



**TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 16, 2007**

Charles Smith – At Large  
Layne Curtis – At Large  
Michael Bowie – At Large  
Gina Mason – District 1  
Janet Henry – District 1  
Dale Crafts – District 2  
Norma Wells – District 2

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

ROLL CALL. Members present were Councilors Smith, Curtis, Bowie, Mason, Henry, and Crafts. Councilor Wells was excused. Also present were Curtis Lunt, Town Manager; Rodney Moody, Finance Director; Twila Lycette, Town Clerk; Ryan Leighton, Town Engineer; and approximately fifteen citizens in the audience.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**VOTE (2007-04)** Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Crafts, moved to adopt the following consent items: (A) Minutes of 1/2/2007, and (B) Letters to Legislators Re: Route 9 Funding. Order passed - Vote 6-0.

**COUNCIL ORDERS, ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

CATV RATE INCREASES - TIME WARNER

**VOTE (2007-05)** Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Smith, moved to approve the Time Warner CATV rate increases for basic programming and equipment & installation fees. Order passed - Vote 6-0.

The Council agreed by general consensus to allow Mr. Lunt to research franchise information, as well as speaking with various television service providers, in order to gain leverage in dealing with Time Warner. Franchise negotiations with Time Warner will be held on Thursday.

SALE OF LOT & BUILDING TO LISBON EMERGENCY

**VOTE (2007-06)** Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Curtis, moved to approve the sale of Lot 5 Map U13 and building to Lisbon Emergency, Inc., for the sum of \$25,000 to be paid on a 10-year schedule with an interest rate of 5%, with the property to revert to the Town unless used by Lisbon Emergency for 10 years as an ambulance facility and to authorize the Town Manager to execute the closing documents. Councilor Bowie seconded by Councilor Crafts moved to amend the Order to defer the payments and conditions for five years. Amendment passed - Vote 6-0. Order as amended passed - Vote 6-0.

**OTHER ITEMS**

FINANCIAL REPORTS - TOWN & SCHOOL

Mr. Moody explained the Town financial reports. General Assistance is expecting reimbursement from the State. Mr. Moody will be requesting reimbursement for the Economic Development line. The Animal Control Officer billed Sabattus in December for services in 2006, with payment not yet received. Excise Tax is down 3% from last year, though the Town of Brunswick has reported lower income as well. Public Works, Town buildings, and the MTM Center all have paid out a high percentage of their budgets due to prepaid gas.

School Dept did not update the potential transfer sheet for their report, possibly because there is no change.

### BOOKER STREET PARKING

William Bauer explained that there are narrower roads in town that are not marked. He also asked where service vehicles could park, and mentioned that many local service providers do not mark or sign their vehicles. Councilor Curtis offered suggestions including hourly limits, and adding landlords to the allowed vehicles in the winter parking ban. Councilor Bowie stated that the Town hadn't been following the ordinance until recently because parking got out of control. Councilor Curtis said that they could update the ordinance during the scheduled revision this spring. Mr. Lunt explained that before the street was marked Public Works was constantly having cars towed for snow removal every year.

Faye Brown of Booker Street said that she is probably the most directly impacted by the parking ban, having four cars in her driveway, but that she doesn't feel the Town should be responsible for adequate visitor parking. She added that the Booker Street Park is intended to be a neighborhood park and that the residents are trying to keep out the "bad element".

Mike Pass of 8 Booker Street is a landlord, and said that he is constantly working on his buildings, and when tenants are home they have nowhere to park. He added that currently he sees mainly teenagers in the park drinking and smoking marijuana, and that it should be a parking lot.

Councilor Bowie recommended 2 hour parking during normal business hours. Mr. Lunt explained that the Police Chief has the ability to allow experimental parking. Councilor Bowie agreed that it would be a good idea to get data before the ordinance revision in the spring.

Curtis Pass also owns property on Booker Street, and suggested having no overnight parking year round. Councilor Crafts said that there should be parking available in the tenant parking lot during the day because people are at work. He also said that the ordinance should be uniform regarding the smaller streets.

**VOTE (2007-07)** Councilor Bowie seconded by Councilor Smith moved to allow the Chief of Police to utilize experimental parking on Booker Street for data collection purposes. Order passed - Vote 4-2 (opposed: Henry, Curtis).

### LIBRARY SERVICES DIRECTOR

Diane Nadeau explained the library renovation, the origins, the plan, and how it came to fruition. The Library is the only fully handicap accessible building in the Town of Lisbon. She also presented the upgrades to shelving and storage which were purchased with last year's budget, including money from the sale of the Lisbon Village Library. Diane thanked Roger Roy, Norm Lamphere, and Ryan Leighton for their help throughout the process. The Council thanked Mrs. Nadeau and the Library Governing Board for their responsible use of the funds. Mr. Bowie requested an estimate for what it would take to utilize a skylight found during the reconstruction.

### LIBRARY GOVERNING BOARD

Robin Tupper explained the functions, achievements, and goals of the Library Governing Board. Mrs. Tupper also said that the Board is interested in gaining its own internet access for the purpose of building and maintaining a separate web page with several interactive features currently not available. She added that the Board is currently at work on the budget. Mr. Lunt requested a draft of the Ordinance update they have submitted that shows what changes are requested.

### TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Donald Barter, Technology Committee Chairman, explained the purpose and goals of the technology committee, as well as the accomplishments of the last year. In 2007, the committee hopes to complete a draft technology plan, identify short and long term issues, and submit a budget. The Maine Municipal Association (MMA) has offered specific software for use in developing the town website, which Mr. Barter recommended for use, for \$45 a month and a one time licensing fee of \$1,050. Mr. Lunt will distribute the informational package provided by MMA. In the long term, the committee hopes to offer more interactive online services such as vehicle and dog registrations and tax information and payments. They also hope to implement an information technology department.

MAINE ELECTRONICS

Mr. Leighton explained that there has never been a sewer treatment rate contract with Maine Electronics. In 2001, a rate of \$1.50 per 100 cubic ft. was set; the rate was low because the company does not generate sludge, only pass-through. At that time the company planned to move their discharge to the Sabattus River, but they have discovered that it is more cost effective to leave it in Lisbon. Maine Electronics has requested that the Council write a letter of intent stating that they aren't going to raise the discharge rate. Mr. Lunt explained the history surrounding the company, and said that they started their project to clean up the river in 1994 with a 20-year plan of operation. Councilor Smith asked if the rate should be changed to reflect the current electricity usage for their pass-through. Mr. Leighton stated that he could identify their use, and that he suspects it is still a fair rate. Councilor Bowie suggested leaving the current rate until the next sewer budget for research purposes, as the Council intends to do a rate chart for different types of industrial business at that time.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT / 2007 GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Mr. Lunt reminded the Council that there is a workshop scheduled for Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 PM.

Mr. Lunt met with Faye Brown and Cheryl Haggerty to review certain park handoffs and an "Adopt A Spot" program for businesses. He has also developed a 2007 calendar year of Town Manager goals with the understanding that a special workshop may be held January 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Comprehensive Plan Committee has advertised a public hearing for February 7<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lunt expects the 144-page plan to go to the Planning Board for review and recommendation and to the Council in March for final adoption.

The Chamber of Commerce has invited the Council to its grand opening of the new Lewiston Pontiac Building offices on January 25<sup>th</sup> from 4 PM to 7 PM. Also, the Campus Ave Reuse Committee has scheduled an open house for the same date from 3 PM to 6 PM with a meeting at 7 PM.

Mr. Lunt has advertised for eight openings on five committees, and has six new applicants but two more resignations.

2007-08 BUDGET SCHEDULE

Mr. Lunt proposed the following Budget calendar:

Tuesday, Feb. 27	6 PM	School/Town Budgets Presented to Council/Budget Advisory Bd.
Tuesday, Mar. 13	6 PM	Council Review of Budget with Budget Advisory Bd.
Tuesday, Mar. 27	6 PM	Public Hearing on Proposed Budgets
Tuesday, Apr. 10	6 PM	Council Review of Town Budget
Thursday, Apr. 19	6 PM	Council Review of Town Budget
Tuesday, Apr. 24	6 PM	Council Review of School Budget
Tuesday, May 8	6 PM	Council Review of School Budget
Thursday, May 10	6 PM	Council/Budget Advisory Bd. Review of Combined
Tuesday, May 22	6 PM	Public Hearing on Proposed Budgets
Tuesday, May 27	6 PM	Adoption of School & Town Budgets

Councilor Curtis stated that only the first and last scheduled meetings are unchangeable.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Due to the difficulty in keeping Committee members, Councilor Curtis asked the Council if they preferred to continue using the current interview process, appoint people based on their paper applications, or not appoint anyone at all until after future discussions on committee consolidation. Councilor Bowie stated that he prefers the interview process because it is important to meet and talk with them before they are appointed. Councilor Crafts said that the recent resignations are mainly due to legitimate personal reasons. The Council agreed by general consensus to continue using the current interview process.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Miss Brown explained that Booker Street had been posted before, around six years ago, and that the signs slowly disappeared. She also said that she has minutes, pictures, expenditures, and other documentation for the Green Thumb Gang as requested by the Council previously. Miss Brown also mentioned that there is a drainage problem at the newly remodeled Boat Launch, and that there are gardens blocking a spot previously used by kayakers. Councilors Crafts and Mason said that there is a lot of erosion there, and a pool around the flagpole. Mrs. Tupper stated that the birch tree has to be moved during the spring or it will die, and that it will be moved.

#### APPOINTMENTS

##### REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

**VOTE (2007-08)** Councilor Crafts, seconded by Councilor Smith, moved to reappoint Twila Lycette as Registrar of Voters. Order passed - Vote 6-0.

#### GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION / ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Bowie said that he thought we would be writing a couple of letters from the discussion with Sen. Nutting, and that he didn't see documentation. Councilor Curtis explained that they were part of the Consent Agenda, and would be signed that night.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

#### ADJOURNMENT

**VOTE (2007-09)** Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Bowie, moved to adjourn at 8:57 PM. Order passed - Vote 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Juliet C. LeBlond  
Assistant Town Clerk