



## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 5, 2011

Mark Lunt, Chair District 1 2012  
Lori Pomelow, Vice Chair At Large 2012  
Roger Cote, At Large 2011  
Michael Bowie, District 2 2012  
Roger Bickford, District 2 2013  
Fern Larochelle, Jr., At Large 2013  
Gina Mason, District 1 2013

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

**ROLL CALL.** Members present were Councilors Bowie, Mason, Larochelle, Cote, Lunt, Pomelow, and Bickford. Councilor Mason and Larochelle were excused. Also present were Stephen Eldridge, Town Manager; Budget Advisory Board Members, Don Fellows, John Wierzbicki, and Dot Fitzgerald; and approximately eight citizens in the audience.

### **PUBLIC HEARING - NONE**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**VOTE (2011-1)** Councilor Lori Pomelow, seconded by Councilor Cote moved to approve the minutes of December 7, 2010. **Order passed - Vote 5-0.**

### **COUNCIL ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS, & ORDINANCES**

#### 2009 PROPERTY FORECLOSURES

**VOTE (2011-2)** Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Bickford moved to waive foreclosures on properties as requested (see attached).

#### PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dot Fitzgerald asked how many properties were involved. The Chairman replied, 16.

**Order passed - Vote 5-0.**

#### OLD GAZEBO AT SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Mr. Eldridge said Superintendent Green inquired about tearing down the old gazebo at the Superintendent's office. He said the old gazebo is falling apart and the upper part is not safe. It was suggested that Public Works tear it down.

**VOTE (2011-3)** Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Pomelow moved to have Public Works tear the old gazebo at the Superintendent's office down.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

**Order passed - Vote 5-0.**

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

## A. SCHEDULE DEPARTMENT TOURS

Mr. Eldridge said there were some scheduling conflicts for this weekend and the following weekend with the holiday. He recommended January 22, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. No objections were noted.

## B. 2011-2012 BUDGET SURVEY

Mr. Eldridge said Councilor Bickford recommended the town circulate a budget survey for public comment to see what service levels we are looking at for the upcoming budget season. The following distribution methods were discussed: door-to-door, internet, on a table with a sign at the Town Office. Mr. Lunt requested lines be added for comments and suggestions.

## C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Eldridge said it has been quiet around here for the past two weeks. The sidewalk blower had transmission problems, but it should be back in order by the end of the week. Mr. Eldridge and Mr. Benson have been working with the realtor for the Millers. There have been several interested parties looking at the Worumbo Mill. Lisbon hosted a meeting with MDOT and others to discuss the public meetings that were held. They all agreed to take the study to their Councils to get their recommendations, he said, and suggested a workshop on January 18.

Mr. Eldridge said Bill Van Tuinen is in today. He is ready to send our paperwork off to the State Tax Office so it should be on its way.

Don Fellows said Durham sends a monthly publication to its residents to keep them informed. Mr. Eldridge said we changed our format from quarterly to monthly now and it will be available at our website. Although we do have a bulk-mailing rate, it does cost something. The managerial report is monthly and should be posted on our website by the end of this month.

Councilor Cote suggested we use the phone system like the School Department does with cancellations, meeting, and important notices. Mr. Eldridge said we do have a calendar of events posted online at our website; he agreed to look into the phone system for the Council.

## **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Dot Fitzgerald said yesterday's voting for the citizen's initiative failed. She thanked everyone who helped gather the 400 signatures, acknowledging that she could not have done it alone. She thanked Michelle Swatsworth-Turmelle for her sharp eyes and notarization skills.

Don Fellows suggested the electronic board at the Town Office be duplicated and the messages mirrored in other locations in town. Mr. Eldridge said he and Mark Stevens have discussed having one at the MTM Center. Mr. Fellows indicated that the Worumbo Mill area would make a better location. Councilor Cote pointed out that the one at the Town Office is not seen at all unless you travel up that way.

## **APPOINTMENTS - NONE**

## **COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilor Pomelow asked for an update on the re-val and volunteered to check on newsletters, expenses, and formats other towns use.

Councilor Cote requested for the next agenda, two items: a workshop or meeting to discuss the recall process and getting the municipal budget into a ballot process. Councilor Lunt suggested it be a regular meeting so that the public could participate.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**VOTE (2011-5)** Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Cote moved to go into executive session to discuss Personnel Matters per 1 MRSA Section 405 (6) (A) at 7:23 PM. **Order passed - Vote 5-0.** The Council Secretary was dismissed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**VOTE (2011-7)** Councilor Mike Bowie, seconded by Councilor Cote moved to adjourn at 8:06 PM. **Order passed - Vote 5-0.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Twila D. Lycette, Council Secretary  
Town Clerk, Lifetime CCM/MMC