

MINUTES

For a regular meeting of the Pittsfield Town Council held on Tuesday, September 4, 2012 at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT: COUNCILORS: Bob Stackhouse, Caleb Curtis, Deputy Mayor Gary Jordan, Jr., Donna Chale, Christopher Carr and Louise Baker. **ABSENT:** Mayor Tim Nichols. Also present: Town Manager Kathryn Ruth and Town Clerk Nicole Nickolan. Audience members included: Jared Foster, Frannie Rodgers, Steve Emery, Michael Cianchette, Charlie Klein, Michael Holcomb, Heather Donahue and others.

1. **Deputy Mayor Jordan** 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 August 14, 2012.

Moved by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Chale** that the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 14, 2012 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

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

Presentation of a Commendation to Frannie Rogers by Deputy Mayor Jordan:

A commendation to outgoing Recreation Director Frannie Rogers for her hard work and dedication to the Town of Pittsfield and the community's children was presented by Deputy Mayor Jordan. Frannie is resigning the P/T Recreation Director's position to move to the School System to a F/T teaching position. She did a great job!

Frannie thanked the Town for the opportunity to serve as the Recreation Director. I really enjoyed this job immensely, more than I could have imagined. I am very proud to have worked for the Town.

Presentation by Michael Holcomb, Sebecook Valley Health EMS Coordinator, regarding emergency calls in Pittsfield and the region

Michael Holcomb and Charlie Klein attended the meeting to update town officials and citizens on the call volume in their communities and the region. These meetings are for Sebecook Valley Health and its EMS Department to communicate with the Towns and make sure that everything is working well. The call statistics were reviewed for the past few years.

Mr. Holcomb noted that cardiac calls are transferred to Eastern Maine, but the other 80 – 90% of the calls are handled at SVH. The Town Manager was interested in having a breakdown of calls for I-95, business calls and private calls.

Councilor Curtis asked if there was anything we could do as a Town to help? Mr. Holcomb stated that having a first responder would be great. This has been something he has discussed with the Fire Chief, but is unclear how close this is to coming to fruition.

Discussion regarding evening use of Hathorn Park

Michael Cianchette, who resides next to Hathorn Park, would like the Town to implement regulations for Hathorn Park to reduce the evening activity and therefore, the noise associated with it.

Police Chief Emery stated that the Police Department does receive some calls regarding Hathorn Park. It was noted that there is a 9:00 pm curfew on the ball field, which is noted in the park Ordinance.

It was noted that the issues are mainly on the basketball court and at the gazebo. The possibility of additional signage was discussed. It was noted that some years many kids from the neighborhood who wander around Town congregate at Hathorn Park.

The Town Manager noted that the Town Ordinance would need to be changed to regulate all of Hathorn Park as it currently mentions only Legge's Diamond. We will review a number of other Ordinance changes to see if we can save time and money with advertising. We will send this item onto the Ordinance Committee as the next step in the process.

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

Save Our Historic Depot Campaign:

Everyone can help our Save the Depot fundraising campaign. This historic 1880's building needs to be preserved and/or restored. As a historic building on the Historic Register of National Buildings, the Town must follow historic preservation requirements and standards. As such, the project would cost more than if a resident or business fixed up their building.

Phase I consists of the roof replacement and the masonry reconstruction and pointing, a total of \$47,265.00

Phase II consists of removing the old siding with lead based paint and installing cedar clapboard siding and trim, a total of \$39,425.00

Phase III includes the windows restoration; replacement doors; and insulation, a total of \$24174.00.

We would plan to complete Phase I first, if at all possible, then head to Phase II and so forth. The estimates are based upon the cost schedules from an architect with historic preservation background, Ames & Associates of Bangor. It is possible, that we may be able to have work completed for less.

Business Resources Night:

On Tuesday, 09/25/2012 from 6:00 pm – 8:15 pm at the Warsaw Middle School Gym & Cafeteria, a Business Resource Night will be held for businesses to meet with resource providers to obtain information; network with other businesses; and promote their business services/products.

Report on Meetings & Events:

Argo Marketing Group's Open House on Wednesday, 08/15/2012 from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm.

Theatre Committee Regular Meeting on Tuesday, 08/28/2012 at 6:00 pm at the Municipal Building

Somerset County Healthy Workplace Grant Committee Meeting on Wednesday, 08/29/2012 from 12:00 noon – 1:30 pm at 60 Water Street, Suite 2, Skowhegan

Pittsfield Buying Club on Wednesday, 08/29/2012 at 7:00 pm at the Pittsfield Public Library

Chamber Informational Discussion with the Maine State Chamber (Representing Sebecook Valley Chamber of Commerce) on Thursday, 08/30/2012 9:00 am – 10:30 am in a Conference Call

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

Recycling Committee Meeting on Wednesday, 09/05/2012 at 5:00 pm in the Municipal Building

Somerset Community College Workforce Development Discussion on Thursday, 09/06/2012 at 9:00 am at the Frye Building at KVCC in Fairfield

Sebecook Valley Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting on Thursday, 09/06/2012 at 5:00 pm at the Chamber Office, Palmyra

Mobilize Maine Economic Development Session on Tuesday, 09/11/2012 9:00 – 11:00 am at KVCOG

Healthy Grant Assessment and Data Collection Webinar on Wednesday, 09/12/2012 from 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Somerset Connect Workforce Development Meeting projected to be held on Thursday, 09/13/2012 at 3:00 pm in Skowhegan

Egg Festival Committee Meeting to begin planning for the 2013 event on Thursday, 09/13/2012 at 6:30 pm in the Municipal Building

Tuesday, 09/18/2012 HealthySV Yearly Meeting & Awards on Tuesday, 09/18/2012 from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm in Palmyra

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

4. **PUBLIC HEARINGS/OLD BUSINESS: NONE**
5. **REPORTS: TOWN MANAGER, FINANCE, ORDINANCE & RECYCLING COMMITTEES:**

Town Manager's Report: Town Council Meeting of 09/04/2012:

1. Pittsfield Backyard Compost Bin Sale: The sale is over with, however, people can still order a bin as we were under the maximums required for an order so we have a few more that will be available for each of the Earth Day products.

To celebrate re-use in the community, the Town of Pittsfield is part of a statewide backyard composting bin sale. A home compost bin and how-to-guide with a combined retail value over \$100 can be purchased for only \$45.00 (tax included). The bin is black, has a 10 year warranty, and is made of 100% recycled plastic. It's approximately 35" high and 33" wide, or large enough for a family of five.

2. 2012 Tax Bills Issued: The Tax Assessor has set the mil rate for 2012 at \$18.50/\$1,000 valuation. For the last two years, the rate was \$17.90/\$1,000 valuation. This is an increase of .60 of a mil or 3.35%.

On a property with a \$100,000 valuation, this would be an increase of \$60.00.

Two items affected the mil rate resulting in an increase:

1. The School Budget funding cutbacks caught up with the budget and there was a larger than usual increase to offset the situation; and
2. Personal property valuation decreased under the state law. There was no offsetting revenue from any large increases in personal property.

In conclusion, the school budget increased, county increased a small amount and the Town portion did not increase.

3. Library News: Read notice.

Finance Committee: None.

Ordinance Committee: None.

Recycling Committee: None.

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

RESOLUTION 12-120: Resolved that the Town Council confirm the Town Manager's appointment for the Recreation Director Position.

Moved by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Carr** that Resolution 12-120 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted this position with varying hours and different schedules has been advertised after Frannie Rogers announced her resignation.

Applications were received. After being advertised for a period of time, the Town then did not receive any further applications. Councilor Carr and the Town Manager offered interviews to all of the applicants for the position. A candidate was chosen and a conditional offer of employment was issued in order to conduct a number of reviews and tests.

The Town Councilors welcomed Jared Foster as Recreation Director. Jared thanked the Council and noted Frannie has left big shoes to fill. Councilor Carr stated that Mr. Foster is highly qualified for the position.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 12-121: Resolved that the Town Council accept the proposal of King's Trucking of Burnham, ME in an amount to not exceed \$ 11,517.00 for the installation of 3" minus riprap at the Pittsfield Wastewater Treatment Plant where an area has started to erode.

Moved by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Carr** that Resolution 12-121 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted the Town Council approved the bid specifications at their last meeting on 08/14/2012. A copy of the bid specs were forwarded to all known contractors interested in this type of work. In addition, the Town advertised the bid. In order to provide sufficient time for contractors to review the area with the Assistant Water/Sewer Superintendent and to put their bid together, bids were due on Friday, 08/31/2012. Copies of the bid results were available at the Town council Meeting for review.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 12-122: Resolved that the Town Council accept the proposal of Engstrom & Tumosa of Dover-Foxcroft in an amount to not exceed \$4,235.00 for the removal of trees and stumps and authorize the Town Manager to execute a contract for same.

Moved by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Baker** that Resolution 12-122 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted the Town Council approved the bid specifications at their last meeting on 08/14/2012. Copies of the bid specs were forwarded to all known contractors interested in tree removal. In addition, the Town advertised the bid. In order to provide sufficient time for contractors to review the trees to be cut and trimmed, bids are due Thursday, 08/30/2012. A copy of the bid results received last Thursday was included in your Council package. We

received just one bid from Engstrom & Tumosa Tree Service from Dover-Foxcroft in the amount of \$4,235.00.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 12-123: Resolved that the Town Council approve the Request for Proposals for paving of the McCarthy Road and the Pittsfield Sewer Treatment Plant and authorize the Town Manager and Assistant Water/Sewer Superintendent to seek bids for same.

Moved by **Councilor Chale** and seconded by **Councilor Baker** that Resolution 12-123 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted the access road to the Sewer Treatment Plant is very deteriorated and requires rehabilitation. Grinding the pavement, leveling the area and compacting the material is the chosen option by the Assistant Water/Sewer Superintendent and Public Works Foreman. Other areas require work at the Pittsfield Treatment Facility, therefore, are included in the bid specs.

Scott drafted some specs and the Town Manager added insurance and pavement requirements.

The work may be too costly, however, it is important to determine if the Town can afford the work in order to upgrade the facilities.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 12-124: Resolved that the Town Council approve the Request for Proposals for the Pittsfield Railroad Station (Historical Depot) Roof Structural Remediation and Re-Roofing Project; Authorize the Town Manager and Building Inspector to seek bids for same; and Authorize the Town Manager and Building Inspector to accept a bid, upon recommendation of an Architect/Engineer with expertise in Historic Preservation, if such bid price fits within the fundraising and funding commitments available for the project.

Moved by **Councilor Chale** and seconded by **Councilor Baker** that Resolution 12-124 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted when the Town recently received the national grant for the Historic Railroad roofing project, the historical preservation architect/engineer who had been working with the Town was contacted for a timeframe to proceed forward. When the Town sought assistance last year with a grant proposal, only two firms with historic preservation background made themselves available at short notice and the low bidder, Ames Associates, LLC was awarded the work.

The firm of Ames Associates, LLC with principal Ellen Ames has been charging the Town a minimal fee to assist with the creation of basic plans and technical assistance. There have been no charges for advice and review of grant write-ups.

In discussions with the engineer, it seems prudent to make sure that enough time is available for a contractor to complete a project this year (if the price fits within our available funds), rather than to have some of the work completed this year and the remainder done next year or to hold off on the project. The roof is not in good shape and if there is a way to not have to go another

winter, especially through one advertised by the Farmers' Almanac to be one with a lot of snow, then we should proceed forward.

The necessary construction work would include the following: Demolition, removal and disposal of roofing; demolition decking; additional milled rafters; allowance – replace removed decking; underlayment, ice/water shield, drip edge, vent, and flashings; fiberglass asphalt shingles; and misc. caulking and waterstopping.

By authorizing the project for acceptance at this meeting, it will save a couple of weeks' time, which a contractor can be using to work on the project. Time is of the essence in getting this work done now that we have very recently collected up what appears to be enough funding around what is projected to be the cost of this project.

Ames and Associates would evaluate the low bid to make sure that it seems that it would be successful and meets the bid specifications. The State of Maine Historic Preservation Commission has to approve going forward. The Building Inspector, who is very precise on building projects, would need to approve the low bidder. We should have enough review to know if the bid is good or not.

If all the bids are too high, we will know that we have done the best that we could and have a better "marketplace" price to re-bid in the future or be re-bidding during the Winter of 2012-2013 for a Spring, 2013 project, we will receive a lower price.

In any case, it is time to move forward with this crucial project component.

As of today, the funding that is available is:

Donations	\$ 9,250.30
Grants	
National Railroad Historical	3,300.00
Jobs For Maine's Graduates JOY	500.00
Bangor Savings Bank Community Matters	1,000.00
Town Committed Funds Available	14,172.50
Pittsfield Historical Society Pledge	<u>5,000.00</u>
Total Available	\$ 33,222.80

Projected budget with architectural fee, without contingency or general conditions
\$ 34,215.00

The software program utilized by the Architect/Engineer includes standard amounts for general conditions and recommended contingency. If all of these items were included, the budget would be \$42,696.05. In discussing this project, Ellen Ames of Ames Associates was comfortable in proceeding forward.

The bid documents including the construction documents, drawings and specifications were received today and are available this evening. If approved, an ad would be forwarded to the newspaper tomorrow. The Engineer will forward the materials to the Plans Rooms that she utilizes.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 12-125: Resolved that the Town Council approve the Pittsfield Water Works Terms and Conditions to conform to Chapter 660, Consumer Protection Standards for Water Utilities.

Moved by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Baker** that Resolution 12-125 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted the Terms and Conditions are the operating rules for the Pittsfield Water Department which d/b/a as Pittsfield Water Works. I was notified by Tonja Lary, Financial Clerk in August 2012 that she and Scott had been working on the update of the Terms and Conditions required by the State Law and that as Scott had been out on partial medical leave, that we had been given an extension to complete the process.

I just received a copy of the materials upon my arrival back from vacation on 08/24/2012. Due to the massive amount of requests and workload awaiting my arrival back from a few days off, I had not reviewed the proposed changes by the time of putting the Council package together, however, did review them over the long holiday weekend. Tonja worked on the update with assistance from several professionals in the field and did a very good job.

The Terms and Conditions are being updated in order to match the State Law and not because the Town is proposing changes. The Terms and Conditions are required to be updated.

I spoke with the Public Utilities Commission regarding this update and was advised to upload the revisions, if approved this evening, in their internet case program and list the changes to be effective 10/01/2012.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 12-126: Resolved that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to sign the Letter of Intent to participate in the one-day Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event on Saturday, 10/06/2012.

Moved by **Councilor Carr** and seconded by **Councilor Chale** that Resolution 12-126 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted for several years, the Town has participated in this one day event which has provided residents the opportunity to dispose of household hazardous materials rather than leaving the materials at their homes or throwing them away with trash.

In 2011, the Town spent \$1,472.74 for the materials, including prescription drug incineration plus staff time to organize and assist with the event.

In 2010, the Town spent \$620.24 for the materials that were collected plus staff time to organize and assist with the event.

In 2009, the Town spent \$978.96 for the materials that were collected plus staff time to organize the event.

The amount that we spend will be dependent upon the amount of material that is collected. In the past we have capped the cost that can be expended and will do so this year also. The

Recycling/Transfer Station/Safety Coordinator has proposed a cap of \$2,500 for this event after reviewing the Department's budget.

The Town Council received a package of materials for review.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 12-127: Resolved that the Town Council adopt the Budget Calendar for the 2013 Budget Process.

Moved by **Councilor Chale** and seconded by **Councilor Carr** that Resolution 12-127 be adopted.

The Town Manager noted the Town Council received a copy of the Town's regular budget calendar that has worked well in the past. If we are able to process the reviews listed at the Regular meetings and have time available, we would continue with budget items, thereby deleting Special meetings.

We should also discuss budget goals. Last year, we had 0% operating budget increases except unavoidable items such as electricity, fuel, service contracts, etc; new items were limited to new state and industry standards; personnel costs had an increase if it could be fit within the budget - for example, last year, there was a 2% wage increase.

In addition, if Councilors have specific projects or items that they would like to see reviewed for the budget process - this would be the meeting to list them out so that the staff can review and provide information for an alternate to the general budget. The Town Councilors thought this approach to the budget would work well.

In addition to the effects of the nation's economy which are continuing, the Town will need to prepare for the effects of future state cuts to revenue sources as the State is making changes to programs. In addition, as the State of Maine considers zero based budgeting, which our town has utilized since 2002, there are going to be changes in requirements for the Towns and may likely be changes to revenues received.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Updates:

1. Financial: Aircraft Excise Tax: The Town has learned that until this year MDOT registered and collected excise tax for all non-commercial registered aircraft based upon formulas in the State law. Effective now, MDOT will no longer do this and it is the responsibility of the Town. There is no further information at this point how this will be calculated or taken care of by the Towns. The Maine Municipal Association is looking into this.

2. Financial: Veteran's Excise Tax: In 2012, a new law went into effect allowing those who serve out of state for more than 180 days to obtain an exemption from paying the vehicle excise tax, which goes to the communities. This is not automatic and is put into effect if the Town passes an ordinance. If the Council is interested in this exemption, we can collect more information and review it during budget time as it would affect the revenue budget for excise tax. In talking with other towns, no one really had a good idea of what it would cost the Town. As

this was a year that we went into with a significant decrease in excise tax due to the fleet of trucks being registered early in December in the 2011 year instead of in January in the 2012 year, it was not prudent to review any decreases to excise tax this year. We could, however, look into this further for 2013 as we can budget for it.

3. Community Development Update/Junky Yard Cleanup Project: Some progress, several yards cleaned up, did not receive a report from the CEO.

4. Highway Projects Update: Public Works has finished three of the four gravel road projects: Hussey Road – nearly the entire length; Wilson Road – nearly entire length, distance along the road where people live full-time and did not gravel the driveway width going to the summer home at the end of the road as it did not need it; and Sibley Pond Road – all areas planned for building up the base and surface gravel placement. After the rain coming in, Public Works will head to the Taylor Road to place surface gravel. Then the project will be completed. The roadwork looks excellent.

5. Town Property Use: A resident abutting Manson Park got a bit carried away with some landscaping work and got down onto the Town property a few feet to make a transition so that the area could be mowed. The neighbor to Manson Park also had some items piled on the town property, which have since been removed. With the landscaping done, the area actually looks better and a little more work needs to be done. This issue was brought to the attention of the Code Enforcement Officer. It is a minor encroachment. I wanted to advise you of this before any action was taken. We could grant consent that the landscaping continues by letter. If consent is granted to use, the land is not claimed by adverse possession and there really is no issue. This would be contingent upon the approval of the Manson Park Committee (Parks and Recreation Committee) as they do manage the property.

6. Water and Sewer Updates:

USDA Sewer Projects Update:

-Nichols, Cianchette and Livingston: Funds for Pay Req #19 has arrived, the Town will just have the 5% retainage left to pay.

-Somerset Avenue out to bid: There was a full room at the pre-bid meeting last week. The Contractors noted to Olver Associates that there was no other work out there and there will be a number of bids.

-Elm, School, etc. to be finalized: Contractors have asked Olver Associates if they can work on this project during the winter if the Recreational Trail is used due to the lack of work available this winter. This project still needs to be defined and meetings established, to be addressed at the next Council Meeting this month. Even if the work is not done this year, it is a good time to bid out the work to lock in pricing for early Spring 2013 due to the low volume of work being bid now.

DWSRF Waverly Street Project Update: The State Drinking Water Program needed a document from Haley Construction and that document has just been provided, so the last Pay Req under the DWSRF fund, Pay Req #6 will be paid. The remaining funds would then be paid for by the Town within the approved additional funds as requested by Olver Associates and approved by the Town Council due to the need for extra work to be completed. We are within the revised budget.

Summer Water Improvements Update: Hydrants are all completed; paving is not completed as S&G need to fit the small sidewalk paving projects into its schedule.

Summer Sewer Improvements Update: Maintenance work at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and possible paving and grinding of the McCarthy Road to the treatment plant are under review.

Risers have been purchased for several areas in town where the manholes are an issue such as Peltoma.

Grants Update:

New Grants:

Airport Grants: Stormwater, Security and FAA Review – the close-out has been processed.

Airport Grants: Environmental Assessment (Engineering to prepare for Apron Expansion) –the permitting is 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 just received the MDOT Cooperative Grant Amendment today in the mail for DOT payments.

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.

HealthySV: Healthy Communities – Exercise is Fun Class – approved and we received the grant funding. The books were ordered and received for the programming.

HealthySV: Healthy Communities – Proactive Student Presentations – approved and we received the grant funding. The books were ordered and received for the programming.

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 – Rec is planning activities for the \$1000.00 received last year when the Town Manager spoke to Kiwanis and the \$1000.00 received this year when our Recreation Director spoke with Kiwanis - \$500.00 for new programming and \$500.00 for a sponsorship program. A few activities took place in August and more will need to be planned by the new Recreation Director.

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.

Project Canopy: Town Farm Forest Management Plan – the RFP was issued for a management plan and aerial photograph and a bid approved at the last Council Meeting. The bidder was contacted and advised of the approval. The contract was written and provided to the bidder for review and signature. We have the contract back and the project is in the process of being scheduled.

Safety Grant – the permanent first aid cabinets have arrived and are in the process of being installed.

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

Belvedere Historic Preservation Grant Program – for the Depot – due in a week

8. **REPORTS:** Audience, Council

Audience:

Mike Cianchette: I want to thank the Town Council for all they do. I also want to thank the Police Department. They really do a good job. Thank you all for listening tonight.

Council:

Councilor Baker: I want to thank Heather for coming in tonight. I have asked her to run for Councilor District 4. I also want to thank Mike Cianchette for coming in. Councilor Baker asked if people are using headlights pointed at the park or basketball field for light after dark. Mr. Cianchette stated this has happened in the past, but he has not seen that happen this year. Councilor Baker also welcomed Jared as the new recreation director.

Councilor Carr: I wanted to thank Mike Cianchette for coming in tonight. Please come again!

Donna Chale: I also wanted to thank Mike for coming in. I want to congratulate Frannie. She did a wonderful job in her time with the Town. Councilor Chale noted she has received several calls from people asking the Town to grade the railroad bed. The Town Manager noted we are still reviewing if we are able to do the work. The grader will not be able to fit through, as the trees are overgrown. This request needs further review. Councilor Chale wanted to say that the house on Somerset Avenue that had the fire is really coming along. They are doing a very nice job. Councilor Chale noted that the Community Forum is starting its fall series. Please join us!

Deputy Mayor Jordan: No Report. Councilor Jordan asked why Legges Diamond is only for use by the Little League? It was noted it was due to how close surrounding homes are and an adult bat player would be much more likely to hit the ball out of the park.

Councilor Curtis: Questioned if the Town has thought about taking debit/credit cards? The Town Manager noted we have investigated this many times. The problem is that we are hearing from other Towns that are accepting them that there are charges that show up afterwards.

Councilor Curtis would like to see if the Town could cover those extra charges to make it more convenient for the residents. This would need to be an addition to the Town Budget.

Councilor Stackhouse: I want to thank Mike Cianchette for coming in tonight and staying for the whole meeting. I also want to thank Frannie for all her hard work. She did a great job with the program. Welcome to Jared. I want to congratulate Kathryn for obtaining the Business Friendly Award for the Town of Pittsfield. I also want to thank everyone for their hard work upstairs. The staff is great and always friendly.

Mayor Nichols: Absent

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by **Councilor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Carr** that the meeting be adjourned at 8:04 p.m. All in agreement.

Nicole Nickolan, Town Clerk