year.
- We can compromise and do something for the police, roads and the community.
- I think that the biggest controversy was that they cut the Police Chief's raise.

Josh Englehardt-

- People are going to be suffering because of the roads, overdoses or because the elderly are giving up food to pay their taxes.
- Why not take the \$130,000 and divide it up for all of the communities' needs?
- I think that would be far better than taking it from one.

Jan Laux-

- It is important to start a dialogue.
- We need to bring people in 2 to 4 times a year from businesses to give us ideas.
- I hope that when people open our time capsule they say "Those folks in 2019 were pretty sharp!"

Peter Bickmore-

- Reducing crime has been my focus.
- I tried to present a budget that would enhance our officer's safety, health and well-being.
- I am willing to share an administrative assistant and table the new officer position until next year.

Anna Bockis-

- Are we unworthy of your attention? (Town Manager- I am writing notes so that I have all of the information from this meeting.)

Sandy Hafford-

- I am a pharmacist and I hand out needles to those who ask for them and we do have a drug problem.
- My husband is a Bangor Police Officer and he makes more than the Police Chief with overtime.
- Your officers haven't had a raise in a long time.

Jessica Ouellette-

- Do you know how much it is going to cost to pave all of the roads in Pittsfield? (Town Manager- Yes, the Town Council has looked at both replacement and repair costs each year.)
- How much road will \$130,000 pave? (Councilor Billings- one mile.)
- So you have three positions versus 1 mile of paved road, that is my question?

Mayor Nichols closed public comment.

Mayor Nichols opened Council discussion.

Councilor Curtis-

- What are the options from the town attorney?

Town Manager-

Ordinance 19-01 addresses the amendment to Ordinance 18-05, which was on the agenda of the Special Meeting. It removed \$130,000 from the police department and added the line item for roadwork under the highway department. I will read this because I asked the town attorney to make this as concise as possible:

The town attorney indicated that it is an extremely complex issue. The council has the right to reconsider this at the next regular meeting, which for the budget is tonight's meeting. This is from the last budget meeting on December 18th. Reconsideration of this matter prior to January 1 could not be done because there was no regular council meeting scheduled. While this issue is very confused due to the Charter requirements, for passing the entire budget by year end, on balance I think that it is possible for the board to reconsider it if the majority wants to do so. We had asked about this because it was listed as an Ordinance on the agenda and it wasn't using a Public Hearing. A reconsideration is not usually listed that way. We wanted to make sure that it was clear. In order to reconsider, a member on the council who voted in the majority for the budget, so that would be on the prevailing side which approved the amendment at the Public Hearing at the December 18th meeting by four councilors. Somebody who was in the majority for the budget must make the motion to reconsider. The council can discuss the issue before or after such a motion is made, or both. It is up to the council's discretion as to whether to accept public comment as this is not a public hearing.

I did ask the town attorney if the Council could just go ahead and get public comment and in fact the town attorney said that it would be better to do so. Even though the item is on the agenda to reconsider, it lies within the discretion whether to by the board. It is not even required that anyone even make such a motion. If no one makes a motion for reconsideration, the council will move on to the next agenda item and the budget will remain as adopted at the last meeting. If the council does vote to reconsider, this is the most important part, that will take the entire budget back to where it was before the final vote- so going back into December. Amendments then could be made to the budget. An amendment could be made reversing the funding change involved in the final budget adoption, which is the amendment that came out after all of the budget meetings and the Finance Committee meeting. Funding items can be changed from other funding sources. Normally you would postpone the discussion and post a notice for a Public Hearing, but this is not an option here because of the charter obligation to adopt a budget prior to the end of the fiscal year. The council could decide under its sole discretion to allow public comment during its deliberations even though it is not a Public hearing. If the council pursues this, then the final budget adoption must be in the form provided. This is how the budget is usually adopted. It lists all of the revenue sources. It lists all of the capitals are. It is a lengthy Ordinance. If you do this and open it up, then you have to do the entire budget again. The two things to keep in mind is that the reconsideration undoes the prior budget adoption and as a result at the end of discussion the council has to adopt a budget. Finally, because the budget Ordinance is not an emergency Ordinance, the budget if approved tonight will not take effect for 30 days.

If there is interest to change the budget, and to do so at a Public Hearing then the council should not vote to reconsider tonight because if you reconsider, then you have to make a final decision and that is it. It says that the council needs to follow the procedure in 5.9d in the Charter, which allows the council to transfer unencumbered funds from one department to another upon written request of the town manager. This has always been done at the end of the year to balance out the budget. I don't think that it has ever been done at the beginning of the year or at the beginning of the budget process. If this happens then it would be done at a future meeting, at a Public hearing, with the proposed changes being advertised.

Moved by Councilor Curtis to move Ordinance 19-01 to discussion.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

Mayor Nichols moved to Public Input:

Michael Cianchette

- I never used the word "reconsider" in my correspondences on this matter.
- I did not call a reconsideration, it was just moving things from one item to another.
- I have read it at least a dozen times. (Town Manager- it is in the Administrative Code and the town attorney determined that it is a reconsideration.)

Mike Dugas-

- Didn't you say that we could take 30 days and have a Public Hearing and work on making adjustments to the numbers and then adopt another budget? (Town Manager-You can go back and change the budget tonight but if you don't then this is the budget that you are going to have.)
- What you are saying is that we can make changes? (Town Manager-No, you could just move funds, not changes to the budget.)

Deputy Mayor Donahue-

- Caleb opened discussion, so does that open it to reconsideration or do we need to motion to adopt?

Councilor Curtis-

- I will change my motion, I move to adopt.

Deputy Mayor Donahue-

- We already voted on it, so if you want to change your motion then we would have to have an amendment on it.
- We have already opened the budget.
- We have already gone past the point of what the letter says. We have already opened the budget.
- Now our task is to look at the budget and decide if we are going to make changes to it, or proceed as it is written. So that is the question before us now, correct?

Mayor Nichols-

- Correct.

Deputy Mayor Donahue-

- So our only option now that we have opened the budget is to look at the budget, fix whatever issues are in there, and it is not just a \$130,000 line item of where it is coming and going?

Mayor Nichols-

- Everything.

Deputy Mayor Donahue-

- So everything is up for review now. We have already passed the point where we are going to or aren't going to. We already opened the budget.

Councilor Bolster-

- First of all I want to apologize for the fact that I wasn't here at the meeting. I will take responsibility. I wasn't here to make a quorum.

- I want to address Mr. Tardy. I was the one who said that there wasn't a crime problem in town, but there was a road problem. I was wrong.
- I feel that this town is very safe. I feel that the police department does an excellent job of keeping everyone to feel safe. However there is a growing drug problem in Maine and the United States as a whole. I just don't know if we put more money in it, is there going to be a change? Are we going to make huge changes?
- I would like to have your input Mike. You called this meeting. I would like to hear if you have any new ideas that you can bring to the table? Do you have any new discussion?

Michael Cianchette-

- I take issue with the attorney's response. Once you call a reconsideration all bets are off and what the original intention was.
- There is a section in the Charter book, I can't remember if it is chapter 1 or 2. It's on the left hand side in the lower part of that page where it does call for passing a budget for that year. However, if the budget cannot or is not passed, the previous years budget will hold sway until the new budget is put into place.
- This Ordinance is to considering the \$130,000 that was taken from the police and put into road paving. All that is saying is to put that back to road paving, to the police department as it was originally.

Councilor Bolster-

- I'd like to speak further please. I also want to say that this is my first year here and I might not be doing things right as far as I voted with the 4 people who made that last minute call of paving the roads versus giving the police department more positions.
- I've been thinking all year long that I've made comments that we need to pave the roads.
- That last meeting was our last time to make a change or something.

Mayor Nichols-

- Speaking of being late, the reason that I wasn't at the last meeting is I started a new job and I had to be there and work that night.
- I have someone waiting for me in Bangor, so in about ten minutes I will have to leave.

Councilor Billings-

- At the end of the year when you move money around to cover a fund that is short from one that had some left, that is the second option correct? (Town Manager-That is correct.)
- So can we rescind the motion that is on the floor or let it die and then can we do that at the next meeting? (Councilor Donahue-Caleb can rescind his motion.)
- Basically I agree with Mike. It was in the Police Department budget, correct? (Town Manager-The money was in the police department's budget.)
- That \$130,000? (Town manager-Correct, \$130,000) So how do we do the part where we switch the money back? (Councilor Donahue-That is what we are doing now.)

Amanda Callomore-

- I just wonder if one of you is able to make a motion to keep the budget as it was on the 18th except to move the \$130,00 because you already agreed on all of that?

Mayor Nichols-

- So where are we at right now?

Deputy Mayor Donahue-

- We already have a motion on the floor that has been seconded and we voted in the affirmative to open Ordinance 19-01, a reconsideration.
- We are at the discussion period now.

- If we are looking at the whole budget, then I can see places to move things around, to trim things off based on what we have heard tonight. I have some items...

Councilor Curtis-

- Can I speak real quick and then listen to your items?

Deputy Mayor Donahue-

- Yes, I am just saying that there is money in the budget for paving.
- We just haven't decided how we are going to pay for it yet.
- We can take out a loan, which was the plan, or through taxation.

Town Manager-

- There is actually no specific money in the budget for paving.
- The supplemental part is that we planned to take out a loan and service the payments through the Pittsfield Future fund.
- The money is not actually there, but the authority to do so is by the ordinance.

Deputy Mayor Donahue-

- The police chief and the other department heads worked with us on the finance committee and we made decisions. We looked at all of our options ad-nauseum.
- We have to bite the bullet and say there is going to be an increase.
- We can't keep avoiding deferred maintenance.

Councilor Curtis-

- Are we in council? (Deputy Mayor Donahue-we are in council.)
- I was the one who proposed that we pave roads. It was not a backroom deal. I saw that we had a 10% tax increase and no money for roads.
- I want to push the budget back a month so that we have more time to look at the final decision and make sure that it is what we want, not to see it the last minute like we did this year.

Marie Manning-

- This isn't the first time that the Town manager has crafted a request to the town attorney to obtain the response that she wants.
- You as councilors have access to the MMA attorneys.

Deputy Mayor Donahue assumed leadership of the meeting as Mayor Nichols excused himself to go to work.

Councilor Donahue-

- We need to keep the discussion to the Ordinance in question. Other items can be brought up later during the audience comment part of the meeting.
- I would like to get ideas for the budget.
- We will get discussion from the council right now and then maybe we will circle back to the audience.

Councilor Billings-

- I don't have my budget book with me, so how can I participate? (A budget book was given to Councilor Billings.)

Deputy Mayor Donahue moved to Discussion by Councilors:

Councilor Bolster-

- Close the Theater.

- Give the Police Department 1 full time Police Officer with ACO duties starting on 6/1/2019 to save half of the \$50,000.
- Give the Police Department \$5,000 for the reserve officers.
- Rotate the Administrative Assistant between the Town Departments and the Police Department.
- Eliminate the Generator replacement from the budget.

Councilor Billings

- If we do the shared Administrative Assistant we should have defined hours.
- Let's charge to bring trash to the Transfer Station at \$1 per bag like other towns do.
- I want to go on record as for closing the Theater period.

Councilor Margolskee-

- Use the Administrative Assistant in the Econ Dev budget half time in the Police Department.
- Leave the \$10,000 for the Police Chief's raise.
- Freeze all salaries at 2018 levels.

Councilor Curtis

- Cut the custodian position and add \$10,000 to the Municipal Building maintenance line item.
- Close the Theater for 1 year and the council will decide what to do with the building.

Deputy Mayor Donahue-

- Remove the line item for paving of \$130,000 from the Public Works budget.
- Add \$65,000 to debt service on the \$500,000 loan for paving.
- Move the Theater to another location such as the UU church which has a stage and a kitchen.
- Can we fund the Theater until June at \$45,000 to give us time to come up with a plan?
- Audience members should go to the School budget and the County Budget meetings.

Town Manager-

- We can cut \$5,000 from the Public Works Department.
- We can cut \$5,000 from the Transfer Station.
- We can cut \$5,000 from the Library.
- We can cut \$5,000 from the Recycling Station.

Audience-

- Use TIF funds for road paving.
- Hiring freeze.
- Get out of the snow plowing business.
- Do more with less people.
- Go to a part-time town office.
- Hire a part-time snow plow driver.

Final Amendment:

Add \$22,000 to The Municipal Building and the Library for cleaning services

Add \$10,000 for the Police Chief's Salary

Revise \$130,000 in the Highway Budget to \$65,000 for debt service on a loan and \$65,000 for Paving

Delete \$60,000 for Police Administrative Assistant

Delete \$50,794 for PW laborer/custodian
Delete \$30,000 to delay hiring Patrol Officer with ACO duties to July 1, 2019
Delete \$45,000 from the Municipal Theatre on June 30, 2019
Delete \$5,000 from Library
Delete \$5,000 from Public Works
Delete \$5,000 from Transfer Station
Delete \$5,000 from Recycling

Ordinance 18-5: The Town of Pittsfield hereby ordains that the 2019 Operating Budget in the amount of \$3,312,339 (**\$3,504,883**) be approved, and the total sum of \$8,073,210 (**\$6,778,114**) be appropriated (Operating plus Capital Budgets);

AND FURTHER, that \$1,579,593 (**\$1,599,718**) be raised through taxation; that \$1,303,507 (**\$1,415,926**) be raised from estimated revenues; that \$229,796 () be appropriated from State Revenue Sharing; that \$125,000 () be appropriated from Lease/Purchase; that \$2,133,640 (**\$706,000**) be appropriated from Loans/Bonds; that \$33,000 () be taken from reserve funds; that \$15,755 be appropriated from Special Revenues; that \$90,939 be appropriated from Theatre Loans/Special Revenues; that \$1,800,000 () be appropriated from grants; that \$362,470 () be appropriated from other Revenue Resources; and that an additional sum of \$399,510 () be taken from undesignated fund balance.

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Billings that Ordinance 19-01 be approved as written.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-01: Resolved that the Town Council appoint Kathryn Ruth as Official Representative, Councilor _____ as Official Representative and Councilor _____ as Alternate to the general Assembly for the Kennebec Valley Council of Governments (KVCOG).

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Billings to Table Resolution 19-1.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-02: Resolved that the Town Council appoint _____ as the Alternate representative to the General Assembly for the Kennebec Regional Development Authority (KRDA) also known as FirstPark.

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Billings to Table Resolution 19-2.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-03: Resolved that the Town Council appoint _____ as an Alternate to the Maine Services Center Coalition in addition to the Town Manager.

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Billings to Table Resolution 19-3.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-04: Resolved that the Town Council sign the expense warrants upon recommendation of the Finance Committee for the year 2019.

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Billings that Resolution 19-4 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-05: Resolved that the Town Council sign the Certificate of Commitment for Sewer User Rates and Water User Rates during the year 2019.

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Billings that Resolution 19-5 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-06: Resolved that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to hire Independent Review(s) and execute all paperwork for Airport Grants for the Year 2019 as necessary in accordance with the Town's Bid Policy, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations and the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) regulations.

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Billings to Table Resolution 19-6.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-07: Resolved that the Town Council sign the Earth Day Proclamation supporting community-wide activities (Earth Day is Monday, April 22, 2019).

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Billings to Table Resolution 19-7.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-08: Resolved that the Town Council sign the Arbor Day Proclamation supporting community-wide activities (National Arbor Day is the last Friday in April: Friday, April 26, 2019) and Maine's Arbor Day Week is the 3rd full week in May: Sunday, May 19 – Sunday, May 25, 2019.

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Billings to Table Resolution 19-8.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-09: Resolved that the Town Council appoint Nicole Nickolan as Register of Voters for the period of January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2020, a two-year appointment as required by State Law.

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Billings that Resolution 19-09 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-10: Resolved that the Town Council appoint Jennifer Watson to the Theatre Committee to fill an unexpired term through 12/31/2019.

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Billings to Table Resolution 19-10.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

9. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

10. **REPORTS:** Audience, Council

Audience:

Council:

Councilor Bolster: Welcome Deb to the board. I look forward to working with you and everyone else.

Deputy Mayor Donahue: Deb-welcome to the council. Thank you to the audience for tonight. The Ordinance Committee needs to have a meeting. We need to tackle some of the issues brought up tonight. Holly Zadra has a beautiful yoga studio and I will be taking a class in about 4 hours later today. Thanks to everyone on your comments about being Deputy Mayor. We need to come together as a team and work together. Hopefully some of the people who disagreed come back and see us again. Our department heads and Kathryn put a lot of work into the budget and we kind of tore it apart.

Councilor Margolskee: Congratulations to Deb and Heather and Tim on election and re-election. I want to discuss the budget earlier this year.

Mayor Nichols: N/A

Councilor Curtis: Welcome to Deb.

Councilor Stackhouse: Welcome to Deb. Heather did a great job as Deputy Mayor tonight.

Councilor Billings: Thank you for your patience with me. It has been a while since I've been on the board.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councilor Stackhouse and seconded by Councilor Curtis to adjourn at 1:15 AM.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

Michael Feole, Deputy Town Clerk