



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JULY 19, 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. Also present were Stephen Eldridge, Town Manager; Scott Benson, Economic Development; Miriam Morgan-Alexander, Board of Appeals; and approximately eight citizens in the audience.

PUBLIC HEARING

SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT-FIREHOUSE DINER

The Chairman opened the Public Hearing. Karen Pelletier, owner of the Firehouse Diner, said she wanted a special entertainment permit. She said she wanted to have a grand opening celebration for the Firehouse Diner. There were no comments from the public. The Chairman closed the Public Hearing.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Larry Fillmore said there was a difference of \$602,759 between the amount budgeted and the amount spent. He said where is that money. He said he would like to see the town give the taxpayers refunds like the State and Federal governments.

Dorothy Fitzgerald asked if the town pays sales tax on the Moxie t-shirts and Moxie soda pop that the town sells. Mr. Eldridge said no and that there would be a full report and accounting of the Moxie Festival later.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said a man called her about two of his properties that were foreclosed upon without his knowledge. She said Mrs. Maloy had indicated the town prefers not to go into foreclosure, but would rather work with taxpayers. She said she looked at the Androscoggin County deeds website for information. Mrs. Fitzgerald said she found on that website that the man had numerous liens and numerous discharges, which she said, showed that he had attempted to pay his taxes. She said she was aware this issue was going to be discussed in Executive Session, and indicated she did not think it was right for the town to foreclose on these properties.

CONSENT AGENDA

SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT FOR THE FIREHOUSE DINER AND THE MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2011.

VOTE (2011-127) Councilor Cote, seconded by Councilor Pomelow moved to approve the Special Entertainment Permit for the Firehouse Diner and the minutes of June 21, 2011.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Order passed - Vote 7-0.

COUNCIL ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS, & ORDINANCES

MMA ANNUAL ELECTION

VICE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

VOTE (2011-128) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Pomelow moved to cast a ballot for Stephan Bunker for Vice President, and for Errol "Abe" Additon, Beurmond Banville, and Laurie Smith for Directors.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Order passed - Vote 7-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Eldridge said the Finance Director is on vacation and so there is no Finance Department update at this time. He said since we are only two weeks into the fiscal year there is very little to report.

Mr. Eldridge said CMP sent Lisbon residents a letter about Smart Meters. CMP is starting to install Smart Meters in Lisbon. Residents who do not want a Smart Meter must fill out a form provided by CMP.

Mr. Eldridge said Councilors have the Strategic Planning schedule. The next Strategic Planning meeting on Tuesday July 26 will look at Charter amendments. On August 9, the Council will meet with the Chair and Vice-Chair from most of the committees. The August 16 Council meeting will have a light agenda so that there will be time for discussion of Strategic Planning.

Mr. Eldridge said three more wells on Route 9 have been tested. Two wells have passed. The one remaining well has shown progressively less salt but that will be continued to be monitored. He said it looks like we will not have to spend any more money on these wells.

Mr. Eldridge said that Scott Benson and he met with the new owners of Blue Ridge Fiber (Knight Celotex). The new owners are a Maine company called Equipment Connection. They buy and sell large equipment all over the country through eBay. They are working with the town to try to find a buyer.

Councilor Bowie asked about the first reading of the MTM Park ordinance. Mr. Eldridge said they haven't had a chance to work on it yet, but that it would be ready by the next meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

ANNUAL CIVIL CONSTABLE RE-APPOINTMENTS

Councilor Pomelow, seconded by Councilor Cote moved to appoint Lucien Asselin, Harry Gorman, and Harry Darling as Civil Constables.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Order passed – Vote 6-0-1. (Abstained: Bowie)

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Pomelow thanked all of the Moxie volunteers for their hard work. She said the Moxie festival was a big success and a positive example of what Lisbon is all about.

Councilor Pomelow said the sound quality of the last Council meeting was terrible and that they are working to determine the problem so that it doesn't happen again.

Councilor Pomelow said she included an agenda from the Brunswick Town Council so that the Council could see how a similar town runs its meetings. She said that when the Council Working Rules are finalized the new version will be on the back page of the Agenda.

She said that the change in location of Audience Participation to the beginning of the meeting is so that the public can ask questions that will inform the Council so that they can ask questions when information is being provided to them from the Town Manager, Department Heads, and others. She said it was never intended that the public be cut off from the opportunity to speak.

Councilor Mason said that the Moxie festival was a huge success. She said Frank Anicetti said it was the busiest he's ever been and that people were waiting in line for over an hour to try to get into his store. She said there were over 80 units in the parade with some people showing up the day of the festival to be in the parade. She said Public Works worked very hard to get everything ready, as did many of the volunteers.

Councilor Larochelle said that driving around Lisbon on Moxie Day he could see the economic impact of the festival. He said that McDonald's was trying to beat their record at the drive-thru and this year had 100 people go through within an hour. He said economically Moxie Days plays a big role in Lisbon. He said Scott Benson and all the people who worked for the Moxie festival did a great job. He said he had never seen vendors still vending at 3:30 in the afternoon. He thanked all of the participants.

Councilor Bickford said he had been in the parade for twenty years and that this year was the best one. He said it went smoothly and the Maine Trail Riders Association thanked Councilor Mason for her good work.

Councilor Lunt said that he helped carry books for the library book sale and they made almost \$3,000. He said the book sale has grown every year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY

VOTE (2011-130) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Larochelle moved to go into Executive Session per 1 MRSA Section 405 (6)(C) to discuss Economic Development and acquisition of real property at 7:25 PM. **Order passed – Vote 7- 0.**

The Council came back from executive session and moved into regular session at 8:23 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTE (2011-132) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Cote moved to adjourn at 8:23 PM.
Order passed - Vote 7- 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth French
Assistant Town Clerk