

MINUTES

for a regular meeting of the Pittsfield Town Council, held on Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at 6:30 PM in the Council Chambers.

PRESENT: COUNCIL: Mayor Michael Cianchette, Deputy Mayor Robert Stackhouse, Councilor Howard Margolskee, Councilor Timothy P. Nichols, Councilor Heather Donahue and Councilor Caleb Curtis.

ABSENT: Councilor Matthew Bolster

Also present: Town Manager Kathryn Ruth

AUDIENCE: Jan Laux, Michael LeBlanc, Steve Vance, Don Chute, Ron Watson, Holly Williams, Donna Dunphy, Don Hallenback, peter Logiodice.

1. Mayor Cianchette opened the meeting by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. The Council observed a Moment of Silence in honor of George H. W. Bush.
3. Adoption of minutes of the regular meeting held on November 20, 2018.

Moved by **Councilor Nichols** and seconded by **Deputy Mayor Stackhouse** that the minutes of the meeting held on November 20, 2018 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

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

Community and Economic Development Activities and Events:

Innovative Specialties, LLC Opening: A ribbon cutting ceremony has been re-scheduled to Friday, November 30, 2018 to celebrate Innovative Specialties, LLC's move to Pittsfield. The manufacturing/distribution center is a wonderful expansion for the company with enough room for production. A Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) received by the Town of Pittsfield for the project from the State of Maine Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) helped to make this expansion possible. Chad Dow plans to involve the town, bank, his vendors, customers, friends and family. The event was re-scheduled which is good as he has people driving in from long distances away. Due to the storm projected up to 8" on Friday, November 16, 2018 and the Thanksgiving holiday on Friday, November 23, 2018, Chad moved the Open House to **Friday, November 30, 2018 at 12:30 pm**. Please let me know at the meeting if you can attend the new date for the event. There will be a luncheon and small program to recognize everyone and have tours of the facility.

GET THE MOST OUT OF SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY:

One small purchase can make a big difference for neighbors, your community & you!

Small Business Saturday is a shopping holiday held on the Saturday after Thanksgiving during one of the busiest shopping periods of the year. Small businesses sometimes offer many similar discounts that large chain stores have, but without the marketing dollars to display the price cuts. The Town asked people to join their neighbors this year on **Saturday, November 24, 2018**. Shop local and support your community, this day and every day! The Heart of Pittsfield planned a promotional event for Small Business Saturday that can be utilized not only in November and December, but all year round.

Annual Christmas Tree Lighting scheduled for Wednesday, December 5, 2018 at 6:00 pm at Hathorn Park. Christmas songs at the Gazebo, Tree Lighting, Sleigh Rides and Refreshments. This is the opening event for the 200th Bicentennial! The time capsule was excavated and will be on display at the park.

Free Christmas Movie hosted by Warsaw Middle School Jobs for Maine's Graduates Grant (JMG) scheduled on Saturday, December 8, 2018 at 2:00 pm at the Theatre. There will be a free child's popcorn, hot chocolate and admission. This is a great community development event and always well attended!

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

5. **REPORTS:**

A. COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

FINANCE-a meeting was held last week to review the Capital Budget and the Additions. The recommendations are included in the council package.

ORDINANCE-No report.

RECYCLING-No report.

B. BOARD AND COMMITTEE UPDATES BY TOWN COUNCILORS AND MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS-No meeting was held, so no report.

BICENTENNIAL-The Kickoff is at the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony tomorrow night, 12/5/2018 at Hathorn Park. The banners have been hung around town and they were a gift from Almys. The next meeting is on 12/12/2018 at 6:00 PM in the Library.

C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Pittsfield Winter Sports Recreation Program:

Winter Sports 2018-2019 Sports teams including the travel teams are well underway and there is a lot of excitement. Please go to the Pittsfield Recreation Facebook Page for updates.

2. Pittsfield Community Theatre Movie Line-up:

Nov. 30 - Dec. 6 JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES AGAIN PG

Matinee Sunday, Dec.2 at 2 PM no evening show

Matinee Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 10 AM also plays at 7 :30 PM

Dec. 7 - 13 BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY PG-13

Matinee Sunday, Dec. 9 at 2 PM no evening Show

Dec. 8 our free Christmas movie is **THE POLAR EXPRESS PG**

Free Popcorn, Free Hot Chocolate, and drawing for gifts after the movie
Sponsor by the Warsaw Middle School JMG

Dec. 14 - 20 THE GRINCH PG

Matinee Sunday, Dec.16 at 2 PM no evening show

Matinee Wednesday, Dec. 19 at 10 AM also plays at 7 :30 PM

Dec. 21 - 27 INSTANT FAMILY PG-13

Matinee Saturday, Dec. 22 at 2 PM also plays at 7:30 PM
Matinee Sunday, Dec. 23 at 2 PM no evening Show

**Closed Dec. 24 Christmas Eve and Dec. 25 Christmas night will see you on
Dec. 26 at 7 PM**

**Starting January 1st 2019 we will no longer be doing Wednesday matinee 10
AM**

Special Events:

Jan. 12 fundraiser chili/ corn chowder

Feb. 9th fundraiser Valentine dance

**The Pittsfield Community Theatre is looking for new members. The group meets the
last Wednesday of every month at the Municipal Building Council Chambers at 6 pm.
You must be a town resident, like the Theatre, and want it to stay up and running.
Please e-mail pittsfieldtheatre@myfairpoint.net if you are interested or want to talk
more.**

6. NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE 18-8: (To be set to Public Hearing 12/18/2018) An Ordinance to authorize the transfer of unencumbered appropriation balances to various departments.

FROM:	01-45	Economic & Community Dev.	\$ 29,000
	10-10	Buildings & Grounds	\$ 6,000
	15-05	Transfer Station	\$ 27,000
	25-05	Recreation	\$ 8,000
TO:	05-10	Police	\$ 19,000
	05-20	Street Lights	\$ 2,000
	10-05	Public Works	\$ 45,000
	10-15	Cemetery	\$ 4,000

Moved by **Councilor Nichols** and seconded by **Deputy Mayor Stackhouse** that Ordinance 18-8 be moved to Public Hearing on December 18, 2018.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 18-110: Resolved that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager and Deputy Treasurer to expend and transfer up to \$5,000.00 from the Economic Development Account G4-110-02 for purchases for the Bicentennial Project, being the second installment of funding.

Moved by **Councilor Curtis** and seconded by **Deputy Mayor Stackhouse** that Resolution 18-110 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 18-111: Resolved that the Town Council waive the Bid Policy and accept the proposal of RHR Smith & Company, CPA of Buxton in the amount of \$9,900 for the Municipal, Water Enterprise and Sewer Enterprise Audits and \$2,500 for Single Audit for Grants if required for the Audit Year of 2018 and Approve the firm as the external auditor for the Town's 2018 Audit.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Donahue** that Resolution 18-111 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 18-112: Resolved that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager and Deputy Treasurer to invest surplus cash not required for the Town's checking account needs at Androscoggin Bank in short-term certificates of deposit with Androscoggin Bank as funds are available during the year and to execute all required paperwork.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Margolskee** that Resolution 18-112 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 18-113: Resolved that the Town Council appoint Connie LaGross to the Theatre Committee to fill an unexpired term through 12/31/2020.

Moved by **Councilor Nichols** and seconded by **Councilor Curtis** that Resolution 18-113 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 18-114: Resolved that the Town Council accept the proposal of Charter Communications Operating LLC in the amount of \$84.99 per Month and one time installation charge of \$99.00 for High Speed Internet service (100/10 MBS) and authorize the Town Manager or Assistant to the Town Manager to execute the Service Agreement.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Margolskee** that Resolution 18-114 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 18-115: Resolved that the Town Council approve a renewal application for a special amusement permit for the Seabasticook Valley Lodge of Elks at 140 Middle Street, Pittsfield, Maine 04967.

Moved by **Councilor Nichols** and seconded by **Deputy Mayor Stackhouse** that Resolution 18-115 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

RESOLUTION 18-116: Resolved that the Town Council move the regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting of Tuesday, January 1, 2019 to Wednesday, January 2, 2019 due to the holiday.

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Curtis** that Resolution 18-116 be adopted.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Financial

A. Financial Reports as of 11/30/2018

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

B. Other Reports as of 11/30/2018

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

8. REPORTS: Audience, Council

Audience:

Jan Laux- I got to know some of the family of George H. W. Bush, especially Barbara while I was the Associate Commissioner of Education in Maine. Barbara did a lot of programs at libraries in Maine and there are a lot of programs in existence now because of her efforts. They will both be missed and their community service efforts were above and beyond the call of duty.

I have noticed underlying currents of the Bicentennial celebration being great economic generators. Contests like the contest to come up with the Bicentennial slogan that we will be using next year can draw a lot of interest. The slogan "Pittsfield a Great Place to Call Home" or the one we decided upon, "Pittsfield a Good Place to Call Home" makes me think that we should try to figure out what exactly makes Pittsfield Good or Great and provide opportunities to use those things to draw interest to our community.

When we open the time capsule next year, we should think about what we would put into one now, and think about what would be in the "Then & Now" book in 50 years. No one will remember names, but in 50 years they will remember our decisions that our great-great grandchildren will inherit.

Please all come to tomorrow's tree lighting since the TV station will be attending and we can attract other people.

Don Hallenback-I would like the sidewalks to be sanded after they are plowed.

Michael LeBlanc- I have attended 6 council meetings and I have been a volunteer all of my life. I have never had an interest in town government but I think that he can represent the people in the community and wants to thank you all for the work that you all do in these meetings.

Peter Logiodice- As a resident who lives on School St., on the right side of School St., where it meets Somerset Ave., there was a large embankment of snow last year and it was near impossible to get by when a school bus was there and it looks like it is heading there again.

Steve Vance-To address school St., last year we had a large truck and this year we have a smaller one. We try to follow the curb and I'll see what I can do there. We might have to deal with that with the sidewalk plow, which is keeping the sidewalks cleared better than in years past. To address sanding of the sidewalks, that is something we have rarely done, only on rare cases have we spot-sanded by hand. We don't have the equipment or the resources to sand by hand. So I don't see it changing.

Donna Dunphy- I'd like to talk about the Pittsfield Players that are coming together. Connie and I have been having meetings and we had one in November to have a group come together. We plan to have auditions in January and hope to have a play up and going in the summer.

Council:

Councilor Bolster: absent.

Councilor Donahue: I'm excited about the Bicentennial banners around town. Jan brought up something else that I experienced when I was traveling. When I was in Ireland, they had a nationwide contest called "Tidy Town" which was basically a competition to spruce up the town. People would take a plain white stucco building and paint it all brilliant colors. It worked for them and it may work in central Maine. We could try something similar to increase pride in our community.

Councilor Margolskee: No comment.

Councilor Nichols: I went to the ribbon cutting ceremony at Innovation Specialties and it is amazing what they have done. It is a first class outfit, and quite an eye opener. Chad was very happy and accommodating and I wish him all of the luck in the world.

I am glad that Connie is going to be on the Theatre Committee.

The town looks very nice, very Christmassy. As far as the sidewalks go, I was going to ask that if we had a big ice storm, can we do it in a case-by-case basis? (Steve Vance-We have in the past and will as needed. If we want to do something like that going forward, we have to fund it.)

The reason that I ask is that people who walk can be infirm.

Councilor Curtis: I had a very interesting visit from a guy who just moved to town and he bought a business. He came down to the airport to see what was going on there. It is interesting to hear everybody's opinion on what makes Pittsfield great and his big thing is that there is less people and he didn't like living where it was so crowded. He said that there is only one thing that attracts people to Pittsfield (and I was wondering what he was going to say next) and he says it is the Sky Diving business. So I guess it all points to if you are driving on the Interstate, what is going to pull you off and come here.

Deputy Mayor Stackhouse: I would like to thank everyone in the audience for being here tonight. I was standing in line for a movie the other night and noticed the Bicentennial banners. They look very nice and I like them. I would like to echo Tim's comments about Innovative Specialties. It was a super

ceremony and Chad is very pleased to be in here. The business is amazing with how clean it was and was not what you would expect it to be. We have the "New Councilor" workshop coming up and every new councilor should go. Even some of the old councilors should go. I am going to take my own advice and ask Kathryn to sign me up. It is on 12/18/2018.

Kathryn, keep up the good work upstairs. You and your staff do a great job.

Everybody stay warm over the next week or so.

Mayor Cianchette: I would like to repeat what Bob said-Thank you all for showing up! It is nice to see a couple of people. Some new faces and some regulars. Mike Leblanc-thank you very much for your kind words. Getting a pat on the back will do wonders for anybody. I feel very proud of that and I think that what the town offers, like Sky Diving, is not what makes this town. It is the people who run this town that make it. It's not the Farms, the theatre or the banners put up in town, it is the people. The ground swell that the bicentennial is generating is growing more and more. It is exciting and hopefully when my tenure here is done, I would like to be more involved with that if my job allows. Part of the ground swell is Innovative Specialties and I think we should all be proud of that. This gentleman went through several years moving his business from Unity to Pittsfield, which is not all that different from us. He was so set on having his business in Pittsfield that he did a lot of the engineering himself and did a lot of the leg work on the grants. There was quite an effort on that, both on Kathryn's part and his. I just wish his new building that was put up was more visible so that people could see it when they drove by. It is a big deal.

We should all be very proud to have a new addition to the Industrial park.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by **Deputy Mayor Stackhouse** and seconded by **Councilor Nichols** to adjourn at 7:30 PM.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS AYE

Michael Feole, Deputy Town Clerk