



**TOWN COUNCIL
SPECIAL
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 12, 2019**

Christopher Brunelle, At Large 2019
Mark Lunt, District 1 2019
Vacant, District 2, 2019
Fern Larochelle, At Large 2020
Normand Albert, At Large 2021
Kasie Kolbe, District 1 2021
Allen Ward, District 2 2021

CALL TO ORDER. The Chairman, Normand Albert, called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL. Members present were Councilors Ward, Albert, Kolbe, Brunelle, Lunt, and Larochelle. Also present were Diane Barnes, Town Manager; Kathy Yergin, School Committee Member; Traci Austin, School Committee Chairman; Kim Labbe-Poisson; Rick Green, School Superintendent; and no other citizens in the audience.

Councilor Albert announced he had received a letter of resignation from Councilor Crawford this week.

VOTE (2019-50A) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Kolbe moved to accept Councilor Kris Crawford's resignation effective immediately. **Order passed – Vote 6-0.**

Councilor Albert announced he would accept a motion to designate a shortened procedure for nominating Candidates and Electing a District 2 Town Council member as provided for in the Charter and to call for a Special Election on June 11, 2019 to fill this vacant seat.

VOTE (2019-50B) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Brunelle moved to adopt the notice to designate a shortened procedure for nominating Candidates and Electing a District 2 Town Council member as provided for in the Charter and to call for a Special Election on June 11, 2019 to fill this vacant seat as presented. **Order passed – Vote 6-0.**

Councilor Albert opened the floor to accept nominations for Vice Chairman.

VOTE (2019-51) Councilor Ward and Councilor Larochelle nominated Councilor Kolbe. Seeing no further nominations, Councilors voted. **Motion passed - Vote 6-0.**

Councilor Albert announced Councilor Kolbe has been duly elected Vice Chairman for the remainder of the year.

SCHOOL BUDGET PRESENTATION

Dr. Green said the preliminary adopted 2019-20 Lisbon School budget figures that Council received is subject to change due to a few remaining variables that could still impact the budget either positively or negatively. Included were the revised subsidy comparison sheet and the cost center reports, which are both dated 3/11/2019.

Dr. Green said two of the primary variables include new legislation that could ultimately impact our budget. These include changes to the current funding formula for Maine State Retirement (MainePers) and the removal of the Service Center Penalties. As you know, the additional cost of MainePers was shifted from the State of Maine onto local property taxpayers in 2013 and currently contributes to \$399,866 of our total budget. As a result, of not being part of a Service Center, we currently receive a \$90,000 penalty, which means \$90,000 less in revenue. The current budget increase for the 2019-2020 school year is \$492,374 (\$545,743) with an increase in taxes of \$376,761 (\$430,130).

Dr. Green said their primary goal is to maintain Lisbon's current student programs and services, which are currently included in this preliminary budget including funds to increase our student capacity in our Gartley Street

School Day Treatment Program and to expand our alternative program so that we can provide services to our grade 9 and 10 students. He said, as always, we will continue to look at our current programs and services to make sure that we are operating in the most efficient manner and we will consider additional restructuring through attrition as needed.

Dr. Green mentioned the following additional areas for potential savings and/or costs (variables):

- Anticipated/Actual Resignations (deadline March 1 for 20 years or more/August under 20 years)
- Capital Reserve
- Service Center Penalty (Legislation)
- Unassigned Amount
- MainePers (Legislation)
- Salaries/Benefits 70%/Insurance 9%
- Special Education (Enrollment)
- Unanticipated Revenue

Dr. Green mentioned the following notable increases, decreases and transfers:

- Nutrition (Moved To Fund 600)
- Alternative Education (1 Ed-Tech)
- Day Treatment (1 Teacher And Ed-Tech)
- Purchased Services & Supplies (10%)

Dr. Green went over the 19-20 Subsidy Comparison Report highlighting the following:

- State Subsidy State Contribution totals \$9,056,649
- Required Local Contribution totals \$4,486,794
- Local only Debt Service totals \$460,409
- Local Additional Funds total \$2,430,767

Dr. Green indicated the attached comparison report shows a total increase for the 2019-2020 school year is \$492,374 with an increase in taxes of \$376,761. What historically drive the cost are salaries and benefits, this year totaling approximately \$450,000. He said the total budget including Adult Education is \$16,904,421 and the town's portion is \$7,400,543. He pointed out that Lisbon expects to receive \$192,464 more in State funding for the coming year.

Councilor Larochelle asked how much was in Capital Reserve. Dr. Green said 43,209. He anticipated they would be using some for updating field lights and the promenade center. Councilor Albert asked if legislation passes, it could change the bottom line. Dr. Green said yes, and that they might have to open their contract reluctantly. Councilor Albert asked about busses. Dr. Green said their request for three busses were approved so three busses are being terminated, and three new busses are being added.

Dr. Green mentioned due to enrollment increases, the town should receive \$192,000 more in revenue. He explained that today their biggest challenges are working with students with emotional and anxiety issues, with changing family structures, all requiring more interventions.

OTHER BUSINESS

WORKSHOP MEETING - START TIMES

Mrs. Barnes asked the Council if they would like to start their workshops at 6:00 pm instead of 7:00 PM. **The Council unanimously agreed to start budget workshops at 6:00 PM.**

Councilor Ward recommended Councilors email questions ahead of time to the Town Manager to address prior to budget meetings so the meetings themselves could take less time. **The Council unanimously agreed to a two-hour cap for their budget workshops.**

COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Ward mentioned LD 47 and said that if this passed by the legislature it will offer towns the ability through grants to invest in Fire Houses. He recommended Lisbon complete their discussions now about our Fire House plans and needs.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTE (2019-52) Councilor Albert, seconded by Councilor Kolbe moved to adjourn at 7:41 PM. **Order passed - Vote 6-0.**

Twila D. Lycette, Council Secretary
Town Clerk, Lifetime CCM/MMC
Date Approved: April 2, 2019