

Regional Energy Forum sponsored by the Pittsfield Recycling Committee on Tuesday, 04/14/2009 at 6:30 p.m. at Vickery School Gym: Over 60 people were in attendance at the Regional Energy Forum. We had 3 great speakers – Doug Frati; Tom Roberts of the Snakeroot Organic Farm; and Emmie Theberge of the Natural Resources Council of Maine. We have certificates of thank you to be signed this evening by the Town Councilors.

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Trade Show and Community Fair for the Sebecook Valley Chamber of Commerce on Saturday, 05/02/2009: Update Read.

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting on Thursday, 05/07/2009 at 4:00 p.m. at the Sebecook Valley Chamber Building in Palmyra to set up committees to work on the 4 projects identified at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Leadership Forum: Projects identified.

Regional Job Fair for Somerset County, sponsored by the Somerset County Transition Team and the Town of Pittsfield on Wednesday, 05/27/2009 from 3:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at Warsaw School Gym and Cafeteria. We have wonderful news – a media sponsorship by the Employment Times to help get the word out worth over \$2,600. Notice read.

The Paul E. Bertrand Community Pool Complex Grand Opening is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2009 at 10:00 am at the Complex. We are working on the program for the event – speeches, certificates for the in-kind donations from the contractors, unveiling of the memorial plaques, tour of the facility and the Big Splash.

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

**Tabled from the 03/03/2009 Town Council Meeting:**

**RESOLUTION 09-26:** Resolved that the Town Council Authorize the Town Manager to Execute the Assignment and Assumption of Lease and Landlord Consent for high-speed internet services subject to approval of the Town Attorney.

This item was not discussed, as the presenter did not attend the meeting.

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

**Town Manager's Report: Town Council Meeting of 04/21/2009:**

**1. The FYI Folder:** The FYI Book contains the following items this week: SEE LIST

**2. Paul E. Bertrand Community Pool Fundraiser:** We are on the home stretch. Notice read.

**3. Theatre Restoration/Renovations Fundraiser:** Notice read.

**4. Sweeping Schedule:** Schedule read of what is done and the work that remains.

**5. Census 2010:** There are promotional items that the Town can do to help make sure that everyone is counted. The Census is important to the Town as it is part of the basis for funding formulas, grants, and economic development.

**6. Town Revenues and Expenditures:** Town Revenues are coming in very slowly and are below expected limits, even though we lowered revenue estimates significantly. Excise Tax is now running \$9,512 behind last year's statistics and State Revenue Sharing is running at \$23,786 behind last year's statistics. We are on an unofficial budget freeze. I spoke with everyone, I did not issue a directive at this point. If the late Spring does not bring any changes, we will have to look at other solutions. We need to lower spending, which frankly, for a town of our size, is not very large for municipal activities. At this point, I have not brought in the paving RFP as this would be a large chunk of the budget which could be utilized to offset the low revenue receipts (\$52,640 from taxes).

**7. Notice of Public Sale:** We have good news in that the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale and required statutory 60 day period expired without redemption on 214 Somerset Avenue. This means that the former Tax Acquired Property on Somerset Avenue, 214 Somerset Avenue can now be put out to Public Sale. READ Notice of Public Sale. I would assume that the situation stands as discussed at the last meeting – we should let the private sector bid on this. If the property sells, we will talk with the individual immediately about clean-up. If the property does not sell, it will apparently become the Town of Pittsfield's the next day. The next day, Public Works will go down and clean up the debris and garage outside the property.

**8. Pittsfield Water and Sewer Users Very Important Survey:** As a utility user in the Town of Pittsfield, you will receive a very important survey in the mail. Olver Associates, an engineering firm, will be tabulating the results. The Town is planning improvements to our older infrastructure. Many grant programs or low interest loan programs require that the Town conduct an income survey of utility users. We ask that anyone who has not yet returned the survey to do so by mail or in person. The survey and its results are very important to the future of the Town and our ability to upgrade the water and/or sewer system. Any questions, please contact the Pittsfield Town Office (487-3136). Thank you so much for completing this survey. We are starting to go out door to door now to collect the surveys so sending the survey back will save the Town money and time and save you time.

**9. Pittsfield Community Theatre Opens:** The Pittsfield Community Theatre opened on April 17, 2009 with Hotel for Dogs, which is a PG movie. There also was a matinee on Sunday April 19, 2009. The total count of children and adults for the weekend was 441 customers.

**Finance Committee:** Met tonight with Merrill Bank to separate some of our portfolio.

**Ordinance Committee:** Had a brief meeting tonight. Looked over the shoreland zoning ordinance. The Committee recommends we follow the basic state shoreland zoning ordinance and keep the 30% non-conforming expansion rule in place with no other zoning and/or additional restrictions added to that.

**Recycling Committee:** No Report

## 6. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **ORDER 09-05:** Ordered that the Town Council approve amendments to the Town of Pittsfield Recreation program fee schedule for organized recreation programming and sports programming for 2009.