

MINUTES

For a regular meeting of the Pittsfield Town Council held on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT: COUNCILORS: Michael Cianchette, Caleb Curtis, Timothy Nichols, Howard Margolskee, Heather Donahue and Matthew Bolster **ABSENT:** Robert Stackhouse. Also present: Town Manager Kathryn Ruth. Audience members included Michael Wight, Mark Gray, Ethan Beach, Robert Gould, Pete Logiodice, Scott Strom, Sarah Lawrence, Molly Therrien and Don Hallenbeck.

1. **Mayor Cianchette** 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 January 16, 2018.

Moved by **Councilor Nichols** and seconded by **Councilor Margolskee** that the minutes of the meeting held on January 16, 2018 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

3. PRESENTATIONS, CONGRATULATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Presentation of the Pittsfield Spirit of America Award to Lancey Bradshaw:

Lancey Bradshaw was selected by the Town Council as the recipient of the Spirit of America Award. The criteria for the award was “impact, compassion, intensity, longevity and recency” for the volunteer efforts. Lancey’s commitment to the community, region and State certainly exemplify these criteria from her longtime commitment to the Library. Lancey has served on the Library Trustees as well as worked on the massive fundraising campaign for the Pittsfield Public Library Renovation and Expansion. Lancey’s work was key to the Town being able to proceed forward with this very important project.

Ann McGowan is working on a write-up with history of Lancey’s contributions to the Library which will be available when we go over to her current lodgings to have a second ceremony. If there are any Councilors who would like to be consulted about the date/time for the ceremony, let me know. I would think that it would be in later morning to early afternoon. It would not be a night ceremony.

The Sprit of America Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity that was established in Augusta, ME to promote volunteerism. For the last three years, Androscoggin, Kennebec, Lincoln, Sagadahoc and Waldo County events were held and the Spirit of America Tribute was presented in the name of nearly 100 Maine municipalities. The group expanded into Somerset County in 2012 and has promoted the program to all the Somerset communities. Pittsfield

decided to participate in 2012 and chose the Pittsfield Food Pantry due to its reach to so many people over such a period of time. For the second year of the program, the Town Council chose Bud Jones.

For the 6th year, we are proud to choose Lancey Bradshaw for her dedication to the community.

Presentation by MaineDOT Senior Project Manager Michael Wight, P. E. and Bridge Engineer Mark Gray on Snakeroot Road Bridge:

Michael Wight: This project is included in the 2017-2019 workplan. We are doing a similar preservation project in Etna. This project is being done to extend the life of the bridge for 15-20 years, when a deck replacement will be most likely necessary. Mark Gray: This bridge has been in place for 23 years and is showing its age. The speed limit on the road is 45 mph and has a low traffic count of approximately 200 vehicles a day. We believe the new surface will be concrete but we are still debating. The project is planned for the Summer of 2018 while school is out. Michael Wight: There is a budget available of \$850,000 that will be split between the Etna and Pittsfield project. This leaves an available amount of approximately \$425,000, which is close to the cost estimate. This project is entirely State funded. The project can be done one side at a time, which is more expensive and takes longer or by closing that section of the road, which would take approximately 8 weeks and it would allow the project to be done before school starts. Maine DOT feels the closure is best but public input is a factor. This was discussed with the Fire Chief as well and it does not change response times. There is no big business impact. It would also be more durable if it was all done at once as there is no middle seam. Councilor Margolskee asked if the bridge will also be repainted. Mr. Wight stated it is only a resurfacing at this time. Councilor Donahue noted that the farms in that area should be notified as it will affect their truck route. The Town Manager noted that if there is to be closure, we can provide a list of those that will be impacted which are all of those utilizing tractors to move around in that area, the truck with the mail run and others.

Community and Economic Development Activities and Events

Events scheduled:

2018 Annual Banquet for Seabasticook Valley Chamber of Commerce (SVCC) on Wednesday, 02/21/2018 from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm at Maine Central Institute Savage Family Dining Room: We need to sign up for the event. Anyone who would like to attend needs to advise. It is \$45 and a couple of \$80. If anyone brings their spouse, the cost to the Councilor would be \$35 as the Town can cover a few \$45 fees. The options for dinner would be: READ the dinner selections. I placed copies of the registration forms on your desks this evening. If you could like to attend, fill in your name, telephone # and e-mail and dinner selection. If a spouse is involved, I will need their dinner selection too. I can register everyone. The snow date is Thursday, 02/22/2018 same location and time.

11th Annual Regional Job Fair for Kennebec, Somerset and Sebecook Valley on Wednesday, 05/09/2018 from 3:30 – 6:30 pm in the Gym and Cafeteria at Warsaw Middle School: This is the 11th Regional Job Fair. People wanted the fair to happen as the employers are having extensive trouble finding employees and people who are qualified for the positions. Even with training, in many cases, the people who are applying for the jobs do not have the appropriate background. We will have the support of the Ken-Som Transition Team Director Dana Hamilton and then when the event takes place, that of the Career Center. Fortunately, we have been adopted by the State of Maine and placed on the State's promotional system for Job Fairs so this is helpful. Initial promotion of the event has taken place. To date, we have 15 employers and 1 Resource Provider signed up. That is from Friday of last week. We will be looking for several small grants or sponsorships.

46th Central Maine Egg Festival scheduled for Monday, 07/09/2018 - Saturday, 07/14/2018: The next Egg Festival Committee Meeting is Thursday evening, 02/08/2018 at 6:30 pm here at the Town Office. We are having a fun time with the theme for this year. The winner of the theme contest was Jarett M. Thies with Marvel Super "Eggs". The children are pretty excited about this one. A Huge Thank you to Jarett M. Thies for bringing in our first decorations for the 46th Annual Egg Festival. Jarett brought us in the Marvel Super Hero Masks!!! The whole family was excited when we called. I left a message about the theme being selected and the family was busy working on a project. Jolene indicated that Jarett walked around re-playing the phone message over and over. We have conducted notifications to all media on the dates and events. All the regular events will be on-going. Now we are looking to come up with some new items and may have someone who will bring back the Pageant.

Updates:

Community Development Program Achievements

Report on New Business Activity & Opportunities in Pittsfield:

A. General:

The Town has a number of business projects on-going. We have been asked to assist and have talked to people about a few items that would be well received by the Town. One project would be the use of the former Pharmacy building. These projects are on-going and will take a lot of work and time. So when there is a plan on some of these, I will advise. Right now, they are discussion projects.

The Town is working with ARGO to publicize the new positions that they have available from their new contracts. Some positions are in Pittsfield.

The construction loan and line of credit for the Innovative Specialties, LLC manufacturing facility has been finalized so we will be seeing some action at the site in the near future. The Community Development Block Grant Project for Innovative Specialties LLC has started in the

Industrial Park Expansion. This was a \$260,000 grant toward the cost of the new Manufacturing Facility.

The Town was formally awarded a Community Development Block Grant for Economic Development for the Main Street Sidewalk Project on Wednesday, November 15, 2017. This will be a great project. We received the signed agreement with the State of Maine encumbering the funds of \$250,000 for the Main Street Sidewalk. Now with MDOT's schedule as they have not been in Pittsfield to work on the design as of yet and other steps for bidding out, their project will be in 2019 which means that the sidewalk will be in 2019. I think we should send a letter to MDOT advising of the Bicentennial schedule of a period of time that we would like to not be under construction. I had advised the MDOT contact, however, I believe it would be best to put this in writing.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

ORDINANCE 18-01: (Public Hearing) That the Town of Pittsfield hereby ordains to re-enact the Town of Pittsfield Retail Marijuana Establishments and Retail Marijuana Social Clubs Moratorium Ordinance.

Public Hearing Opened

In Favor:

Ethan Beach: Robert Gould and I wish to form a recreational marijuana farm dedicated to producing high-quality cannabis flowers, and crafting original Maine genetics. We have a combined 12 years of experience in the legal medicinal marijuana industry. As a team they show the passion and entrepreneurial spirit to compete in Maine's predicted 300 million dollar per year cannabis market. With Maine voting to allow the sale and cultivation of adult use recreational marijuana and the businesses surrounding and supporting that industry it has created a boon to Maine's economy and fits well with our craft beer, high end dining and tourism industries. The majority of retail stores and retail sales will occur in Maine's coastal and southern regions which leaves our central Maine area without a significant revenue stream coming from this new and rapidly expanding market.

Because Maine has a long-standing history of sustainability within its farming community and environmental conscientiousness, we will be splitting cultivation between indoors and four season greenhouses with supplemental lighting to lessen the use of resources such as electricity. Located on farmland, odor will not be an issue because of the constant spreading of chicken and cow manure on the hay fields. The proposed location is ideal compared to Pittsfield's industrial park which is located close to shopping centers and neighborhoods close by.

We are not interested in a retail storefront within the town of Pittsfield. It's not a good fit for Pittsfield because there's not a high enough population to support it and most people in this area will be growing their own cannabis in their backyard or garage/closet. Our businesses will not add to the Police workload or impaired driving in the Town. We have and are setting up provisional contracts with retail stores,

edible companies, and processing facilities located in Southern and Coastal Maine. It will grow as a company, adding jobs as the market matures and stabilizes.

We have a team of people from Pittsfield, Corinna, St. Albans, and other local towns to work at the facility. Over time they hope to be able to create 2 to 4 full time jobs as cultivators as well as 5 to 10 part time jobs as processors and office workers. This will be a 24 hour 365 days a year operation but will be well out of the towns way and out of the public eye.

Hilltop Farms, owned by Ethan Beach, already holds the lease on the property and have permission from Beech Creek LLC holdings company to operate a licensed cannabis facility. Mayor Cianchette asked what the property in Pittsfield is currently being used for. Ethan noted his girlfriend grows her personal product there. Councilor Margolskee asked what kind of security setup the property has. Ethan noted the property is fenced and gated. The building on the property are large metal buildings. We will be looking for guidance from the State on additional security requirements. The property is about 7 minutes from downtown. Councilor Margolskee asked about the potential tax benefits to the Town. Ethan noted there has been some talk of a percentage of excise tax being given to the towns, but none of this is finalized yet. The property taxes will be a benefit, of course. The Town Manager noted she has also heard that the excise tax won't go through. The Town Council will most likely decide on a permanent moratorium or will send it to the Planning Board to create rules and regulations. Councilor Donahue noted as you are currently licensed caregivers in Corinna, why would this not be appropriate for your Corinna location? Ethan noted the Pittsfield location's availability and price was right. It has the room for greenhouses. The Corinna location is too small for the proposed business.

Our goal is to work with the town to create a business friendly environment for our company and provide some tax revenue while creating several jobs that will spread the money through local communities and small businesses. With the expiration of the state moratorium but no law or regulatory framework in place for licensing, this has added to the confusion for municipalities and recreational cannabis business startups. By presenting the town of Pittsfield our plan for the cultivation facility, we are giving the town the opportunity to have some control over the economic generator of this business while mitigating it's risk or enforcement costs. The town will have more on it's hands trying to deal with the many home grows in town and personal use that it cannot ban.

We have provided some handouts for examples. These include Central Point, Oregon municipal code, a guide to the Oregon building code and marijuana operations and A Practical Guide for Law Enforcement: Colorado's legalization of marihuana and the impact on public safety. In closing, we are in favor of the towns retail marijuana establishment moratorium but ask the town of Pittsfield to work on drafting it's rules and regulations in the meantime.

Scott Strom: The legislature currently has a 90 page bill going. It was proposed for April 2018 but it did not pass. It has been said it will take 9 months to write laws. I believe it will take effect when the new governor takes office. There is a 17 ½ % sales tax proposed. We are still discussing if it will be opt in or

opt out. There are lobbyist pushing for people being Maine residents for 2 years before being eligible for a license. I believe the Town should extend the moratorium. I believe it will be ready in January. Mayor Cianchette asked if Mr. Strom thinks the law will have the bugs worked out. Mr. Strom stated no. It looks like the social clubs will be pushed out 5 years. Impairment is still the biggest issue. There is no way to test currently. Companies question if they can employ someone with a failed marijuana drug test. Law enforcement is there every day. The same issue comes up. There is no way to prove impairment unless they are caught smoking while driving.

Pete Logiodice: As a Pittsfield resident I am for the moratorium.

Against: None

Public Hearing Closed.

Moved by **Councilor Nichols** and seconded by **Councilor Curtis** that Ordinance 08-01 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted the Legislature voted on the bill to extend the statutory moratorium deadline to April 18 on this matter. That is the date that the Legislature is scheduled to adjourn and the aim of postponing the moratorium a couple of months is to provide time for a more comprehensive compromise to be worked out. The Town passed its first Moratorium in February 2017. The moratorium was re-enacted In August 2017. The Moratorium would need to re-enacted in February 2018 to go into effect next month. Once re-enacted, the Moratorium will be for 180 days. The State of Maine does not have regulations in effect, therefore, having the Moratorium re-enacted is certainly a necessity.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

5. REPORTS:

A. COUNCIL COMMITTEES: FINANCE, ORDINANCE & RECYCLING: NONE

B. BOARD AND COMMITTEE UPDATES BY TOWN COUNCILORS AND MANAGER:

Bicentennial Committee: The Committee meeting was put off as several members were very ill and could not make the meeting. It has been rescheduled for January 17, 2018.

Theatre Committee: Theatre Committee Meeting: The Theatre Committee met on Wednesday, January 31, 2018. Committee members are: **Dale Nichols, Lori Swartz, Beverly Davis, Peg Gray, Ruth Hodgins, Suzanne Mercier and Ann Matthews.**

After regular operational business was addressed, I passed out fundraising materials to the Committee. I am so pleased that I can begin working with the Committee on the

fundraising aspects for the renovation and revitalization of the theatre. This project had been shut down last year. The Committee is pleased to work on it again. One is the long-term fundraising project and the other is the some major fundraisers that the Committee will hold. They also are talking about two fundraisers – Spaghetti Dinner and a Chicken Barbeque with a movie. At the next meeting, I will review the fundraising materials with the Committee and we can talk about how to use the Theatre Assessment and Budget for Renovations that was created in 2016.

C. Town Manager's Report: Town Council Meeting of 02/06/2018:

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

2. Theatre Golden Ticket Sale: Although Christmas is over with, we still have the Theatre Golden Tickets that can be a gift or even for yourself: Purchase a book of 10 Gift Certificates at \$55.00. Come and enjoy the Pittsfield Community Theatre!

3. Date Night at the Theatre:

WED: DATE NITE: 2 ADMISSIONS+ 2 MED FOUNTAIN DRINKS+ 1 LARGE POPCORN FOR \$18 + SENIORS \$14.

4. Library Program: The Scales & Tails at the Pittsfield Public Library Monday, February 19 at 1:00 pm: Using live, non-releasable reptiles, this program will compare these species and discuss their adaptations. Many people conjure up images of slimy skin and bloodthirsty monsters when they hear the word “reptile.” This hands-on program works to dispel some of those fears by allowing students to examine snakeskins, turtle shells, skeletons, and other unique reptilian artifacts.

5. Maine Municipal Association Promotion: MMA is rolling out a promotional piece to assist towns and cities to recruit employees. Many towns have vacancies and are unable to attract candidates that are qualified. Towns have continued with the vacancies not wanting to hire people who are not qualified. In some situations, this has resulted in employees being over worked and delays with work. Other towns have hired people who are not qualified and this has resulted in difficulties. This promotion is called the Maine Hometown Careers and we will be participating in this promotion as our first job ads have not yet drawn in applicants that are qualified. In addition, we will be working with the Career Center to obtain assistance in recruiting a qualified applicant for the Assistant to the Town Manager position as all of the recruitment efforts to date did not do so.

6. MTCMA 39th Annual Statewide Manager Interchange: The Professional Development Committee will be concentrating on the theme of Building and Sustaining a Positive Workplace and Community Culture at their annual March meeting. It is hard to work for towns and for government in general now due to the economy and negativity that

exists. This will be a training session for managers to help us address a situation that exists throughout the country and now in Maine.

7. Pinnacle Ski Slope is celebrating the 2nd Annual Pinnacle Fest: Read Notice

6. NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION 18-13: Resolved that the Town Council Appoint members to fill the vacancies on the various Town Boards and Committees.

Moved by **Councilor Nichols** and seconded by **Councilor Margolskee** that Resolution 18-13 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted several individuals are interested in re-appointments. Their names were included in the Council Package and are Rebecca Geagan, Paul Bertrand and Jim Cianchette.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Updates:

Water and Sewer Projects:

The Department has been tasked with setting up a comprehensive work plan for improvements to the water and sewer system for those items that do not require any more debt service. Work flow projects are being written down. The Department is in South Portland for a couple of days for the Water Convention. They get to learn about new developments, keep up to date on the laws and they get to take a lot of the mandatory training which is required to keep certified to run the Water Treatment Plant.

Board and Committees: Still working on the list. More notices were distributed through Town.

SAD #53 Director Positions: The School District has talked to and corresponded with the Town Clerk and then myself. SAD#53 is under the impression that the Town needs to find their directors. If there is a vacancy the law does indicate that the Town Council can select a director to fill the term until the next Regular Election which for this Town is November. Generally, here and in the other towns I have been in, the SAD provides the names of those to be appointed for those vacancies. The SAD evidently has a vacancy and we were notified of that vacancy. They are having trouble filling it which is an issue all towns and schools are having now. We have offered to them that we will display any signs that they make and as always when people come to the counter and see us to mention school, we will tell them about

the vacancy and send them to the school. If you know of anyone who might like to be on the MSAD#53 Board of Directors, send them to see the school or attend a school board meeting. **Councilor Cianchette** thought that he knew of someone who might be interested and will check.

Dog Licenses for 2018: The licenses were due on January 31, 2018. We send out a notice to every owner of dogs on record at the Town Office if we had an address, then made phone calls to those we had phone numbers for as a second reminder and also e-mailed or spoke to those we knew. While there are still some unregistered dogs to follow up on, people were genuinely for the most part very appreciative. I got a lot of thank yous as well as the staff.

MDOT Bridge Work on I-95: The re-alignment for the bridge project is in place. We sent out some notices as both lanes of traffic from the Northbound entrance to I-95 toward Newport are now moved over to the Southbound lane with a jersey barrier between the two lanes.

Grants Update:

Northern Regional Border Commission Grant (NRBC): I have a wonderful update on the NRBC grant. As you know we applied with a company as required to complete the Jobs portion of the project. The Trust and its contact is interested in having another type of project at the facility. We will be completing a number of steps and need to work full force ahead in order to have our project move forward. I have forwarded the information required, need to send out a lot of letters and conduct interviews and other items. If all of the list of steps is completed, we can move forward. As you know, we found ourselves in a position that we did not create. We were awarded grant funding for a certain project. The private sector can do what it deems fit with its property and buildings. Even though the businesses involved have changed their minds, our project is not changed. It is still really needed. There is a large bottleneck in the sewer system. It is not going away, so I have a lot of steps to work on pronto and this \$250,000 project needs to be a priority to get all the steps done. It is really good news as it is clear that there is absolutely nothing we can do on our end and this was very concerning. So we can move forward.

A. Financial Reports as of 12/31/2017

- Budget Expenditure Report
- Revenue Collections Report
- Tax Acquired Property Report
- Economic Development Revolving Loan Update
- Housing Revolving Loan Update
- Transfer Station /Recycling Monthly Report
- Theatre Monthly Report
- Excise Tax Collections Comparison Report
- State Revenue Sharing Comparison Report
- Personal Property Tax Collection Report
- Real Estate Property Tax Collection Report

- B. Other Reports as of 12/31/2017
 - Building and Plumbing Permit Reports
 - Library Report – Librarian’s and Library Trustees Minutes
 - Police Report

The Town Manager advised of the following:

Budget Expenditure Report: 100.0% of period; 95.6% of municipal, 87.9% municipal, water & sewer (depreciation and transfers done by Auditor so percentage will increase)

Revenue Collections Report: 100.0% period; 104.7% municipal, 98.3% municipal, water & sewer

Excise Tax Collections Comparison Report: For this period, \$-5,154.13 behind 2016 collections at this time of the year.

State Revenue Sharing Comparison Report: For this period, \$11,326.62 ahead of 2016 collections. This account needs to be watched closely as it continues to fall behind.

The remainder of the Financial Reports are self-explanatory.

8. REPORTS: Audience, Council

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Audience: None.

Council:

Councilor Bolster: On Monday he received a call from Vittles asking about sanding/salting sidewalks. He inquired of the Town Manager who advised that the merchants have cleaned off the sidewalks if they wanted to do so after the sidewalk plow went through. The Town Manager noted that Pittsfield, like other towns, does not sand/salt the sidewalks. This has been a particularly icy year which is what has triggered the call. **Councilor Bolster** asked about liability of the town and business. The Town Manager advised of the Maine Tort Claims Act which covers the Town. The business owner would not be liable as the Town owns the sidewalk. The Town Manager advised she offered Vittles the ability to get sand from the Highway lot. **Councilor Bolster** has received complaints regarding the large tree/shrub by Dunkin Donuts/Exit to the Mall and inquired who was responsible for it. The Town Manager expects it belongs to the Plaza and is in the MDOT right of way. She advised that if so, we can contact MDOT to ask how to address it. **Councilor Bolster** said that it seems that the Town runs everything and that perhaps some of these items can be taken over by the private sector such as the theatre, pinnacle, etc. The Town Manager noted that she could certainly see

why he would bring this up as she thought this too when she arrived. The Councilors and Town Manager discussed the various items, several of which are run by volunteers. The history of many assets was provided. **Councilor Bolster** indicated that when he went around to collect signatures that he learned that people in West Pittsfield would like the roads there to be more of a priority. They feel they are forgotten. He noted he understands why there is a concentration of effort in the urban area of town as most of the traffic and activity is there, however, would like the paving projects prioritized to include these areas such as Snakeroot, Webb, etc. The Town Manager explained the Paving Plan history, how the roads were prioritized and then now due to the financial crunch with the State Law Change reducing the Town's personal property business base which used to be 28%, reduction in State Revenue Sharing; and other economic factors that paving is now completed by taking out a loan. After the price of pavement went from \$33/ton to over \$100 per ton and now decreased to around \$86/ton, the paving plan was suspended. We would get a loan for 3 years, pave the worst sections of roads and then wait for that loan to be paid off to then get the next loan. Then the loans got longer terms to where there will be several years without paving. The roads were not in good shape when she arrived basically as the Town's tax base does not support all that Pittsfield does and wants to do as a full-service town. The paving plan was put together and worked well for many years until the recession set it. **Mayor Cianchette, Councilor Nichols and Councilor Cianchette** explained how the Town is very good at budgeting and that the Town Manager has put together a budget that for many years did not impact taxes as had been requested. It was noted that the Town Manager is good at locating funds for projects if they exist and then budgets did not impact the tax rate on the municipal side. Now that will no longer happen due to circumstances beyond the Town's control. Major highway work will require a tax increase. Councilor Bolster stated that if we raised taxes we could physically show them the roads that were done. After a lengthy discussion of nearly one hour, the result was that once winter was over with, Public Works would work on the Capital Improvement Plan for paving. The Town Manager recommended that the Councilors review the capital plan information in their budget books which shows the millions of dollars needed several years ago to rebuild roads in West Pittsfield. Due to the high expense and lack of funding, this has not taken place. The Town Manager advised that we can bring back information that will help the Town Council decide how they want to proceed. To make any difference, a large loan or bond will be required which will certainly impact the mil rate. There are no grants available for road work at this time. With different scenarios, the Council can make a policy decision.

Councilor Donahue: No Report

Councilor Margolskee: Asked about the status of the Animal Control Officer position. The Town Manager advised that the Police Chief is working on hiring an employee. He decided he wanted an employee vs. the contractual position. The Town Manager noted that she reviewed his letter multiple times and told him he was all set with his letter the second week of January. She will check again. Councilor Margolskee asked if the owner of the dogs on Hartland Avenue had registered as a kennel. The Town Clerk advised they had not as they indicate they are not breeding animals. Councilor Margolskee advised that the dogs are barking at 5 am in the morning. The Town Manager recommended calling in on the non-emergency number to Dispatch and the Police Officer will go out to check on this.

Councilor Nichols: Noted that we would need to be comprehensive in any review of a potential tax increase due to issuing a large loan as it will impact taxpayers, especially those in his District who live on fixed incomes. Would like to send condolences to the family of Ed Reynolds who lost his wife. Ed volunteers at the Food Pantry. Noted that he supports the Theatre as this is something that we need to keep for the children of the community. Thanked the Town Manager and all the employees for all of their hard work.

Councilor Curtis: No report.

Deputy Mayor Stackhouse: Absent

Mayor Cianchette: Noted that we lost Joe Schissler who worked at Edwards for many years and sent condolences. When he was growing up we had SAS, Edwards and the Mills. Now we have the same size but less fish. He noted that you do not pluck the jewel from the crown. We have many assets that make us stand out – Manson Park, the theatre, the Pinnacle and others. This makes us unique. There is a history that we need to be true to. If we subsidize the theatre, then we subsidize it. He is encouraged that the theatre committee is working together and focused.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by **Councilor Nichols** and seconded by **Councilor Margolskee** that the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 p.m. All in agreement.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

Nicole Nickolan, Town Clerk