

MINUTES

For a regular meeting of the Pittsfield Town Council held on Tuesday, October 16, 2012 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT: COUNCILORS: Mayor Tim Nichols, Bob Stackhouse, Caleb Curtis, Deputy Mayor Gary Jordan, Jr., Donna Chale, Christopher Carr and Louise Baker. **ABSENT:** None. Also present: Town Manager Kathryn Ruth and Town Clerk Nicole Nickolan. Audience members included: Scott Noble, Trudy Richmond, Carter Richmond, Vaughn Woodruff, Jane Woodruff, Donald Woodruff, Michael Cianchette and others.

1. **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 October 2, 2012.

Moved by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Deputy Mayor Gary Jordan, Jr.** that the minutes of the regular meeting held on October 2, 2012 be tabled to the next Council Meeting.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

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

Community and Economic Development Activities and Events:

Report on New Business Activity & Opportunities in Pittsfield:

SAS Property placed on the market by MTC Holdings, LTD of San Antonio, Texas:
The Trust holding the former SAS building for several years decided that it will put the property out for sale. The RE agent handling the property has promised that the Town will receive a copy of the information package. Terry Sortwell of LandVest, a company from Camden that handles Luxury Real Estate was retained by the company. It would be great to have this property on the market so that it could be used, rather than be vacant. The information is on the Town's website as well as distributed to a number of regional and state entities. Our DECD Governor's Account Representative came from Augusta today to review the building's potential for future state inquiries and we met with Mr. Mulligan. The State does not receive a lot of inquiries due to the economy, however, we wanted to get on the State's radar when requests come in, especially manufacturing, as the building has the potential to put 300-400 people back to work.

Pittsfield received word on 08/27/2012 that the Town had been designated one of the Business Friendly Communities by the Governor. The Town of Pittsfield is 1 of 14 towns that was recently recognized by the State of Maine as business friendly. The Certified Business Friendly Community Program recognizes and promotes those communities that show a true commitment to business development.

Project Updates:

1. 2012 Comprehensive Plan Update: This update has been going well and is ahead of schedule. The Town Manager gave an update on the meetings and sessions that have been going on for this project.

2. Somerset Avenue Sewer Line Replacement Project: This project started on Monday and will go as long as the weather will provide. Sergeant Corporation has very good traffic control.
3. Historic Pittsfield Train Station (Depot) Re-roofing Project: The Town Manager gave an update on the progress of the project.
4. Certificates for Outstanding Service in the Line of Duty for Officer Cote and Officer Sides. This certificate is for their assistance during the apartment fire on Middle Street.

Report on Meetings & Events:

Mobilize Maine/Asset Mapping Exercise for Regional Economic Development Practitioners on Wednesday, 09/19/2012 from 9 am – 11 am at the Kennebec Valley Council of Governments in Fairfield

Safety Committee Meeting on Thursday, 09/20/2012 at 10:00 am in the Municipal Building

Kennebec Valley Council of Governments 45th Annual Meeting on Tuesday, 09/25/2012 from 9:00 am – 10:30 am at the Alford Youth Center in Waterville

Ken-Som Transition Team Meeting on Thursday, 09/27/2012 from 9:00 – 11:00 am at KVCOG in Fairfield

Comprehensive Plan Update Public Input Meeting on Saturday, 09/29/2012 from 9:00 am – 12:00 noon at the Warsaw Middle School Cafeteria

Upcoming Meetings & Events

10/03/2012	Recycling Committee Meeting at 5:00 pm
10/04/2012	SVCC Board of Directors
10/06/2012	HHW Day 9:00 – 12:00 noon Transfer Station (Event)
10/09/2012	Planning Board Meeting 7:00 pm
10/10/2012	Depot Re-roofing Pre-Construction Meeting at 8:30 am at the Depot
10/10/2012	USDA Sewer Rehab Pre-Construction Meeting at 10:00 am
10/11/2012	Egg Festival Committee Meeting at 6:30 pm
10/12/2012	Forest Management Plan Presentation at 10:00 am
10/15/2012	Candidates Night
10/18/2012	Pittsfield Historical Society at 6:30/7:00 pm at Depot/Library
10/19/2012	Safety Committee Meeting at 10:00 am
10/24/2012	MCI Community Service Day – morning
10/25/2012	FirstPark Meeting at 5:00 pm
10/29/2012	Planning Board Meeting at 7:00 pm
10/30/2012	Theatre Committee Meeting at 6:00 pm
10/31/2012	Mobile Maine – late afternoon, likely in Waterville

Somerset Wellness Health Council, either 4th or 5th Thursday of the month mid-day to afternoon
Somerset Workforce Connect, likely 10/11/2012 while we are at mandatory Airport Grant training.

4. **PUBLIC HEARINGS/OLD BUSINESS:**

ORDINANCE 12-03: (Public Hearing) The Town of Pittsfield hereby Ordains the amendments to Chapter 2, Administrative Code, Division 2: Administration of Town Business, Article 3, Section 806. Legge's Diamond Little League Ball Field (Hathorn Park).

The Public Hearing was opened. No one wished to speak in favor.

Opposed:

Vaughn Woodruff: I live here on Somerset Avenue in Pittsfield. This item only came to my attention recently. I had helped the Town with the new basketball hoops in the park a few years ago. We had lights on the court years ago, before they were broken. We had lights there for years and this was a great recreation spot for youth. Ever year we keep losing recreation spots for or youth. At a time when we are faced with so much obesity with our kids and people spending so much time in front of TV and video games it seems difficult to put a restriction on a public place where we can encourage them to so productive things. We already have a curfew in Town for the youth and it seems to me that helps to restrict some of those pieces, which is a bigger step then many communities have. I would like to see personally, us encouraging some of those night time activities until curfew. I do renewables and I would like to look at possibly putting some sort of solar lighting in there to remove any concerns about the Town having to pay for electricity. We just need something for our kids to so productively. I am in opposition to limiting the park to darkness. I believe it should be open until curfew.

Jane Woodruff: I live at 109 Hartland Avenue. We have lived across from the park for 36 years. I think this change would be taking a step back from where we were years ago when we moved here. I would like to see the basketball area lit so people can use it for recreation. With the exception of the diamond, the whole back area of the park has been neglected. I am glad to see that it will be fixed up with the grant. All we have done is lose playground equipment down there. I am not happy about limiting kids and I think we should get the lights back.

Public Hearing was closed.

The Town Manager noted at the last two meetings, the Town Councilors heard a report from the Ordinance Committee and citizens regarding the proposed amendments to the Code addressing night-time activity in Hathorn Park. The Town Council endorsed the amendment to continue through to Public Hearing for comments. Basically, the section of the Code addressing Legge's Diamond will be extended to the entire Hathorn Park with the intent to reduce and eliminate night-time activities and thereby noise in the park at various times of the year. Exceptions are those events that are approved by the Town Office in writing such as a Concert in the Parks Series, Egg Festival events, and other organized activities.

Councilor Chale: I support what Vaughn said. We had kids that used to hang out down at the library. Then they were kicked out of there. Now the same thing is happening at the park. Where are we going to put kids? That is my concern.

Deputy Mayor Jordan: The language in the Ordinance regarding use of the Legge's Diamond surprised me. I don't want to have young kids hanging out at the bandstand late at night, but I do understand what Vaughn is saying. I also understand that there may have been some ruckus there. The situation seems to be with older kids that are 18 and older that are playing there.

Town Manager: The reason for the change is to reduce nighttime activities. There have been complaints from citizens regarding noise from the park activities. The Police Chief recommends the language.

Councilor Curtis: I am sensitive to kids being able to get out to play, but I don't think kids not being able to play in the park after dark would be an issue for kids 15 and under. At least at this point where we don't have lighting there. I do agree there does need to be a place for our kids to go and hang out. I think that something the Town Council should talk about. I think it is more to keep kids out of trouble and have a place to go in the evenings.

Deputy Mayor Jordan: I don't like kids that are 15 years old or younger out on the streets after 8:00 pm. When I was younger there were lights on the courts. Maybe it was a safer environment back then. Today's world seems a little more violent. I don't know that I would want my son hanging around at night with kids that are 18 and older. I agree with both Vaughn and Caleb that there is a need for a good environment for our kids to play in the community. Its too bad a gym isn't open in the evening so kids can play there. That is my thought on that. Manson Park is also closed off at night and that has never been an issue that it is closed off.

Councilor Carr: I agree with everyone. Unfortunately, the world is not the same as it was 20-30 years ago. I can speak on good authority there. We can't regulate what parents do with their kids and let them go down there as a babysitter or whatever, so all we can do is regulate the park. If they are left alone in the dark down there, nothing would be left. The gazebo would be in pieces and the basketball court would be in pieces. I think its terrible because they should be able to go down there to play at any time.

Vaughn Woodruff: Anyone remember what Mill Pond Market used to be called when we were kids? It was called Doug's drugs. We had fights there when I was a kid. I know there are twenty-something year olds and I know its an issue, but I hate to see the clamps put down in Town because it is the easiest solution to the issue. If we ever want lights to go up there, we will not only need to raise funds for lights, but also go through the Ordinance process. Once things are in place it makes it very difficult to change it. The twenty-something's, that's another group we need to think about in this community. It seems like we are putting money into the gazebo as a Town and lighting is probably a part of that. There are ways to make that still useable. I haven't been a part of the conversations with the Police Department but there were fights down there 20-30 years ago. I brought my kids back to Pittsfield for the ability to have an open town. Everything was so structured where we were living before. As a basketball coach I can tell you, we need unstructured play. We now have a basketball court that kids are excited to play on and its hard to hear that now we are going to make the investment and then shut it off to the kids at certain times. In my personal opinion as a parent, I would rather have River, my child, in the public sphere where word gets back to me then in some kids basement or sneaking off to some other kids house and I don't even know they are over there. That is the biggest risk to me.

Deputy Mayor Jordan questioned why couldn't we do something like the Adult Education Basketball Program but for the kids? Vaughn Woodruff stated that structured play just doesn't appeal to kids. They like to be able to make their own choices. It is part of the push/pull of the teenage years. The other problem is the liability with the use of the facilities.

Councilor Curtis: I don't think this process has been too bad to change the Ordinance. A part that you have to understand is what the public that lives in that area around the park and the Police are saying. Without lighting down there I don't see a huge need for the park to be open at night.

Mayor Nichols: Every generation has irresponsible parents, unfortunately things seem to be getting worse. It becomes a liability issue for the Town. I would like to see lights down there, when the lights go off – its time to go. That is how it was when I was a kid. If you were still there after dark the Police ran you off. You weren't allowed to hang around the gazebo after dark back then. There have always been some issues, but more and more liability issues are coming up now.

Deputy Mayor Jordan: I like my kids to be out and about during the day but after dark, I like them to be home. That is my thought as a parent. With the robberies going on at Rite Aid here in Town these days you just don't know who is around Town.

Mayor Nichols: If it got to the point where we would have lights down by the basketball court would it require another hearing? The Town Manager noted due to the Ordinance language, another hearing would be required.

Caleb Curtis: I think you guys bring up some really great points. We need to think about the kids in the community. Perhaps we can get together in a group and start to look at this situation.

The Town Manager noted the language that was added to the Ordinance by the Ordinance Committee allows the Town Office to approve use of the park after dark. There is no reason there cant be an organized basketball game with lights.

Louise Baker: Who would approve the use of the park at the Town Office? The Town Manager noted that she would approve it unless it was controversial, then the Town Council would be involved.

Scott Noble: I grew up here. I used to hang out down at the basketball courts until the lights went off. Then we moved to the library until we were kicked out of there. This Town is eliminating everything for the kids. That park has been there since the 1940's. People are aware of it when they buy a house around it. It is like buying a house near the airport and then having the airport close down cause there is too much noise. Closing the park at dark won't always work, as during the winter it gets dark really early. We are taking away places for our kids to go.

The Town Manager noted in the past there were so many problems with the lights it was decided by the Town Council that they would be removed. The kids were constantly breaking the lights. Now there is the issue of people writing profanity at the gazebo in Hathorn Park. Some years its bad, others its not as bad. They even smash the lights at the gazebo and they have cages around them.

Vaughn Woodruff: What if the Ordinance stated something to the effect of: No person shall be in any publicly unlit portions of Hathorn Park/Legge's Diamond. Just throwing that out as a suggestion.

The Town Manager noted that currently the lights have to be left on at the gazebo, as they are all hooked together to keep a light on the American flag. This will be changed next year when we redo the lights with the grant monies.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Gary Jordan, Jr.** and seconded by **Councilor Curtis** that Ordinance 12-03 be approved with the language amendment to section 806.4 Closing Hours as follows:

Section 806.4. Closing Hours

No person shall be in any publicly unlit portion of Hathorn Park or on the Legge's Diamond Little league ball field from dark or 9:00 PM, whichever is earlier, to 7:00 AM prevailing time without written permission from the Pittsfield Town Office for an approved organized event.

VOTE TO AMEND: UNANIMOUS AYE
VOTE AS AMENDED: UNANIMOUS AYE

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

Town Manager's Report: Town Council Meeting of 10/16/2012:

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. Re-Use Building: The Town would like to thank the Recycling Committee members and the high school seniors who worked this last weekend staining the re-use center.

The 3 sides of the building were completed and look great. The committee will stain the back of the building in the spring of 2013.

3. Pittsfield Library News: The Friends of the Pittsfield Public Library will meet Wednesday, October 24 at 1:00 in the Warren Community Room at the Pittsfield Public Library. All members and prospective members are invited to attend. The Friends support quality library service through fund raising, volunteerism, and serving as advocates for the library. They provide funding for special library projects and programs. There will be discussion at the meeting about how the Friends can support the library and plans for future programs and fund raising activities.

Finance Committee: There was a presentation by TD Bank on the cemetery fund. It is performing as well as expected.

Ordinance Committee: None.

Recycling Committee: The Committee met on 10/03/2012. We had a visitor from Dexter named Beverly Crockett. They are looking to start a re-use center and wanted to get some ideas from us. The Go Green Group at MCI gave the committee an update and we discussed having a joint venture. We discussed the staining at the re-use center. We had very good workers and they did an outstanding job. When our young people volunteer to do things I believe they should be publicly thanked. I also wanted to thank Vaughn, Jane and Donald Woodruff for their help as well as all the recycling members that helped. The group discussed the coming year and what to do to keep this issue in the forefront.

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

RESOLUTION 12-141: (To be set to Public Hearing on 11/07/2012) That the Town Council hereby Ordains that Chapter 2B General Assistance Ordinance, Appendices C be rescinded and the new appendices C be adopted to reflect the revised maximums for the period of October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013; and to continue to use Appendices A-F set forth and filed with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) until any new appendices are approved.

Moved by **Councilor Chale** and seconded by **Councilor Carr** that Resolution 12-141 be set to Public Hearing.

The Town Manager noted the only appendix that has changed is the housing maximums.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 12-142: Resolved that the Town Council Accept the Proposal of Pike Industries, Inc. of Fairfield, ME in an amount to not exceed \$ 11,988.00 for the McCarthy Road Reclaiming Project and Authorize the Town Manager to Execute a Contract for same.

Moved by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Chale** that the Town reject the bid of Bruce A. Manzer, Inc. for not following the bid requirements.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

Moved by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Chale** that Resolution 12-142 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 12-143: Resolved that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager and Deputy Treasurer to expend and transfer up to \$23,000 from the Reserve accounts pursuant to the approved 2012 Budget for Reallocation Revenue funding as the original purposes of the reserve accounts has been met, such Reallocations designated as \$13,000 from G-1-618-00 Cable Access Reserve and \$10,000 from G-1-627-00 Revaluation Reserve.

Moved by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Baker** that Resolution 12-143 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted during the budget process last year we discussed the reallocation of funding for the Revenue budget to assist as much as possible in lowering the amount of property taxes to be raised for the 2012 budget. After a thorough review of all funds, several reallocations were discussed that included the use of funds from accounts for which the purpose was completed or less funding was actually needed. It is now time to transfer those funds. For those funds in Fund 1 (General Fund) and Fund 4 (Economic and Community Development Fund) further motions are not needed. Since two of the four reallocations are from Reserve Accounts, the Town Council should approve the transfer of the funds from the two reserve accounts in accordance with State Law.

As of 09/30/2012, the two reserves had the following balances:

PITT 14 Local Cable Access	\$28,323.92 - \$13,000 encumbered = \$ 15,323.92
PITT 29 Revaluation	\$10,853.01 = \$10,000 encumbered = \$ 853.01

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 12-144: Resolved that the Town Council approve the use of the DS200 Scanner and Tabulator for the November 6, 2012 Election.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Jordan** and seconded by **Councilor Baker** that Resolution 12-144 be adopted.

Councilor Chale noted that she had done some research and this company has been involved in some voter fraud. If we use it I would like some assurance that we have paper backup. I'm not saying we shouldn't use it but I would like some assurance that we have paper backup. It does make me very nervous.

The Town Clerk noted that we will still have paper ballots and voters will mark the ballots by hand. This machine scans the ballots and keeps an image of each ballot while also keeping a tally of the processed ballots.

The Town Manager noted a tabulator/scanner will be provided for the election and by reading the agreement that just arrived, which is on your desks this evening, we will have the equipment until 10/02/2017, basically 5 years. The State indicates it will service and repair the equipment at their cost unless the Town has been negligent and the equipment is damaged, at which point, the Town will be responsible for replacement. The Town must secure the equipment, have only authorized, trained staff to utilize it, protect the passwords for usage and cover it with insurance. At this time, the State provides the ballots and tape for the machine and has provided training for the Town Clerk.

The tabulator/scanner should significantly reduce the counting time. The municipal ballots would continue to be counted by hand, however, they are normally not the ballots that take up all the time – it is the state ballots.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 12-145: Resolved that the Town Council Authorize the Town Manager and Town Clerk to sign the agreement from the Department of Elections for the DS200 Scanner and Tabulator.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Jordan** and seconded by **Councilor Carr** that Resolution 12-145 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 12-146: Resolved that the Town Council Sign the Warrant to Call the MSAD#53 School Budget Meeting.

This item was passed over as the Town has verified the school does not have any ballot questions.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 12-147: Resolved that the Town Council Excuse the absence of Mayor Timothy P. Nichols from the Town Council Regular Meetings of September 04, 2012; September 18, 2012; and October 02, 2012.

Moved by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Baker** that Resolution 12-147 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted through a variety of issues involving work, mandated training, numerous shifts and an event commitment, Tim missed several meetings. As the meetings were consecutive, the Town Council would need to excuse the absences under town procedures.

This is the same motion as made in the past involving consecutive absences of Councilors.

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE
ABSTAIN: NICHOLS**

RESOLUTION 12-148: Resolved that the Town Council Accept the funding donated to the Town from the Davis Foundation for the Restoration and/or Preservation of the Historic Pittsfield Train Station (Depot) in the amount of \$20,050 and Authorize the Expenditure of the funds for said project in accordance with town procedures.

Moved by **Councilor Chale** and seconded by **Councilor Carr** that Resolution 12-148 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted we were very fortunate that the Davis Foundation Grant was awarded for the estimated cost of the needed masonry work, caulking and waterstopping, and architectural fee. This project is part of Phase I along with the Re-Roofing component.

The Masonry work will be bid out for implementation in Spring of 2013 as soon as weather conditions permit.

Donations and/or most grants need to be accepted by the Town Council and expenditures approved.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Financial Reports as of 09/30/2012:

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 09/30/2012:

Building and Plumbing Permit Reports
Library Report-Librarian's and Library Trustees Minutes
Police Report
Self Explanatory – Not Reviewed

Grants Update:

New Grants:

Airport Grants: Environmental Assessment (Engineering to prepare for Apron Expansion) – The permitting has been completed.

Engineering for the Apron Expansion – The grant was received and processed and the contract for engineering services was completed after approval by MDOT. The Town received the MDOT Cooperative Grant Amendment for DOT payments and the approval was on the agenda at the last meeting. This evening the approval for the Umbrella Cooperative Services Agreement with MDOT was on the agenda for approval.

CDBG/Economic Development Grant: Argo Marketing Group. – DECD has verified by letter that the Town and Argo have met the job creation requirements of the grant and paperwork has been forwarded to the State. The Town has a close-out package that we have completed for the grant. Jason Levesque thanks the Town Council and the Town staff for all of our support of his business expansion to Pittsfield. When the last hiring phase is completed, Argo will have 140 employees which is very impressive.

Davis Foundation – The Town received a check for \$20,050 to finish Phase I (which is the re-shingling and the foundation pointing work) has been approved. The re-roofing project has been bid out and the project moves forward shortly.

HealthySV: Healthy Communities – Exercise is Fun Class – approved and we received the grant funding. The books were ordered and received for the programming. This will be a winter program when the snow is on the ground. Our new Recreation Director is getting settled in before we start this project.

HealthySV: Healthy Communities – Proactive Student Presentations – approved and we received the grant funding. The books were ordered and received for the programming. This project will start in late Fall – Winter with the police officers in the school with presentations.

HealthySV Grant for Tobacco Free Signage – signs were received and are posted where the Drug Free Zone signs are authorized and a few other locations.

Jump Start Our Youth (JOY through JMG) Recreation Department – received \$500.00

Kiwanis Mini-Grants for Programming & Sponsorship for children – A few activities took place this summer with the Kiwanis Mini-Grant funding for programming. The sponsorship funds are being used as needed to assist children to participate.

L&W Conservation Fund: Hathorn Park Legge's Field & Sports Complex, Phase II – contract for the L&W grant was received and the project needs to be scheduled. We have 3 years to complete the project and it may be prudent to bid out all the work early this winter for a Spring 2013 start.

Library Mini-Grants (Cornerstone of Science and Gates for computers) – multi-year projects that are on-going.

MMA Safety Grant – the permanent first aid cabinets are being installed now.

National Heritage Railroad Grant – Funds were received for the Depot roof, which allowed the Town to go out to bid.

Project Canopy: Town Farm Forest Management Plan – the Contractor finished the draft of the Forest Management Plan. It was discussed at a meeting on Friday, 10/12/2012.

United Way/Keeping Mid-Maine Warm Grant – if anyone knows of a senior citizen who could use assistance with a furnace cleaning, we have enough funding remaining for one cleaning.

New Grant Applications:

Maine Community Foundation Grant – opportunity for a heating system for the Re-Use Building was reviewed by the Recycling Committee and decided to not pursue. We could get a new heating unit, however after that, the cost of the fuel was just too much. Given that this is a re-use building, we discussed at the Recycling Committee how much we would like to have a solar project, if it would fit the building and have students from KVCC or another school actually have a class project in the community. Vaughan Woodruff came into the office about an exciting new solar program that he would like us to explore so there may be a possibility to install solar in the Re-Use Building.

Belvedere Historic Preservation Grant Program – for the Depot – This grant application was submitted for \$22,000 for Phase II for the Depot Preservation and Restoration. This work would include all siding and trim preservation and restoration.

8. **REPORTS:** Audience, Council

Audience:

Michael Cianchette: I just wanted to say that the Pittsfield Arts Club did a wonderful job at the Candidates Night. Gary did a very good job. I really enjoyed it. I wanted to publicly say good luck to Bob. If it does come to pass that I am successful, I will regret not being able to serve with him. I wish you the best of luck, Bob. Thank you for your help at the park and the changes. I look forward to seeing more of you.

Council:

Councilor Baker: Gary did a great job and I really enjoyed the event and learned a lot. A couple of comments were made afterwards about some of the things that were said and weren't said. Questions were asked and they weren't answered. A couple of people commented that they changed their mind on the way they will vote.

Councilor Carr: Good job last night, Gary. I did plan on coming, but couldn't make it. I'm glad we had some discussion here on the Ordinance and people coming to the meeting. Thanks for coming to the meeting, Carter. It was nice to have an audience.

Councilor Chale: Its nice to see Carter in the audience. Thanks for coming! We are happy to see you and Mom. Congratulations to Gary Jordan on the event last night. I was so please to see all the candidates here and the number of people who came from Pittsfield to see that. I appreciate

the work done by Officer Cote and Officer Sides at the apartment fire. I appreciate the way the Council compromised tonight and found a way to please everybody.

Deputy Mayor Jordan: The Arts Club did a great job and there was a great turn out of candidates and people. It was the most candidates I had seen in a long time. I was really pleased with that. As far as Hathorn Park, I feel we came up with a good balance.

Councilor Curtis: No Comment.

Councilor Stackhouse: Thank you to the Arts Club for putting on the Candidates Night. They put on a great event. It is nice to able to come up as a candidate and speak on the issues. Thank you, Michael for your vote of confidence. I send the same back to you, good luck. Whoever wins I am sure they will serve the Town well. Good job Kathryn. Keep up the good work.

Mayor Nichols: I feel bad I didn't make it last night but my work schedule got in the way. I heard it was a good turnout. I want to thank Kathryn and the Town Employees for all their hard work. I know an Election year is a very stressful time and there is a lot of work ahead. Thank you to Mike Cianchette for coming in. I feel like we left a door open for the future with Hathorn Park. Donna, I understand what you are saying about making sure that elections are fair. One thing I admire about you is you have a great sense of fairness. You want to be sure no matter how this turns out that people votes are counted the way they are supposed to be counted. I respect that. Please keep in mind the families that have been burned out the last few months. If you can help at all please be sure to speak up.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Curtis** that the meeting be adjourned at 8:11 p.m. All in agreement.

Nicole Nickolan, Town Clerk