



**TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 26, 2007**

Layne Curtis, At Large 2007
Charles Smith, At Large 2008
Michael Bowie, At Large 2009
Gina Mason, District 1 2007
Janet Henry, District 1 2009
Dale Crafts, District 2 2007
Norma Wells, District 2 2009

DRAFT

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 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL. Members present were Councilors Smith (arrived 6:45 PM), Bowie, Mason, Henry, Crafts, and Wells. Also present were Curtis Lunt, Town Manager; Ryan Leighton, Town Engineer; Gerald Kamke, Treatment Plant Chief Operator; Roger Therriault, Town Attorney; and two citizens in the audience.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

VOTE (2007-096) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Mason, moved to enter executive session at 6:00 PM to discuss a personnel issue per MRSA Chapter 13 Section 405 (6)A. **Order passed - Vote 5-0.** The recording secretary was dismissed. The Council returned at 6:45 PM.

The Chairman called a recess at 6:45 PM and recalled the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

SEWER BUDGET

Mr. Leighton explained that several credits, issued particularly to trailer parks, contributed to reduced revenues this year, though with increased usage he is still looking into the causes. He added that there are plans to increase the septage income. Mr. Kamke explained that they are working hard to get rid of the unusual level of odor by July 4th, and that he expects capacity and operations to be back in top shape by the end of July. Mr. Leighton said that next year they will be retiring the centrifuge lease, which is over \$50,000, but that in a couple of years there will be another needed rate increase. Mr. Bowie asked if rates were divided by usage as discussed at last year's budget meeting; Mr. Leighton said no. Mr. Lunt explained that it was not high enough on the priority list.

Maintenance went over budget this year, partially due to a situation at Winter Park, and upgrades to audible alarms on the pump stations. Mr. Leighton explained that temporary wages would be increasing to cover longer-term seasonal part-time help. He also explained that he is attempting to add some of the Treatment Plant electricity to the Town Buildings contract to obtain a flat rate that would save money. Councilor Smith asked when the current sludge disposal contract is up; Mr. Kamke said that the contract was never actually signed by EarthTech or the Town, and that a new company is working on a draft contract to be reviewed around early to mid July.

Mr. Leighton explained that rebuilding the clarifier will cost approximately \$50,000, though only \$30,000 was requested, and suggested that it would be worth it to accept a bid from a factory certified, warranteed servicer. Mr. Leighton suggested that some or all of the difference could be paid from undesignated surplus.

Janet Henry left at 7:25 PM and returned at 7:28 PM.

Mr. Leighton explained that a new truck is needed to replace an old Ford F150. The Council requested that setting rate tiers by usage be made a high priority this year, and a tier schedule be completed before the end of the calendar year.

VOTE (2007-97) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Smith, moved to use \$20,000 from undesignated funds and add those funds to Capital Line Items to offset the cost of rebuilding a clarifier, and to approve a total budget of \$1,058,450. **Order passed - Vote 6-0.**

VOTE (2007-98) Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Crafts, moved to approve a \$2,222.80 bonus to be issued to Ryan Leighton, Town Engineer, for his performance at the Treatment Plant. **Order passed - Vote 6-0.**

VOTE (2007-99) Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Bowie, moved to approve a sewer rate of \$4.50. **Order passed - Vote 6-0.**

VOTE (2007-100) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Smith, moved to change the summer average credit readings in Zone 2 to May and August. **Order passed - Vote 6-0.**

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Wells stated that the Deputy Welfare Director position needs to be addressed, and suggested that an ad written by the Town Manager be posted, and the current job description be discussed and possibly revised by the Council. Councilor Mason suggested changing the hours from twenty to a minimum of twenty. Councilor Wells suggested reducing the search time to July 15th.

Councilor Wells expressed concern that a farewell party will cause office closure; Mr. Lunt stated that the front counter clerks would like to attend. He added that a look-out is posted to make sure citizens are cared for.

VOTE (2007-101) Councilor Crafts, seconded by Councilor Henry, nominated Michael Bowie to the office of Vice Chair. There were no other nominations. **Councilor Bowie was elected Vice Chair - Vote 5-0-1 (abstained: Bowie).**

Councilor Wells said that the Library is looking for volunteers to help for an hour or two during the Moxie Festival for a book sale.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTE (2007-102) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Smith, moved to adjourn at 8:00 PM. **Order passed - Vote 6-0.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Juliet C. LeBlond
Legislative Recorder

DRAFT