

# MINUTES

For a regular meeting of the Pittsfield Town Council held on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

**PRESENT:** COUNCILORS: Tim Nichols, Caleb Curtis, Michael Cianchette, Trudy Ferland, Robert Stackhouse and Heather Donahue. **ABSENT:** Gary Jordan, Jr. Also present: Town Manager Kathryn Ruth and Town Clerk Nicole Nickolan. Audience members included: Donnie Hallenbeck, Dr. Thomas W. Pierce, Alice Pierce, Tom Pierce, Dominic DePatsy, Michelle Hodgins, Kelley Carter, Debbie Killam, Jane Woodruff, Don Woodruff, Holly Zadra and others.

1. **Deputy Mayor Nichols** 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 May 6, 2014

Moved by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Cianchette** that the minutes of the meeting held on May 6, 2014 be tabled until the June 3, 2014 meeting.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

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

#### **Presentation of the Pittsfield Spirit of America Award to Dr. Thomas W. Pierce:**

Dr. Thomas W. Pierce 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. Tom’s commitment to the community, region and State certainly exemplify these criteria over the decades which Dr. Pierce has served the area.

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 as a period of time. For the second year of the program, the Town Council chose Bud Jones.

For the third year, we are proud to choose Thomas W. Pierce for his dedication to the community and the Town in his chosen profession of service and more recently for his years of service on the Board of Appeals.

Dr. Pierce attended medical school at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathy graduating in 1955. Dr. Pierce arrived in Pittsfield and opened a practice on October 15, 1970. Tom had a general medical practice in Pittsfield and was on the medical staff of Seabasticook Valley Hospital for many years. After Dr. Pierce retired, he, along with Dr. John Dow and Dr. John Crane staffed a free clinic one afternoon a week in Hartland. Tom was a member of the Seabasticook Valley Community Band, which has played wonderful music for the enjoyment of the region’s citizens for many years. Dr. Pierce joined the Town’s Board of Appeals on

October 21, 1998, providing counsel and practical experience in guiding the discussions and decisions of the board in assisting the citizens. Dr. Pierce continues as a member of the Board of Appeals today.

Councilor Stackhouse noted that he has had the privilege of being treated by Dr. Pierce and working with Dr. Pierce. There is no better person out there for this award.

### **Presentation of the 2014-2015 School Administrative District No. 53 Budget and Assessment for the Town of Pittsfield**

This week the Town received a page from SAD #53 notifying the Town that our proposed assessment will rise by \$232,243 or 8.91% for 2014-2015 over 2013-2014. If nothing else changes from last year, this would be more than a 1 mil increase in the taxes as the Town works to address the upcoming UTC plant closure which will greatly affect many workers as well as the entire town.

School Superintendent, Dominic DePatsy, introduced the Budget Committee. He noted the budget includes a 2.5% increase for teachers. We have also moved down insurance to 89%. We had budgeted 9% for the healthcare, but it came back with a zero increase. There was an increase of 3.7% in the MCI tuition. This is set by the Department of Education. Maintenance and Equipment went up in the budget. The schools are falling apart, so the increases in these areas are due to that. We did a 3 year contract for Transportation with this years increase coming in at \$4,000. We had some difficult cuts to make. We got as much staff input as possible. Kelley Carter noted as the Budget Committee we take on the responsibility of watching out for taxpayers. We had set a goal of 3.5%, as we approached that we realized we would have to sacrifice good programming to make the final cuts. We really believe in what we are doing. The State sharing of cost has been decreasing and that is also a problem. Deputy Mayor Nichols asked what these increase will do to taxes. The Town Manager noted this will raise the mil rate by at least 1 mil. We do not have the Town valuation at this point. The County has talked about an increase. We are definitely looking at an increase and people are already struggling to pay their taxes now. Councilor Ferland noted that the cuts can really be seen in the schools. Kids only have 1 chance at 1<sup>st</sup> grade, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and so on. Good schools are so important. Deputy Nichols noted the Town has cut and cut, but we can not cut anymore. If we do it will be essential services like Library, Police and Fire. Debbie Killam noted the efforts that have been taken by the Budget Committee. Councilor Cianchette noted that schools should be considered essential services. We as the Town Council need to promote the schools as an essential service. Superintendent DePatsy noted he has had parents call about Manson Park School. Our Kindergarten class is reading at levels halfway into First Grade. I have parents who want to move here for the schools. Teachers that we have here work very hard with very little. We are only at 50% proficiency. The Town Manager noted that the former Superintendent, Mike Gallagher, was very conservative, so you inherited a very conservative budget. Councilor Donahue noted that her family moved here 4 years ago. One of the reasons we purchased our farm here was the school system.

### **Community and Economic Development Activities and Events:**

Monday, July 14, 2014 – Saturday, July 19, 2014: 42<sup>nd</sup> Central Maine Egg Festival

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

Community and Economic Development Activities and Events

Monday, July 14, 2014 – Saturday, July 19, 2014: 42<sup>nd</sup> Central Maine Egg Festival

Several private sector business activities remain under review and small projects continue to be underway. Several commercial properties have recently been sold, are under option or will be leased.

The Town and the Kennebec-Somerset Transition Team had a great Job Fair on Wednesday, May 14, 2014. A report will be presented at the Council Meeting.

Congratulations to Argo Marketing Group and Jason Levesque for landing its first federal government contract with the United State Department of Interior for the Bird Banding Laboratory (BBL) located in Maryland. The BBL is a clearinghouse for reports of the recovery of banded birds. The laboratory studies the movement, survival and behavior of birds in North America.

Planning continues for the recently announced factory closure of the local UTC facility by Global UTC Headquarters beginning in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2014 through full closure in March, 2015. Planning consists of two phases, which includes recovery for the employees and for the site/community. The first Kennebec-Somerset Transition Team Meeting took place on May 01, 2014. The second meeting is June 26, 2014.

To address remaining available locations, an additional promotion piece beyond our regular promotion of available properties has been provided to economic and community development resources and sites. This has affected one available property positively and resulted in some phone calls. Other locations have filled in or have commitments due to the strategic locations. Three specialized promotional pieces have been issued with the last one in early April 2014.

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

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

**Town Manager's Report: Town Council Meeting of 05/20/2014:**

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. Langlais Art Trail includes Pittsfield: The Town of Pittsfield is part of the Colby College Langlais Art Trail. Colby College is producing a state-of-the-art interactive map, which will serve as an extensive guide to Langlais works across the state of Maine. The launching of the Trail recognizes a state-wide art community that was created through the Kohler Foundation and celebrates the collaborative efforts to recognize this influential artist. The Town will receive a copy of Bernard Langlais, a copiously illustrated 250-page monograph on the artist, with essays by Hannah W. Blunt, Diana Tuite, Vincent Katz, and Leslie Umberger. This monograph is produced in conjunction with the Museum's retrospective exhibition this summer, opening July 19<sup>th</sup>. The scheduled launch date of the Langlais Art Trail is set for early July 2014.

3. Hooked On Fishing – Outside Recreational Opportunity for Youth: Our Annual Hooked on Fishing event will take place on Saturday, June 7, 2014 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at Manson

Park in the lower area past the parking lot. There will be free hotdogs and hamburgers while supplies last. Please bring fishing poles; dress for outside weather conditions; and small children must be accompanied by an adult. The Town will provide volunteers with fishing experience; tackle and worms; fishing poles for those who need them; and fish stocking of Manson Park. Learn how to fish and spend some time outside. Sponsored by Pittsfield Police and other police agencies.

4. Summer Recreation Program Sign-ups: THE PAUL E. BERTRAND COMMUNITY POOL COMPLEX opens for swimming and fun in June, 2014 after school is out for an eight-week schedule. Please make sure that your children are signed up for swimming lessons! Summer Recreation Program sign-ups will take place from Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup> - May 30<sup>th</sup> at the Pittsfield Municipal Building. Please drop off completed form and payment to the Pittsfield Town Office, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm weekdays, excluding holidays. The Town does not provide refunds. Registration forms were available Monday, May 19, 2014 and the cut-off date is Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Children may register for basketball, golf, field hockey, soccer, tennis, arts and crafts and swimming lessons. If there is enough interest, an evening swim class that meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 – 7:00 pm will be offered during both sessions. Public Swim will be Mondays – Fridays 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm; Mondays, Wednesdays 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm and Saturday afternoons 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm from June 23 – August 15, 2014. This is free for Pittsfield residents!

5. Sebecook Regional Land Trust Farm & Habit Ride: The 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Land Trust Farm & Habitat Tour will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2014 at 9:00 am now starting at Hathorn Park. . This will be our 2<sup>nd</sup> Tour in Pittsfield. You can Pedal or Paddle Your Way through the Sebecook Valley. Explore the heart of Maine with Sebecook Regional Land Trust at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Farm & Habitat Tour. There will be a registration tent for participants to sign in or register for the bike/paddle tour. The bike trip will feature Balfour Farm at 461 Webb Road, which is an organic dairy farm owned by Doug and Heather Donahue and the Bag End Suri Alpaca of Maine at 226Snakeroot Road owned by Jill McElderry-Maxwell. A third stop will be at Diverse Farm – Beef, Honey & Maple Syrup owned by Gail & Don Beregeron at 277 Bubar Road in St. Albans.

Registrations will be accepted beginning at 8 a.m. the day of the ride, but people are encouraged to register early to ensure they receive this year's tour t-shirt. The registration fees for either the bike or paddle tour are \$15 per person or \$30 per family (up to 2 adults and unlimited children).

All stops will offer locally produced or sourced refreshments, and hosts will be available to answer questions and provide assistance. A bicycle support vehicle will be available to attend to minor bike repair, first aid needs and weary riders.

For those who would rather be out on the water, there will be a guided paddle along the Sebecook River beginning in Pittsfield. Please note that the paddle will likely last no more than 2 hours and will end sooner than the bike tour. Paddle participants must provide their own boat and wear a personal flotation device (PFD).

**Finance Committee:** None. **Ordinance Committee:** None. **Recycling Committee:** Had to reschedule the clean up day. Hopefully the Scouts will be helping us.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS:

**RESOLUTION 14-42:** Resolved that the Town Council accept the proposal of General Contractor Vaughn D. Thibodeau II of Bangor in an amount to not exceed \$ 110,815.18 at a unit price of \$78.37/ton for the 2014 Summer Roads Paving Program with Alternate "C" Mix and authorize the Town Manager to execute a contract for same.

Moved by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Cianchette** that Resolution 14-42 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

**RESOLUTION 14-43:** Resolved that the Town Council authorize the transfer and expenditure of \$ 2,350.00 from Floral Trust (PITT16) (G#7-118-00) for the flower displays in the Cemeteries for 2014 as recommended by the Cemetery Sexton.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Stackhouse** that Resolution 14-43 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted we are able to utilize the Floral Trust for one last year's expenditures after determination of the exact Principal from the original list of trust accounts that were all placed together in Floral I and Floral II (Flower Account). In the future, another Cemetery Trust will need to be utilized for the purchase of flowers. These floral accounts are now at their principal level plus a very small amount of interest remains

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

**RESOLUTION 14-44:** Resolved that the Town Council Waive the Bid Policy, Chapter 2, Administrative Code, Section 106 to address necessary repairs and/or replacement of the main well in the Pittsfield Water Works Pump Station/Well House in an amount to not exceed \$\_\_\_\_\_ and authorize the Town Manager and Assistant Water/Sewer Superintendent to expend funds and execute paperwork as needed if an emergency repair and/or replacement is deemed necessary.

This item was passed over as cost is below Council approval level. The item was placed on the agenda as the timing was strategic for placement and we had not received a quotation nor knew the true extent of the issue.

Fortunately, the contractor Hegarty Plumbing and Heating has found that only the motor was burned out of the 7.5 HP Water Pump which supplies the Town with water service. The motor was replaced and tested out fine. By 3:00 pm today, I have been advised the whole system was back in place with the main pump in operation. The 5.0 HP Backup Water Pump has been working such Thursday, 05/16/2014 when the problem with pumping was discovered.

The Town Manager determined an emergency and waived the requirements for competitive bidding on a purchase of \$7,500 or less under Article 1. Section 106, Regulations of Bids and Contracts, Subsection (k). The Town did contact several well companies versed in addressing water pumps for towns requesting a quotation and assistance, and only one responded in a timely fashion. The quotation from Hegarty Plumbing and Heating received

Friday, 05/16/2014 was provided. The Town Manager noted the Assistant Water/Sewer Superintendent feels that the price will actually be less as some of the work will be charged to cleaning the well, which is another project which had been authorized and will be completed next week.

**RESOLUTION 14-45:** Resolved that the Town Council Authorize the Town Manager to execute the Applicant Intent to apply for a 2014 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Loan for the Peltoma Avenue Sewer Improvements Project.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Curtis** that Resolution 14-45 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted the Town is not eligible for forgiveness funding as we had thought as the Town's sewer rate remains under the average State rate and other communities, which have higher rates, are viewed as needing forgiveness funding more.

The Town's project is ranked lower on the listing due to the sewer rate level as well as the fact that this is a general sewer project to address infiltration and not a health and safety issue.

Regardless, it is a good project, which ranks very high on the Sewer Infiltration Study showing large amounts of infiltration into the system. It would be appropriate to move forward on this project if a low interest loan is offered.

Before the meeting, the sewer accounts receivable and billings will be reviewed to determine if our billable gallons decrease due to less industrial use if we can still effectively cover an additional loan for this project in the future.

In addition, our large USDA project being utilized for sewer rehabilitation work will be completed this year. Next year, we would not have any further sewer rehabilitation projects scheduled unless an emergency situation develops.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

**RESOLUTION 14-46:** Resolved that the Town Council Authorize Sgt. Timothy Roussin to execute concealed weapon permits in the absence of the Police Chief.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Stackhouse** that Resolution 14-46 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted As the Police Chief is on medical leave, the Sgt. has been functioning as Acting Police Chief as he has in the past.

Under the State Law, the Town had authorized the Police Chief to execute the concealed weapon permits many years ago. The Town Council will need to authorize the Sgt. to sign the concealed weapon permits while the Police Chief is out.

In the near future some concealed weapon permits will need to be signed when the checks, which are underway, are completed.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

**RESOLUTION 14-47:** Resolved that the Town Council Approve the issuance of a parade permit to the VFW/American Legion for a Memorial Day Parade on May 26, 2014 and waive the permit fees.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Ferland** that Resolution 14-47 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted this is a yearly approval for a nice event held by the American Legion and outreach to the organizations and schools.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

**RESOLUTION 14-48:** Resolved that the Town Council Sign the Warrant and Notice of Election to Call the MSAD #53 Budget Validation Referendum to be voted on June 10, 2014.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Donahue** that Resolution 14-48 be adopted.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

**RESOLUTION 14-49:** Resolved that the Town Council Appoint Nicole Nickolan as Warden and Cammie Jemery, Tonja Lary and Emmalee Reed as Deputy Wardens for the June 10, 2014 Primary Election and the MSAD #53 Budget Referendum.

Moved by **Councilor Cianchette** and seconded by **Councilor Donahue** that Resolution 14-49 be adopted.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

**RESOLUTION 14-50:** Resolved that the Town Council Approve the opening of absentee ballots on June 10, 2014 at 10:00 am and 3:00 pm for the June 10, 2014 Primary Election and the MSAD #53 Budget Referendum.

Moved by **Councilor Donahue** and seconded by **Councilor Cianchette** that Resolution 14-50 be adopted.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

## 7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### **Financial Reports as of 04/30/2014:**

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  
**Briefly reviewed by Town Manager**

**Other Reports as of 04/30/2014:**

Building and Plumbing Permit Reports  
Library Report-Librarian's and Library Trustees Minutes  
Police Report

**Self-Explanatory – Not Reviewed**

**Updates:**

Water & Sewer Projects Update: In addition to the Water Pump work, multiple small and medium water and sewer projects are planned for the month to include the replacement of water hydrants on Madawaska and Waverly areas; replacing the gate valves at SAS on Waverly; replacing various curb stops around town; installing a new service line on First Street; and locating and finishing the water main break at the Cedar Mill off Greeley Street. As indicated at the last Council meeting, an excavator will be rented for the month, which is less expensive than using it for several days – 1 week. Highway and the Transfer Station will utilize the rented excavator as needed. The telemetry system is out to bid.

USDA Grant Project: Main Street Sewer Project: During the last three weeks, Haley Construction mobilized equipment and materials to the work area on Main Street; Pre-Drilled ledge to proposed manhole 4+75; began ledge removal and sewer installation; installed Main line sewer with ledge removal on Main Street to manhole 6+17 at McCarthy Road. Work this week includes complete sewer installation on McCarthy Street; performing pressure testing of the sewer lines; abandoning the existing sewer; and restoring the work area. Test pits were also begun on Franklin Street and the contractor began to cut the pavement on Franklin Street. Work was scheduled for the week of May 12, 2014 to include the sewer installation on Franklin Street, finishing test pits and ledge probes.

Pittsfield Wastewater Treatment Facility Renewal Applications: Acheron finished the application for the renewal of the Town's permits for the Wastewater Treatment Plant, which is one of the largest lagoon systems in the State of Maine.

Highway Projects Update: Highway has been completing sweeping, clean up; landscaping, building maintenance, road patching, brush cutting and the list goes on and on. The roads were all graded in May. Projects include scheduling maintenance on town properties during the summer; patching the Re-use building roof; and other projects. We have noticed issues developing with the Highway Building Roof. We should plan on having it professionally painted. The PW Foreman is obtaining pricing for this work.

Highway will be completing some work at the Depot to have the temporary boards at the bottom of the broken clapboards painted while we search for funds for Phase III of the project – lead based paint removal; clapboard purchase; all preservation and restoration of the windows, doors, trim and under the roof area. This is a large project and the Town currently has \$11,000 from a grant saved toward this work.

Highway Equipment Repair/Replacement: The 1999 Chevy Highway Wheeler Dump Truck has a blown motor. A remanufactured motor has been recommended which will cost \$14,000 + labor to install which is estimated at \$6,000 for a total cost of approximately \$20,000. This

truck hauls the most material. The new Highway truck replaced the 1982 Ford that needs to be retired. Right now Public Works has sufficient vehicles to conduct their activities, however, if we are going to be re-building gravel roads and hauling sand later this summer, it needs to be fixed.

I have asked the PW Foreman to obtain pricing on:

A rebuilt motor including the labor/installation

A new motor including the labor/installation

A used comparable vehicle

A new comparable vehicle

This information is to be ready for the next Council Meeting with a recommendation on how to proceed. Since the cost to rebuild the motor is very expensive, it is worthwhile to look at other options at least to justify the cost of rebuilding a motor.

MDOT Route #100 Bridge Project and One-Lane Traffic Control with Stop Light: MDOT will be replacing one of the culverts on Route #100 by Dr. Powers. The work will start after Memorial Day and run for 3-4 months, similar to the previous project down by the Webb Road. The traffic control device utilized will be a one-lane road with vehicles stopped on one side and vehicle traveling through on the other side.

TAP Sale Underway: The Town can advertise in Uncle Henrys and other free publications, however, we must continue to conduct a public bid in which the bids are open at a specific time and meeting the specific requirements.

Personal Property Tax: One of the companies with several years' personal property tax outstanding has agreed to a payment plan, offering to pay a year's worth of taxes every 3 months so that was excellent. We have compiled all the information we have in the files for the Town Attorney on the other properties. Considering the time of the year with heating bills and bleak weather, we have waited until April to make the phone calls to the delinquent taxpayers with several years of taxes due.

Library Building Window Work: Several windows need repair work and touch up. The last work was done 2001/2002. We are going to start with Public Works doing the work and if everyone is comfortable with it, it will become a regular work item every several years.

Town Dam Leases Update: The insurance on the dams required by the lessee Chris Anthony expired on 04/29/2014 and evidence of insurance coverage was received on 05/16/2014. Evidently Mr. Anthony did have insurance on 05/07/2014, however, there was some difficulty with the insurance company. Now that this important item has been addressed, Mr. Anthony will be working on other projects at the dams. He is in the process of turning the dam leases over to his son who will move here and run the dams with Mr. Anthony's assistance. This transfer will require the Town's approval, therefore, we will be reviewing the documents, financials and plans for the future.

### **Grants Update:**

#### **New Grants:**

**Airport Grants: Airport Taxiway Reconstruction** – The remaining punch list work will start up shortly.

**Airport Grants: Airport Apron Expansion** – A pay requisition for engineering costs will be submitted by next week. The remaining punch list for work will be underway shortly.  
**Airport Grants: Engineering to Design the Apron Expansion** – still processing paperwork for this grant, however, it will be closed out later this year when the Taxiway and Apron projects are closed out. As the Taxiway grant did not provide for any engineering/inspection work, these three grants will be closed out with amendments to reconcile this project. We discussed this last year. The Engineering Consultants recommended this in order to complete most of the project in 2013.

**Belvedere Fund for Historic Preservation** – The Town has \$11,000 saved toward the clapboard replacement which is part of a much larger project.

**Davis Family Foundation** – the sill work was completed and paid for with excellent work completed. The temporary boards placed where the clapboards were broken prior to the work were placed at the site and will be painted. At this point, all funding for the Depot project will be expended with the exception of the saved Belvedere Fund grant award that is encumbered for the sill work.

**Library Mini-Grants (Cornerstone of Science and Gates for computers)** All of the other small grants have been closed out and these two grants basically remain from the grant acquired during the last several years. The Librarian is working on closing out these two grants also.

**Police Grants: Bulletproof Vests** – The federal payment was just received and the Accounts Receivable closed out. This grant is also closed out now.

**Police Grants: Long Gun** – Skowhegan PD had agreed to be the agent for several police departments on a cooperative purchasing project for the guns. There have been staff changes and the grant paperwork and payment was just processed with payment received, therefore, this grant is now closed out.

**USDA Sewer Rehabilitation Grant** – The project should start up again and we will have some decisions to make on additional projects to approve to expend the available funds. This will mean review of the bid prices of the alternates.

**HealthySV Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug Prevention (new)** – the Town has a unique opportunity to be a pilot project in providing for more Community Policing without having to hire an additional officer. The Chief is taking to the officers now about this. Basically, a certain amount of time will be dedicated per week with 1-2 individuals who have the proper background and certifications currently officers to focus on community work – prevention of tobacco, alcohol and drug use of the students, meeting with community groups, etc. The grant will pay for the example of 10 hours a week for that officer/officers to not be on patrol and dedicate time to community policing. That shift or period of time would be covered by another police officer. The details will be worked out this Spring/Summer. The program would likely start in October 2014.

**Historic Preservation Foundation (new)** – Our Historic Preservation Architect has submitted the Town's Theatre Restoration Project for review. This is by invitation only so if the project is viewed well, the Town will be invited to complete the Foundation paperwork.

**Jump Start Our Youth (JOY through JMG) Historic Depot (new)** – I filed an application for this mini-grant for the Historic Depot for the Historical Society on February 28, 2014.

**Grants waiting to be closed:**

**L&W Conservation Fund: Hathorn Park Legge's Field & Sports Complex, Phase II** – closed out with final payment received.

**New Grant Opportunities:**

**Airport Master Plan Update** – The FAA held a scoping meeting on Friday, January 24, 2014 to agree upon the specifics for the project. A grant application was filed for the project

prior to the May 01, 2014 deadline. The grants are usually approved in July-August of each year.

**TIGER Transportation Grant** – The Town is part of a several town area for bus commuter system to assist those areas that have had economic distress due to large closures – Lincoln, East Millinocket and Newport/Pittsfield. This is a federal grant application that will be quite competitive.

8. **REPORTS:** Audience, Council

**Audience:**

**Donnie Hallenbeck:** Weather permitting the Historical Society will have a work session to ready the building for the public. Congrats to Dr. Pierce on his award. The school budget has a problem there for sure. Their driveway is in disrepair with potholes.

**Council:**

**Councilor Donahue:** No Report.

**Councilor Stackhouse:** Congrats to Dr. Pierce. I am honored to have worked with him and to have been a patient.

**Councilor Ferland:** Please take notice of the program at the church on 05/22/2014. It is conjunction with the Library and the Humanities Commission.

**Councilor Nichols:** I am playing devils advocate with the school. If I had to choose, I would pay more money to have a better education. I am very glad we were able to honor Dr. Pierce. He was very moved and touched. I will not be here at the next meeting. I will be away on vacation.

**Councilor Curtis:** It was good to hear from the school. The situation of their infrastructure is bad, but that doesn't determine the education received, thankfully. I hope that the building issues can be taken care of. We are happy to have our children here.

**Councilor Cianchette:** Pittsfield has so much to offer. People will look at the school first and look for a job later. I remind people all the time, before you complain, when was the last time your taxes went up. Dr. Pierce being given the award tonight was a no brainer. There are a few people in Town, Dr. Pierce, Spencer Havey, and Dr. Stien, they are what this Town is all about. I am honored to have been on the Council to thank him.

**Councilor Jordan:** Absent.

9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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

Motion by **Councilor Cianchette** to enter into executive session to discuss Economic Development, Disposition of Property and Acquisition of Property under Title 1, Section 405, 6.C. at 8:15 pm. The motion was seconded by **Councilor Donahue**.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

Motion by **Councilor Cianchette** to exit the executive session having discussed Economic Development, Disposition of Property and Acquisition of Property at 8:55 pm. The motion was seconded by **Councilor Donahue**.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE**

## 10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Cianchette** that the meeting be adjourned at 8:56 p.m. All in agreement.

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Nicole Nickolan, Town Clerk