

MINUTES

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

PRESENT: COUNCILORS: Mayor Timothy Nichols, Deputy Mayor Heather Donahue, Councilor Matt Bolster, Councilor Howard Margolskee, Councilor Caleb Curtis and Councilor Debra Billings.

ABSENT: Councilor Robert Stackhouse

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

AUDIENCE: Scot Strom, Pete Logiodice, Jan Laux, Karen Baker, Scott Noble, Ann Mathews, Amber Quint, Donna Dunphy, Ron Watson, Jerry Lynn Perkins, Pete Bickmore, Michael Leblanc, Steve Vance, Jim Cianchette and Becky Thompson.

1. Mayor Nichols 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 March 19, 2019.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Donahue and seconded by Councilor Billings that the amended minutes of the meeting held on March 19, 2019 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

4. **PRESENTATIONS, CONGRATULATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS**

A. **Community and Economic Development Activities and Events**

- Pittsfield Community Clean Up on Monday, April 22, 2019 from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm, times dependent upon the number of volunteers recruited; organized by Maine Central Institute Jobs for Maine’s Graduates (JMG)

-47th Central Maine Egg Festival Monday, July 08, 2019 through Saturday, July 13, 2019

-4th Annual Maine Cheese Festival Sunday, September 8, 2019 in Manson Park.

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

6. **REPORTS:**

A. **COUNCIL COMMITTEES:**

FINANCE - The committee will meet shortly with the Town’s major investment institutions.

Councilors on the Finance Committee will check their schedules to see if the preferred date by the investment staff will work and if not, we will come up with another date.

ORDINANCE - The Ordinance Committee will meet in April. Some items are ready for a Public Hearing while others will need to go through a public hearing.

RECYCLING - The Recycling Committee is meeting on 4/3/2019 at 4:00 PM to discuss the current programs, the Earth Day Clean-up and composting.

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

Communications and Media Committee- The ad hoc committee met on 3/28/2019 and reviewed the Town Boards and Committees posted on the website. Some had meeting times listed, whether Agendas were needed, if Minutes needed to go to the Town Clerk, etc. We would also like to

establish a Master calendar in the Town Office as well as on the Town website. I request the Town Council have a discussion to clarify the purpose and direction of the Town's Committees.

Bicentennial Committee- The headquarters had its first day last Wednesday. It will be open on Wednesdays from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm to sell memorabilia such as license plates, coins, etc. Advertisement will be Facebook pages for the Bicentennial and Heart of Pittsfield. If anyone has questions, they can contact Jan Laux or anyone on the Committee, or just come down on Wednesday to the headquarters. The next events the Bicentennial is advertising are Earth Day and the Art show.

Theatre Committee- Ann Mathews- The committee would like to set aside some time to have a discussion with the Town Council about scenarios they are planning. It was decided to set 1 hour at the 4/16/2019 Town Council meeting for the discussion.

C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- This month is Emergency Responder Awareness Month. There will be a meeting at the Library on 4/18 with presentation by the EMTs, Police and Fire Departments.
- On Thursday Maine Solar, Formerly Insource Renewables, is having a celebration at the Pittsfield Community Theatre to celebrate becoming an employee owned business.
- On 4/27/2019 there will be a live show at the Theatre- 10 years of Riff Lyfe at 7:00 pm.
- There will be a magic show at the Warsaw school on 4/6 at 2:00 pm. Tickets are being sold at Popovers and Bud's Shop & Save.
- The Somerset County budget hearing is Wednesday, 4/3/2019 at 6:00 pm. Pittsfield will see a budget increase of \$2,972 or .04%

7. NEW BUSINESS:

ORDER 19- 05: Ordered that the Town Council approve amendments to the Recreation Programming Swimming Program fees on the Town of Pittsfield Fee Schedule

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Billings that Order 19-05 be adopted.

Town Councilors and the Town Manager reviewed the proposed fee for swimming programs which is \$5.00 for lessons and a pass system for Open Swim. These fees were proposed by Devon Varney after studying other communities' swimming programs.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-28: Resolved that the Town Council Approve a New Special Amusement Permit for Muddy Waters Outpost at 107 Waverly Avenue, Pittsfield, Maine 04967.

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Billings that Resolution 19-28 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-29: Resolved that the Town Council Approve the Renewal of the Alcoholic Beverage License for the Broken Putter Restaurant & Lounge at 382 Hartland Avenue, Pittsfield, Maine 04967.

Moved by Councilor Bolster and seconded by Councilor Margolskee that Resolution 19-29 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-30: Resolved that the Town Council Approve the Renewal of the Special Amusement Permit for the Broken Putter Restaurant & Lounge at 382 Hartland Avenue, Pittsfield, Maine 04967.

Moved by Councilor Curtis and seconded by Councilor Bolster that Resolution 19-30 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 19-31: Resolved that the Town Council sign the Application for Catered Function by Qualified Catering Organization for the Annual Chamber Dinner to be held on 04/18/2019 from 4:30 pm – 10:30 pm at Maine Central Institute by qualified caterer Jeff’s Catering & Bake Shop.

Moved by Councilor Billings and seconded by Councilor Curtis that Resolution 19-31 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Pittsfield Economic Expansion Corporation (PEEC) Request for Proposals for Video Production

Services to promote the Town: The requests for proposals are due tomorrow, Wednesday morning, April. People wanted more time so we needed to allow enough time for responses. Michael sent out 13 proposals

Maine Town, City and County Management Association Interchange: Promoting Civility:

Michael and I attended the MTCMA Interchange which had a lower attendance than usual, however, there were more department heads and administrative assistants so we got to meet people. The speakers were excellent. While we and many others concluded that they did not learn anything new such as how to help others be more civil, we did learn that we were doing all the right things and saying all the right items. Holly, our Librarian, spoke with one of the speakers, Maine group, and is scheduling a date/time for him to come to town free of charge to hold a 1-2 hour session. There will be invitations going out and the public will be welcome.

Airport Permits for future development: This has been a complicated process with all of the changes in the requirements in our journey to obtain a hanger. Another step has been successfully completed with the filing of the Site Location Development Permit for the Airport and Maine Construction Permit, both with the Maine Department of Environment Protection. The SLDP is over 300 pages long. It was an interesting read and I did not print it out. What we have learned is that the old pavement on the old runway that was put down in the 1970’s does not help the current permit in mitigation. It will help if we keep it until the following permits. We are looking at three grant applications for the hanger, starting with the environmental work. That grant application has already been filed for a project totaling \$144,000.

We are working with Vacationland Skydiving on their expansion project. There are some obstacles, however, there are also some distinct enhancements with a new setup. We have to figure out how to dig up and pay for the pavement to be removed from part of the closed runway; how to pay for engineering for this as well as permitting as I have just learned that the parking area needs to also be on the SLDA permit; the company would need to file a site plan for the planning board, the project does fall under MUBEC; and so forth. Talks are moving along.

BikeMaine Community Grant Opportunity: Reviewed the pre-application which applied for five (5) bike racks in strategic locations in town including Main Street.

Project Canopy Grant Opportunity: This has not been started yet, although we have gathered all of the necessary materials.

9. REPORTS:

Audience:

Ron Watson: Is the Finance Committee meeting open to the public? (TM-Yes.). Would suggest the Ordinance Committee make the Communications Committee a regular committee instead of an ad-hoc committee. Do we have some who goes to the State Government to represent Pittsfield on issues being considered there? (TM-Yes, the Mayor or I have gone to Augusta when certain issues come up or require our presence to be addressed)

Council:

Councilor Bolster:

Congratulations to the Theatre Committee. The special events listed that are lined up are impressive. Agrees with taking the Theatre plan in stages. Apologized for missing the last meeting. Congratulations to Cianbro on their expansion, now it is a \$1 billion company.

Deputy Mayor Donahue:

Congratulations to the Theatre Committee. The events are impressive. Thanks to Ron for the suggestions on the Ordinance Committee. What is the current picture on town acquired properties? (TM- we will be scheduled time on an upcoming meeting to discuss.) Can we look at all town properties that we have received over the years (TM-yes.) We mentioned that PEEC has three lots under consideration. What role does PEEC play? (TM- PEEC advises the Town Council on the larger business projects as well as the sale of Industrial Park Lots. It is the Town's 501c3 organization for confidential business proposals.)

Councilor Margolskee:

I have nothing for tonight.

Mayor Nichols:

Thanks to the audience for coming tonight. I like the idea of town people in the area that have expertise helping on the Town Council Committees.

Councilor Curtis:

I think that it is a good idea to go over the Theatre Committee's plans at the next meeting. Would like to discuss the budget schedule at a meeting in May. Would like to change the Communications Committee from an ad-hoc committee to a regular committee. Likes the way that the Theatre is going. I hope that when the committee is thinking about what they can do, that they look at it in stages. The first stage should be to get through this rough patch, the second to get the building fixed and the last to bring it into the future.

Councilor Stackhouse: Absent.

Councilor Billings:

Thanks to everyone for coming. About a mission statement for the Town - suggests the one in the Comprehensive Plan on page 2. I suggest that we use this as a basis and just get it done. Can we put it on the

meeting on 5/7/2019? (TM-yes.). Would also like to ask that my proposal to add people from the community to the Council Committees to be discussed by the Ordinance Committee and also have it for the 5/7/2019 meeting. Respectfully disagree with the Communications Committee discussing issues that the Town Council should be discussing since that was not why it was formed. I noticed on a warrant that we are paying the lawyers \$74,000. What is that for? (TM – The figure on the warrant is less. The Attorney has been up for a number of meetings lately and there have been a lot of issues. The budget is \$14,000 and we are not over budget. We can go over the bills together. They are confusing).

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councilor Billings and seconded by Councilor Curtis to adjourn at 8:20 PM.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

Michael Feole, Deputy Town Clerk