



**TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 18 2008**

Fern Larochelle, Jr., At Large 2010
Charles Smith, At Large 2008
Michael Bowie, At Large 2009
Gina Mason, District 1 2010
Janet Henry, District 1 2009
Dale Crafts, District 2 2010
Norma Wells, District 2 2009

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE TO THE FLAG. The Chairman, Norma Wells, called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL. Members present were Councilors Wells, Smith, Bowie, Mason, Crafts, Henry, and Larochelle. Also, present were Stephen Eldridge, Town Manager; Nancy Bosse, Tax Collector; Ryan Leighton, Town Engineer; Ora Madden, Sewer Billing Clerk; Cathy Ricker, Finance Director; and approximately seventeen citizens in the audience.

PUBLIC HEARING

**RENEWAL LIQUOR LICENSE & SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT
SLOVAK CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION**

The Chairman opened the Public Hearing. There were no comments. The Chairman closed the public hearing.

CONSENT AGENDA

VOTE (2008-182) Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Crafts moved to approve the minutes of October 7, 2008 and a renewal Liquor License & Special Entertainment Permit for the Slovak Catholic Association. **Order passed - Vote 7-0.**

COUNCIL ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES

USE OF TOWN PROPERTY PERMIT - CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

VOTE (2008-183) Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Crafts moved to approve the Use of Town Property permit for the Christmas tree lighting ceremony on December 6, 2008 from 4-8pm.. **Order passed - Vote 7-0.**

SEWER FORECLOSURES

VOTE (2008-184) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Smith moved to authorize that the Sewer Clerk continue to collect sewer charges on the pending list of sewer liens (see attached). **Order passed - Vote 7-0.**

TAX FORECLOSURES

Mrs. Bosse gave an overview of the tax lien process and asked that the Council consider waiting before approving the attached list of foreclosure waivers. Mr. Eldridge noted that the town is waiting for responses from trailer park owners who may be interested in purchasing properties in question. The Council agreed to move this item to the next agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Ricker reported that revenue sharing is about the same as last year at this time. Excise is down by \$33,000 from the same period last year, but that will pick up in the spring. She responded to revenue questions from the last meeting. She noted that under the Homestead Exemption Act the town gets \$7,000 for each taxpayer, not \$13,000 that could be had if a new town evaluation was done.

B. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Eldridge and Chief Brooks attended the SADD/DARE program at Camp Kieve. Plans were discussed at Camp Kieve to include high school students in town affairs. The Town Manager and Mr. Leighton had an annual meeting with the Maine Turnpike Authority. Recommendations for the small island property will be given at the December 2 Town Council meeting. Discussions are underway with the Town of Bowdoin to share an Animal Control Officer. Volunteers for the Thanksgiving Dinner should see Rosie Bradley or Judy Hardy-Goddard.

C. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN - BUILDINGS

Mr. Eldridge offered to find grant money to repair town owned buildings, and asked the Town Council to give him direction. Councilors agreed that a workshop is necessary to set priorities for what needs to be done. The Campus Avenue School, Public Works building, MTM building, and the High School gym were all noted as needing work. Councilor Laroche recommended focusing on one building per workshop and also reviewing previous recommendations.

D. LISBON CODE REVIEW LIST

Mr. Eldridge submitted a code review list as asked for by Councilor Wells. Councilor Bowie asked that the Town Manager set up a schedule for these reviews.

E. RECREATION - PURCHASE OF VAN FOR SENIORS

The request to purchase a van has been withdrawn. The Recreation Department will rent for now. A report from Mr. Stevens will be on the December 16 agenda.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION - NONE

APPOINTMENTS

TWO COUNCIL MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE WORUMBO MILL REDEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Councilor Bowie and Councilor Mason volunteered to serve on a committee to review Worumbo Mill's redevelopment with Rosie Bradley.

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Henry praised the Public Works Department and the School Department for the good job they did preparing for and cleaning up after the Election. She also noted the high energy at the polls, especially with all the young voters. She also recommended that the Council work towards no new taxes.

Councilor Crafts congratulated the Lisbon football team for a great season.

Councilor Bowie added his congratulations to the Lisbon football team. He thanked Charlie Smith for all that he has done for the community.

Councilor Wells noted that Roger Cote is resigning from his positions on the Appeals Board and the Planning Board.

Councilor Smith commented on how positive and rewarding his sixteen years in public office have been and communicated the following:

He said, "Tonight's meeting concludes my involvement in town government representing the citizens of the Town of Lisbon. This activity has lasted for sixteen years and for the most part has been a positive and rewarding process. During this time I have had the pleasure working with many very talented and dedicated individuals which serve to carry out the day to day requirements involved in operating municipal government. Since first starting, I have seen many positive changes within the Town of Lisbon. These include the construction of the building we are sitting in, a new elementary school, a new form of government, many new and improved businesses, and a wide variety of utility infrastructure projects. I have seen many changes in personnel. I have worked with two Town Managers, three Fire Chiefs, three Public Works Directors, two finance directors, and many others who have come on board or left. I have served on a wide variety of committees. including The Building Needs Committee, Site selection committee for the Lisbon Community School, The Fire apparatus committee, and most recently the RSU committee just to name a few. I came here with no agenda or special interest and have maintained that approach throughout. I have always tried to be fair and open to all concerns. I called things like I saw them and have no regrets for my decisions. The past summer brought with it a new challenge for Lisbon Town Officials. The negative atmosphere displayed during this past summer and fall, which obviously was driven by personal agendas, special interest, and misinformation, resulted in additional expense for all Lisbon citizens. This coupled with the challenges of the extreme economic times makes progress within local government impossible and clearly places us at a huge disadvantage when competing for new business with other cities and towns. Lisbon is a great community, and in my view is poised to prosper in the years to come if we as citizens support the many sound economic opportunities, which will be offered to us. I realize that in view of the current state of the economy that is difficult to believe tonight, but by

maintaining a positive attitude by all citizens, and by Town Officials keeping the towns' best long term interests in mind, we all will share the rewards .which the future will bring. In closing, I would like to thank the citizens of the Town of Lisbon for the opportunity to serve you. Thank you."

EXECUTIVE SESSION - NONE

ADJOURNMENT

VOTE (2007-187) Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Bowie moved to adjourn at 7:55 P.M.
Order passed - Vote 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth French, Assistant Clerk

These minutes are not verbatim. Cassette tapes are filed in the Town Clerk's Office.