



City of Old Town

Regular Council Meeting Minutes February 3, 2020

Council convened February 3, 2020 in the Old Town City Council Chambers, 265 Main Street

Councilors present – President David Mahan, Shirley Brissette, Donna Ketchen, Tim Folster, Carol May, Stan Peterson, and Kyle Smart

Administration present – Bill Mayo, Travis Roy, EJ Roach, David Russell, Danielle Berube, Dana Sibley, Irene Pehrson, Cynthia Jennings, John Rouleau, Scott Wilcox, Chris Baker, Lee Miller, and Lance Farrar

Others present – Ed Bearor, Esq., Liz Allen, Nina Mahaleris (Penobscot Times), Leda Theriault, Jim Mitchell, and Steve Taylor

Councilor President David Mahan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes

Resolved, the Old Town City Council hereby approves as presented the January 6, 2020 Regular Council Meeting minutes.

Motion made by Councilor Peterson, seconded by Councilor Brissette. *Approved, all in favor, 7-0*

Petitions, Communications, and Citizens' Requests

1. Liz Allen, Program Director, Maine Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (MLEAP), a program of the Maine Chiefs of Police Association, presented on the MLEAP program. She communicated the Old Town Police Department was the first in the State of Maine to achieve accreditation. The MLEAP assessors evaluated OTPD on-site and off-site and achieved full compliance. Scott Wilcox, Old Town Public Safety Director, and Lee Miller, Old Town Police Captain, were recognized and will be presented with an award on Friday, February 7, 2020.
2. Residents, Leda Theriault and Jim Mitchell expressed concerns that the public was not adequately informed on the actions regarding land/property on French Island. Jim

communicated he would like the City Councilors and City Attorney to look at said land/property.

Reports

A. Council President

1. Councilor David Mahan thanked Liz Allen, Program Director, MLEAP on her presentation. He further thanked Scott Wilcox and employees for their efforts.
2. Councilor Mahan shared Captain Michael Hildreth was named the Penobscot County Fire Officer of the Year. He communicated it was well deserved and thanked Public Safety Director Scott Wilcox and Captain Michael Hildreth for being outstanding employees. Councilor Mahan also thanked Fire Chief Eric Gifford, Bradley, and Fire and Rescue Chief Eric Strout, Levant, for their nomination of Captain Michael Hildreth for the Penobscot County Fire Officer of the Year award.
3. Councilor Mahan inquired if there were any thoughts on tax rate. Councilor Smart suggested keeping tax rate the same percentage. Councilors Brissette, May, Folster, Ketchen all communicated yes to keep the tax rate the same. Councilor Peterson also said yes, although further stated it was a good place to start.

B. Standing Committees – Finance, Public, Administrative & Economic Services; Landfill, Legislative, Sewer, Airport & Housing sub-committees

C. City Councilors

1. Councilor Smart had questions about the trash bag disposal costs; he suggested the actual cost be reviewed.
2. Councilor Smart also inquired if there was any progress on the house/property located at 393 Gilman Falls Avenue. Dave Russell, City of Old Town, Code Enforcement, communicated that in process of retaining a contractor to take Erlene Morgan's house down.

D. City Attorney

Ed Bearor, Esq. discussed the land/property on French Island that's owned by the City. He also discussed the Notice published recently as to anyone who feels they may have interest in the land to appear at the upcoming hearing.

E. Special Committees

F. City Manager

Bill Mayo updated the Council on the property tax relief fund is available to anyone in City who has a homestead exemption.

Consent Agenda – Items 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5

1. Resolved, the Old Town City Council hereby approves the reappointment of Donald Sturgeon to the Old Town Water District Board of Trustees for a 3-year term to expire March 31, 2023.
2. Resolved, the Old Town City Council hereby approves the reappointment of David Russell as Plumbing Inspector and William Murphy as Alternate Plumbing Inspector for term to expire December 31, 2020.
3. Resolved, the Old Town City Council hereby accepts an after-deadline redemption on foreclosed property, Account #3895, for Kassandra Lally located at 42 Karen Circle for payment of the 2018 taxes in the amount of \$620.97. This amount includes the tax amount of \$353.13, interest of \$50.37, lien cost of \$67.47, and late redemption fee of \$150.00. The City Council further authorizes the City Manager to execute a Municipal Quit-Claim Deed.
4. Resolved, the Old Town City Council hereby approves the Victualer’s License renewal application for Thymios Kotsias, d/b/a Riverside House of Pizza, LLC, 4 Free Street, pending David Russell, Code Enforcer’s final inspection.
5. Resolved, the Old Town City Council hereby approves the Victualer’s License renewal application for Sukumal Ngamrattanakul, d/b/a Thai Basil by Kim, 151 Main Street.

Motion made by Councilor Ketchen, seconded by Councilor May. *Approved, all in favor, 7-0.*

Public Hearings and Second Reading of Ordinances

Old Business

New Business

1. Resolved, the Old Town City Council hereby approves the Lease Agreement between the City of Old Town, a municipal corporation, and the Old Town Little League, a Maine non-profit corporation, for property located at 11 Gilman Falls for use as a baseball facility for a term of 10 years commencing on date document is signed and ending on same date 10 years later. (*Attachment 1*)

The City Council made note that 37 years prior that Council Tim Folster built the above-mentioned field.

Motion made by Councilor Folster, seconded by Councilor Peterson. *Approved, all in favor, 7-0.*

2. Resolved, the Old Town City Council hereby approves the land swap of a parcel of land 0.14 acres located on 2692 Old Bennoch Road, Old Town, by the Heirs of Erick Hutchins, to the City of Old Town, in exchange for land of equal value. The exchange is a voluntary

transaction involving mutual transfers of land or interests in the land between the Heirs of Erick Hutchins and the City of Old Town. The City Council further authorizes City Manager, William J. Mayo, to take any and all actions, upon such terms and conditions as he deems necessary or appropriate to conclude the transaction. All expenses accrued in the exchange will be paid by the Heirs of Erick Hutchins. (*Attachment 2*)

Motion made by Councilor Smart, seconded by Councilor Peterson. *Approved, all in favor, 7-0.*

3. Resolved, the City Council hereby approves going into Executive Session, pursuant to Title 1, M.R.S.A., §405(6)(A), for the purpose of discussing an Economic Development matter.

Motion made by Councilor Peterson, seconded by Councilor Smart. *Approved, all in favor, 7-0.*

Executive Session

The City Council went into Executive Session at 6:29 p.m.

Resolved, the Old Town City Council discussed an Economic Development matter in Executive Session, pursuant to Title 1, M.R.S.A., §405(6)(A).

Motion made by Councilor Brissette, seconded by Councilor Peterson, moved to adjourn Executive Session at 6:57 p.m. *Approved, all in favor, 7-0*

Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Smart, seconded by Councilor Peterson, moved to adjourn at 6:57 p.m. *Approved, all in favor, 7-0*

Respectfully submitted,

Dana M Sibley
City Clerk