



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 4, 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 Larochele, 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, Larochele, Cote, Lunt, Pomelow, and Bickford. Also present were Stephen Eldridge, Town Manager; Ryan Leighton, Town Engineer; Budget Advisory Board members Dot Fitzgerald and Don Fellows; and approximately 14 citizens in the audience.

PUBLIC HEARING - NONE

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

THANK YOU GREEN THUMB GANG VOLUNTEERS

Faye Brown said she would like to thank the longtime members of the Green Thumb Gang: **Julianne Baumer, the Kazimer family**, Anita Marenus, A. Noyes Lawrence, Sherie Voigt, and Shelli Voigt. On October 6 fourteen years ago we started this group and it's been extremely successful.

PUBLIC WORK'S POSITION TERMINATED TO PART-TIME

Ms. Brown said I am appalled that Mark Jones's job has been terminated to a part time position under this administration. I just can't work when I don't have the help that I need. I understand that times are tough, but we had such a good working relationship before it was taken away, and I can't do it, I'm 65 years old, and I can't keep doing it to the level I was.

RESIGNATION FROM GREEN THUMB GANG

Ms. Brown said I'm here tonight to announce that I will no longer be associated with the Green Thumb Gang because I cannot work with this administration. I've been a volunteer in Lisbon since I was 11 years old and I think that anyone I've ever worked with on many projects would say I was a good volunteer. It will be very difficult to give up, but I am.

Councilor Lunt said, "thank you Faye." We appreciate the work you have done for the town over all that time.

Dot Fitzgerald said this is a sad, sad day indeed. Scott Benson's presentation last week mentioned the gardens and what an asset they are to this town. With Faye and Mark Jones gone, the gardens may be no more.

Larry Fillmore said I agree this is a very sad day for this town.

WORKSHOP AGENDA AND HANDOUTS FOR PUBLIC

Mr. Fillmore asked that the workshop agenda and handouts be available to the citizens like the regular meetings are. We sit here in darkness, he said. We cannot speak but we could follow along if we had the handouts. We can't comment during the workshop, but if we had the documentation we could follow along. Then at the next Council meeting we would have something to discuss with the Council. As it is now, there are no workshop agendas posted to the calendar. Topics are being discussed without giving prior notice to the people in the audience who may want to know what is going on with those projects had they been announced, he said. Mr. Fillmore said I feel as though it is only appropriate that you do this for the Council workshops since you do this for the Council meetings. We could bring stuff up under Audience participation at the next Council meeting if we have the documentation to follow along with to know what you are doing.

Councilor Lunt said I think that is not unreasonable. We can't always do it necessarily, but we can try to get some of that out there for the public. Councilor Lunt said we will certainly work on that.

PURCHASE ORDER ISSUED TO FCI

Mr. Fillmore said can anybody tell me if we have cancelled the illegal purchase order issued to FCI? It was not in accordance with the purchasing policy of the town. The amount of that was \$5,700. Any purchase order over \$5,000 has to be done using the formal bid process and this was not done that way. Mr. Fillmore said I feel as though the \$5,700 purchase order needs to be immediately cancelled because it was not in accordance with the purchasing policy. If the Fire Chief deems it necessary for that project, then he can come back and go through the purchasing policy requirements that you people approved at the last meeting.

Mr. Eldridge said there was never a purchase order created for that. The money was requested and appropriated for that particular project. That particular project had been put on hold. We have some other items to look at first and probably this project will not move forward from what I'm hearing. So, it may not be done although the money was earmarked, it stays in the general fund.

PURCHASE ORDER TO WILLIAM VAN TUINEN

Mr. Fillmore asked if there had been a contract or purchase order issued to Mr. Van Tuinen for the re-evaluation of the town. Mr. Eldridge said, yes we have a contract.

PETITION FORMS FOR THE ETHICS PANEL

Mr. Fillmore said I came in to the Town Office yesterday to get a petition in accordance with the town charter, Chapter 12. Twila informed me there was no petition available and she told me she would have to create one and that once it was approved she would call me and I could pick it up. She did everything she told me she was going to do. I received it today, but my concern is that if we have procedures outlined in our Charter that when we come to the town office those forms should be available to us immediately. Now this isn't Twila's fault. I'm saying she did everything she told me she would do and she did a good job, but those things are supposed to be available to the citizens so we can comply with the town's Charter. If it's not there, what is it good for, he said.

Councilor Lunt said this was the first that he has heard about that this year.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION WITHIN LISBON NEEDED

Lisa Ward said she received a letter she believed was copied to the entire Council from Charlotte Rainha who couldn't be here tonight because she is recovering from surgery. Ms. Ward said, I promised her that I would bring it up for her. She's concerned about the lack of local transportation for seniors. I know you are all aware of it. I think that the letter she wrote was direct and to the point. Because I know Charlotte personally, I also think she would be happy to help us find a way to make transportation

within Lisbon more possible. I wanted to make sure I brought it up. I know that Charlotte would appreciate it.

CONSENT AGENDA

By General Consent the Council removed the minutes of September 20. No objections were noted.

VOTE (2011-183) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Larochelle moved to approve the minutes of September 13 and the Pole Permit for the Bowdoinham Road. **Order passed - Vote 7-0.**

Councilor Pomelow pointed out a typo to be corrected on page 8 and said that under Vote 2011-176 the tax due date September 25 should be September 15.

VOTE (2011-183b) Councilor Pomelow, seconded by Councilor Mason moved to amend the minutes of September 20 under **Vote 2011-176** by striking September 25 and inserting September 15. **Order passed - Vote 7-0.**

Atlantic Salmon Federation presentation moved to here.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. ATLANTIC SALMON FEDERATION PRESENTATION

Andrew Goode, from the Atlantic Salmon Federation in Brunswick said he has been there for 35 years. He said we are a nonprofit group supported by the angling community. He said, obviously as the name implies, our focus is restoring Atlantic salmon. A lot of our work is down east and up on the Penobscot River, but we've started reaching out. We are right next door to the Androscoggin. Salmon is coming back to the river so we started to look for ways to restore not just Atlantic salmon, but native migratory sea-run fish to the Androscoggin, much like we are doing at other watersheds, but probably on a much smaller scale.

Mr. Goode said I'm going to talk a little about the fish passage work we have done locally and then talk more in depth about the Sabattus River. He indicated they would be conducting an engineering study around the Mill Street dam and the Farnsworth dam, which is owned by Miller Industries.

Mr. Goode said the Sabattus River flows out of the Sabattus Pond. There are several ponds in that watershed; the Sabattus Pond itself is pretty big. Historically, Marine Resources thinks that was a really large producer of sea-run alewives and blueback herring, which are the two river herrings we find in all Maine rivers. The state has been stocking it with herring since 1983. The herring run in the Androscoggin for the most part come back to the Brunswick dam. It is somewhat amazing to me that they've been stocking it since 1983 and have never looked at fish passage before. At any rate, there's some opportunity to look at that now. This is a project that is about restoring the river herring, blueback herring, and alewives. It's not a project about restoring Atlantic salmon. But, one of the reasons we are interested in them is that alewives are critical in these watersheds to Atlantic salmon at several different life stages. Wherever you look, whether it's Canada or here in New England, when you've lost your river herring, you've generally lost your Atlantic salmon. They're what we call a co-evolved species.

Mr. Goode said the Androscoggin River historically has 12 different species of migratory fish, but alewives and the other river herring make up the bulk of the fish coming up this river. They are found from South Carolina all the way up to Newfoundland. They are in all the salmon rivers in Quebec. They are the base of the food chain and have been declining everywhere. As a matter of fact, it may be considered a threatened species, which is hard to imagine because Maine has a pretty viable population.

Wherever we've taken out dams or put in fishways to allow alewives into their native habitat, they've responded, and populations have come back really well.

Mr. Goode said the alewives come up the rivers in May. They have to spawn in ponds or lakes, so they come up the rivers and go to a pond or lake. They are there for three weeks. They spawn and the adults leave. The juveniles grow up in the pond or lake for the summer and the juveniles leave in August and September. You can see schools of thousands of juvenile herring coming down over the Mill Street Dam.

Mr. Goode said this year Inland Fisheries and Wildlife documented the largest eagle aggregation in modern times in New England in the Sebecook. There were 150 eagles, never mind ospreys, during the months of May and June feeding on that restored alewife run.

Mr. Goode said shad are another species that were here in abundance in the Androscoggin. We still find them. There are still quite a few below the Brunswick fishway. We are trying to find ways to get them further upstream. I've already referred to the fact that pretty much everything eats alewives; they are a very oily, high caloric fish. There are no commercial fisheries south of Maine; they have all been shut down. In Maine we have perhaps 27 different rivers supporting commercial fisheries. As we implement the Penobscot project we are working to reconfigure some of the dams, we think it is going to explode over time the alewives up there.

Mr. Goode said the Atlantic Salmon Federation only works collaboratively with owners. This was a dam on the Little River on the **Lisbon/Topsham** line owned by Miller Industries. This is what we call low hanging fruit. It was a small dam, probably a lot of salmon could get right back over that. Marine Resources has documented American eel, sea lampreys, and Atlantic salmon: all migratory fish coming in from the ocean coming up into the Little River. What's nice about the Little River is that if you go down below that area it cascades quite a bit, then there is a big drop where Route 196 goes over it. Some of the non-native fish like pike and smallmouth bass can't get up that drop. In the Little River you have a lot of pristine habitat for this part of Maine. To digress a bit, this year we raised some money, along with the Androscoggin River Alliance, and tagged a lot of salmon coming back to the Brunswick dam. They documented some of those salmon coming up into the Little River just in the last couple of weeks.

Mr. Goode said that dam had to come out because Miller was looking to get rid of some property and the dam had some backflow that was creating a problem around the edge of the dam. It was a pretty easy project. We hired Shaw Brothers and in one week they took the dam out and cleaned up the site. Subsequently Miller has transferred the property to the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust. It's a popular spot for trout fishing. The state stocks it. The dam was removed in September 2009.

Mr. Goode said up on the Penobscot on Blackman Stream we finished building a fishway last year. This was a site that was open to the public. There was a historic logging museum. We worked with the landowner to design something that fit in with the historical character of that site. We built a rock and pool fishway. We think over time this is going to be a real draw. People have been up to Damariscotta Mills to see the alewife migration in May. It's really worth seeing in May around Mother's Day. That's open to the public and is sort of a bigger version of this one. For many more remote places on private property you can build these Denil fishways at the outlet of some of these ponds and lakes, which allows alewives to get up there a little less expensively.

Mr. Goode said probably the biggest priority for the state for alewives is in the Sabattus River. A lot of the ponds that connect to it are very small, except for the Sabattus Pond that's the biggest. Currently, there are five dams there with fish passage. We've been involved with the Little River dam. *Miller Industries owns the first two dams on the Sabattus River so their representatives are talking to us about trying to do something. Why I am here, he said, is because we don't know what that "do something" is; that's the work we are collectively going to figure out.*

Mr. Goode said the complication is that Atlantic salmon were listed as an endangered species; we are starting to see this with all migratory fish. We have shortnose sturgeon right below the Brunswick dam

listed as endangered. We have Atlantic sturgeon listed as threatened. We have different species under consideration. It's a little bit crazy with our migratory species, but Atlantic salmon is listed as endangered. Even though the Sabattus River is really a warm river, it's not an Atlantic salmon habitat, it's still considered critical habitat and that would be a much longer conversation about why that is. ***U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services and Miller Fisheries have joint jurisdiction.*** NOAA is in the process of developing a general conservation plan for non-hydropower dams. For the most part any landowner that could take a salmon or injure or harm a salmon is going to have an incidental take from it. ***Dam owners are going to have to get an "incidental take permit," which can be prohibitively expensive, particularly for a private landowner. What this general conservation plan entails is that a general permit will be required from NOAA or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that indicates they [the private dam owner or town] comply with certain provisions, which is in the process of being developed.*** Federal agencies do a terrible job at outreach; they've already had three public meetings and I haven't been anywhere yet, he said, where the town even knows about these meetings.

Mr. Goode said the bottom line is the implications of the Endangered Species Act, over time will likely promote fish passages at all dams. That is certainly something to consider. It certainly won't be next year or within the next few years. It's something to be aware of. Our interest in doing this fish passage work is really outside of the whole Endangered Species Act. We've been doing it for quite a long time. We've built a lot of fishways and moved several dams. We've learned a lot along the way. We've got good recommendations from people we've worked with. Our interest here is working outside of the regulatory arena to work with landowners and towns.

Mr. Goode said the Farnsworth Mill dam is a complex one. The Little River dam was an easy one, then you get opposite ends of the spectrum with this lower dam. You've got a water main that is located above the dam. There is mercury contamination that's around the water main. The dam is old, the stop logs had been damaged in a storm, so Miller Industries representatives put a larger breach in the dam with a ram hoe, trying to get that mercury out. The problem was that they weren't aware of the water main. They weren't able to get all of the mercury out. They got about 80% of the mercury out, but DEP would still like the rest of it out. Essentially, things were put on hold, and we came along and said we would like to see fish passage, is there a way that all of these parties might be able to find a solution to this site that would include fish passage, along with these other things. Miller does not appear to want to own this dam or the next one up on a long term basis. They did a lot of work taking out the mill buildings, dealing with the environmental contamination, and most of it is done. It's not that hard to picture that site in better condition down the road. Whatever the solution is, it's going to have to involve the town, Miller, and landowners, etc.

Mr. Goode said we've been meeting with the Miller representatives for a couple of years. The first step is to do a feasibility study to determine how we achieve fish passage and what are the other issues surrounding the dam. We've raised approximately \$60,000 from private and public funds to hire an engineering firm to take a look at this site. We will be hiring a firm. We've got a pretty detailed RFP going out that will look at the water levels above and below the dam. That site is so old that we could take the dam out and still might not have fish passage because it is so constricted there. There is a lot of ledge. There are lots of things going on there. The water main issue, if I had to pick what is the biggest issue there, it would be dealing with the water main in an appropriate manner. I think it is vulnerable to damage now and if you take the dam out it could be a lot more vulnerable. We did a preliminary study that looked at some alternatives and we thought that burying the water main might be the best alternative. Right now it is suspended in the water off the bottom, which is not an ideal situation. A nice solution would be to bury it.

Mr. Goode said what we are proposing to do is to hire an engineering firm to look at the feasibility study and to go over all of these different things in the next several months. They will be available for two public meetings. One public meeting will be held next spring when we have more information and we will make sure a letter is sent out to all of the landowners upstream of that site. Probably we'll want to come back to the Council, but in the meantime, we will keep Mr. Eldridge updated. We'll want to bring Miller's representatives in on the picture. We need to know who is going to own the dam if the dam

stays in place. Miller does not appear to want to own it. The question may be, does the town want to own it, or is it better to just take the dam out. Every situation is different. You can't really say, until you do the study taking into consideration the entire social factors, what the right solution is. It took a little longer than we expected, but we have the money for this feasibility study. Miller is happy and DEP is happy that something is happening at this site. I don't think the status quo really works here. Four or five years ago we had all sorts of money in grants for this type of work, but it's a lot more tenuous now, but at the same time there could be funds available in the future for this, so that's why we are happy to continue to go down this road towards finding a solution.

Mr. Goode said I'm happy to answer questions. Our office is in Brunswick and you can contact us any time. We just got this funding recently so we haven't done too much else. We haven't reached out to the other dam owners upriver. We know who they are. We have talked to Miller about the second dam. As a part of this feasibility study the engineering firm who we hire will take a cursory look at potential fish passage at that next one. There's a lot of ledge, but they will come up something to achieve fish passage there.

Councilor Larochelle said pike has really taken over the Sabattus River and Sabattus Lake and that must change the whole dynamic. Some things will never change because it would be impossible to change that natural food chain, wouldn't it?

Mr. Goode said yes, we're never going to see 10,000 Atlantic salmon in the Androscoggin. We're not trying to do that. I think they had 65 or 45 salmon come back to the Brunswick dam this year. They don't do any stocking. This is a very ignored river compared to other rivers in the state. Without any stocking at all, we've got quite a few fish there. The Androscoggin and the Kennebec are well connected and it seems that some of the fish we tagged went up over the dam and were up here for awhile, then went back down and showed up at Lockwood, the first dam in Waterville on the Kennebec. We find that with the sturgeon, too. They will come up the Androscoggin and move down, go up the Kennebec, and move back and forth quite a bit. I think there is potential here for the river herring and shad with the right fish passage. We've talked to the Land Trust, River, and Watershed Councils, and they are all interested in seeing revitalization in the Sabattus River. It's not our top priority, but it is right next door to us and it is a priority, so we are going to see what happens.

Councilor Cote said removing the dam on the Little Sabattus River in Lisbon Village would create a great deal of controversy. Removing that dam would be devastating to the properties above it. It's not the most beautiful river in the world, but it's one that the people in Lisbon have learned to live with and enjoy snowmobiling over or whatever they use it for.

Mr. Goode said those are valid reasons not to remove a dam, but aside from that, we wouldn't have the time to get bogged down with opposition either. I've taken a look at that dam, and because the public can go to that dam, it would be a place to have a fish ladder with a viewing chamber or some pools that would add to the character of that dam so people could see the fish going up.

Faye Brown said I paddle on that stretch of the Sabattus River four times a week for an hour. Would I see them? Mr. Goode said no, they've been there since 1983, but the adults are up the river and back within a month. The juveniles are [too small]. The only reason I saw them was because they were jack-hammering the cement dam and the alewives would come flying out of the water because they felt threatened.

Councilor Lunt said there is high visibility area along Route 196 there.

Mr. Goode said, yes, but we've also had situations where dams have been removed and although it changes the river, there are still uses with that river and over time people in many cases come to appreciate it. However, it is something that you want to minimize and address.

Councilor Lunt said this is a dam you should consider for a fish ladder. Mr. Goode said you don't even have to do a feasibility study for a fish passage there; you just need an engineering study to design a fishway. He said, yes, we are aware of that.

COUNCIL ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS, & ORDINANCES

SEWER LINE REPLACEMENT BIDS

Mr. Leighton said I put together an RFP, went out to bid, and advertised it in the paper. We received two bids. One from Gendron & Gendron for \$52,100 and one from Ray Labbe & Sons for \$79,780.

Mr. Leighton said originally I requested permission to award the bid to Gendron & Gendron, but they opened it up for discussion. If need be they will complete the project this year, but they requested we put it off until the spring, partly for coordination with the water project. They are really concerned with getting the water project far enough out of the way, then they can start their work. They offered to lower the price by 7.5% if we wait until spring. Quite frankly, he said, the prices are still higher than we originally planned and budgeted.

Mr. Leighton said my recommendation is to wait and regroup in the spring and either put it back out to bid at that time or there is a possibility that we could do the majority of the work ourselves with Public Works and only hire a contractor to do the digging.

Mr. Leighton said we had \$100,000 budgeted to do two projects on Route 196. One of them is this sewer line replacement. The other one is a sewer lining for an existing sewer main, which we will do whenever we can. The sewer lining is at least \$100 a foot. We budgeted \$80 per foot based on feedback I got from different contractors at the time we were doing the line on Route 9 and Upland Road. However, it was budgeted around \$80 per foot and we're at \$100 right now so I'm open to suggestions.

Councilor Larochelle said where is the location you are looking to reline. Mr. Leighton said it is down by Reid and Patterson Streets.

Councilor Larochelle said does it need to be done before the re-tarring. Mr. Leighton said, no, it's just part of the camera work that we had done. We identified this section of pipe as a good candidate for lining as it is in fairly good condition. There's about 2,000 feet of pipe there where the surface is starting to delaminate from the inside, so we are concerned that it will deteriorate too far and we won't have any choice but to dig it up. We've relined the pipe on Route 196 with great success so I'd like to do that ahead of time.

Councilor Larochelle said what is the timeframe to get it done by in the spring before we do the re-tarring. Mr. Leighton said the project was originally supposed to be in the street but it's really on the sidewalk and they are looking at late June forward. We've only got two little sections in Route 196 that we need to do, but we can get that part of it done easily; should take only take a week, maybe two at the most. If we had a contractor do it, it would be a week. Public Works hasn't done a sewer replacement in awhile, but it's not something they can't do.

Councilor Bowie said what I'm hearing is that we don't have the money in the budget. Mr. Leighton said not really, I'm not comfortable.

Councilor Bowie said we have two alternatives, either re-visit this in the spring or have Public Works do it with the help of a subcontractor. Mr. Leighton said if we do it all in-house it will probably be less than any of the bids we've received. Councilor Bowie said that's fine as long as we don't mess up a lot of other projects.

Councilor Larochelle said I am concerned about Route 196 because it's kind of a mess with all these other projects going on and there's been a handful of accidents in that area, so I think that the coordination would be kind of tough. I know the Water Department took a while planning their project before they started and we've been trying to put this one together so I would just hate to see multiple projects going on at the same time causing problems, he said, especially traffic hazards.

Mr. Leighton said we will have to wait until the water project is past the intersection at least before we set up another construction zone.

Councilor Larochelle said I would think if we had an opportunity to do the lining that that would be a definite thing and then find out what we have left for money and see what we can do from there, that's my recommendation.

VOTE (2011-184) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Larochelle moved to reject all the bids and to regroup in the spring as to how we want to approach this then. **Order passed - Vote 7-0.**

ELECTION WARRANT FOR NOVEMBER 8, 2011

VOTE (2011-185) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Bickford moved to approve the Annual Municipal Election Warrant for November 8, 2011. **Order passed - Vote 7-0.**

PURCHASING POLICY AMENDMENT

Mr. Eldridge said your request to delete "however in some cases it is acceptable to get written quotes. Written explanation shall be provided on any variation" in Sec. 86-34 (a) has been done so now it will read purchases and contracts in excess of \$5,000 will require the use of the bid process in this section.

Councilor Lunt said that sounds good.

Councilor Bowie said I think you need to strike the word "normally" in the first line of that section as well so it will read excess of \$5,000 shall require.

VOTE (2011-186) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Pomelow moved to accept the purchasing policy amendment to Sec. 86-34 (a) to delete "however in some cases it is acceptable to get written quotes. Written explanation shall be provided on any variation," and to strike the word "normally" from the first line in Sec. 86-34 (a) so it will now read "...in excess of \$5,000 shall require." **Order passed - Vote 7-0.**

Discussion on Executive Session taken out of order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Lunt said the person that this executive session involves prefers we discuss this in public rather than in private so I would like to move this discussion to our next item of business. He said this involves an issue that was raised about a Councilor. Councilor Lunt said there has been an issue raised regarding Morse Mechanics regarding a complaint that was filed with MDOT. Apparently people felt that was inappropriate.

Councilor Larochelle said I would prefer that we go into executive session to discuss the letter and also discuss this other issue at that time if possible. We can come back and discuss this in public if you like, but I think it would be worthwhile to go into executive session to discuss these issues so I would make a motion that we still move forward with it.

ORDER (2011-186B) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Bowie moved to go into Executive Session at 7:50 PM Per 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405 (6) (A) Personnel Matters – Councilor Request.

Councilor Cote said I don't understand why it can't be discussed in public.

Councilor Larochelle said it is not so much about Mr. Morse as it is about the letter that was written to the Council. I don't think we should be explaining or discussing personnel matters openly and I'd rather go into executive session to discuss it. He said I think this is more of a personnel matter and I don't think we should discuss how we are going to handle a Councilor in public. Whether or not the person wants to discuss it in public after would be up to him. **Order passed – Vote 5-2. (Opposed: Lunt & Cote)**

Mr. Eldridge suggested the Council move through the rest of the agenda first. The meeting continued.

B. AUTHORIZATION TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR 3 VILLAGE STREET DEMOLITION

Mr. Eldridge said I need authorization to solicit bids by RFP to demolish the 3 Village Street property. The Council will need to authorize a supplemental appropriation from the undesignated fund balance to pay for whatever amount that the Council accepts.

Councilor Larochelle said my concern about this demolition is what is this going to be left like afterwards. I think we need to know what it's going to look like after it's torn down. We should make a plan to make it look better than it does right now, including funding, and what we may want it to look like after demolition. We are looking at funding the demolition, but what we are going to do after, whether it's hot topped, turned into a big parking lot, or grassed over with a fence. I would hate to just tear it down and end up with a dirt hole.

Mr. Eldridge said the hole will be filled in, that's a safety factor and will be part of the bid. Councilor Larochelle said I still think we need to look at how we are going to finish it off.

Councilor Pomelow said I think if we are going to send out bids we should think about fencing. We need to be very specific about what we want in this bid so it includes everything we want the bid to include.

Mr. Eldridge said demolition probably wouldn't include that, but our Public Works department can do that. You just have to decide what you would like to do once it's razed.

Councilor Larochelle said I'd just like to have more of a plan than tearing it down.

Councilor Lunt asked where the funds were coming from for this. Mr. Eldridge said from undesignated, but the Council will have to vote to approve a supplemental expenditure from the undesignated fund balance.

VOTE (2011-186C) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Pomelow moved to authorize the solicitation of bids for demolition of 3 Village Street. **Order passed – Vote 6-1. (Opposed: Cote)**

C. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Eldridge said the MMA Convention is Wednesday and Thursday this week. Councilor Lunt and some of the staff will be attending.

WESTERN MAINE TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Eldridge said I spoke to Western Maine Transportation, who can come talk with the Council on October 25. He agreed the spreadsheet is quite hard to follow. Their big issue now is that they are into

their new fiscal year currently and if we don't take action to downsize the number of trips to 2 per day, we will eat through our budget within 14 weeks. Mr. Eldridge said in the meantime, I'm starting to look at the cost of a van, how much it would cost to take care of that service ourselves, so I want to jump on that before we eat up all of our \$25,700. If it is okay with Council, then I will tell them that Council was okay with them notifying the public and moving to two trips a day. [No objections were noted.] That should save money at this point.

Councilor Bowie said while we are working parallel to them or on our own to try to subsidize. Mr. Eldridge said, right, based on a letter from them they are doing about 30 people a day back and forth. I've received a number of phone calls from senior citizens who are on that bus route who would like transportation somewhere. Some of them are handicapped and can't get out to the bus stop. There seems to be a need within the community for citizen transportation so I think it is something we should explore. We are budgeting \$25,000 every year for that bus and you may want to look at using that funding in another way, he said. I think we can improve upon it and include more people. I will move forward to try to get some more information on that for you.

Councilor Lunt said how does the Council feel about getting some numbers on that? The Councilors were in agreement. [No objections were noted.]

WORKSHOP TOPICS

Mr. Eldridge said at the next Council workshop we will be discussing roads. Mr. Therriault will be here to discuss the list, which has more on it than we had before. We also will have in your packets a draft Fireworks Ordinance. Is this something you want to consider, is it too strict, or is this something you just don't want to do at all? The draft Marijuana Dispensary Ordinance is ready for your review. Our moratorium ran out, so you may want to address some specific areas.

Mr. Eldridge said changes to the Ethics Policy are ready for review as well; this provides some direction that isn't in the charter. Again, all of these are open for discussion for you to review with Mr. Therriault. We need your guidance about what you would like to do, if anything at all. Once we are through with that we will review the property maintenance stuff.

Councilor Pomelow said are you still getting information about street lights. Mr. Eldridge said, yes. I can add that to October 11 and if we have time we can discuss it.

APPOINTMENTS

LIBRARY GOVERNING BOARD (1) MEMBER

(Reappointment 3-Year Term)

VOTE (2011-187) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Cote moved to reappoint Robin Tupper to the Library Governing Board for a 3-year term. **Order passed - Vote 7-0.**

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Cote said, Faye, the gardens are beautiful and whatever you put into them, I sincerely thank you and Lisbon is going to miss you dearly.

Councilor Mason said the Moxie Committee has already started working on next summer's festival. It's the 30th anniversary of Moxie. We had a great meeting today. We're still a handful of people. We're looking for volunteers. We can always use the extra help.

Councilor Mason said Harvest Festival, held last weekend, was a small festival, but good. It was a family festival. It had a couple of children's singers there and the kids really enjoyed it. Once again,

Ross Cunningham needs help with events like the Concerts in the Park, Harvest Festival, and coming up soon is our Very Merry Main Street. We're talking about expanding that in a fun and different way this year.

Councilor Pomelow said the Fire Department will be having an open house on Sunday afternoon October 9th from noon to 4PM. A piece of the World Trade Center will be dedicated at a ceremony held at Ricker Memorial Park, which begins at 2PM.

Councilor Lunt said I also want to send my thanks to Faye Brown for all the work you have done on our public gardens all around town. It is very noticeable and I am worried about where we are going in the future there, but thank you again for everything you have done.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

VOTE (2011-188) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Larochelle moved to go into Executive Session at 8:10 PM Per 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405 (6) (A) Personnel Matters – Councilor Request. **Order passed – Vote 5-2. (Opposed: Lunt & Cote)**

The Council Secretary was dismissed. The Council came out of executive session at 9:10 PM. The meeting resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTE (2011-189) Councilor Bowie, seconded by Councilor Larochelle moved to adjourn at 9:11 PM. **Order passed – Vote 7-0.**

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

Date Approved: _____