

# TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JULY 12, 2022 LISBON TOWN OFFICE

Mark Lunt 2022 Donald Fellows 2022 Jason Smith 2022 Fern Larochelle, Chair 2023 Harry Moore, Jr., Vice Chair 2024 Raymond Robishaw 2024 Christine Cain 2022

CALL TO ORDER. The Chairman, Fern Larochelle, called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL. Members present were Councilors Fellows, Lunt, Larochelle, Robishaw, Smith, Cain and Moore. Also present were Ryan McGee, Interim Town Manager; Glenn Michalowski, Assistant Town Manager; Nate LeClair, Fire Chief; Ross Cunningham, Economic & Community Development Director; Kayla Tierney, Finance Director; Kristin Collins and Steve Langsdorf, Legal Counsel; Bill Kuhl, Planning Board Chair; and approximately 15 citizens in the audience.

#### **GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION**

Ross Cunningham presented an update for the Blues Festival that was held in June. He reviewed the process and noted that there were multiple locations for the ticketed event, with 25 bands on different stages at different times. He said 2,200 tickets were sold and there was good social media feedback. He reported that Flux Restaurant, Frank's Restaurant & Pub, Olive Pit Brewing, and the Railroad Pub all saw very high sales. He said other businesses who were not involved directly with the Festival also saw sales increases for that day. He said there were no notable Police or Fire events and stated we could not have done this better.

Councilor Robishaw presented a framed Blues Festival 2022 poster to Kevin Kimball, the Festival organizer. Mr. Kimball thanked the Town for its assistance and participation in the Festival. He asked if the Town would like to host the Festival again in 2023 and the Council was in general agreement. Mr. Kimball said the crossing guard for the Festival was the best \$365.00 they ever spent.

The Chairman introduced the Town's new Legal Counsel, Kristin Collins and Steve Langsdorf from the Law Firm Preti-Flaherty. Ms. Collins stated the firm serves 25 other towns and specializes in Council-led towns. Mr. Langsdorf said he formed the municipal law part of the practice and they have specialists in every field.

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

AMEND CHAPTER 70, SECTIONS 361 & 536 DIMENSIONAL REQUIREMENTS (ROSII) AND SECTION 70-362 (2) PERFORMANCE OR LAND USE STANDARDS

The Chairman opened the Hearing. Seeing no speakers, the Chairman closed the Hearing.

# REMOTE MEETING POLICY FOR TOWN COUNCIL

The Chairman opened the Hearing, Seeing no speakers, the Chairman closed the Hearing.

#### ITINERANT VENDOR PERMIT

TRANSIENT SELLER ANDRIAS ADAMSON – THE SOUTHWESTERN COMPANY

The Chairman opened the Hearing. Seeing no speakers, the Chairman closed the Hearing.

# AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION & RESPONSE FOR AGENDA ITEMS – NONE

# **CONSENT AGENDA**

**VOTE** (2022-159) Councilor Fellows, seconded by Councilor Lunt, moved to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented:

- A. Municipal Accounts Payable Warrants \$689,717.93
- B. Municipal Payroll Warrants \$252,023.62
- C. School Accounts Payable Warrants \$691,011.78
- D. School Payroll Warrants \$779,281.19

- E. Minutes of June 7, 2022 and June 21, 2022
- F. Itinerant Vendor Permit for Transient Seller Andrias Adamson The Southwestern Company
- G. Set Public Hearing for August 16<sup>th</sup> for an Itinerant Vendor Permit for The Little Maine Market, LLC, and Victualer's Licenses for Little River Coffee and Elite Nutrition.

# Order passed - Vote 7-0.

# COUNCIL ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS, & ORDINANCES

#### REMOTE MEETING POLICY FOR TOWN COUNCIL

Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 403-8, and after public notice and hearing, the Lisbon Town Council adopts the following policy to govern the participation, via remote methods, of members of the Lisbon Town Council and the public in the public proceedings or meetings of that body.

Members of the body are expected to be physically present for meetings except when the chair or presiding officer determines this is not practicable due to the existence of one or more of the following conditions:

- 1. an emergency or urgent issue that requires the body to meet via remote methods; or
- 2. the illness, other physical condition or temporary absence of a member from the Town of Lisbon that causes significant difficulty traveling to the meeting location.

The chair or presiding officer of the body, in consultation with other members if appropriate and possible, will decide in as timely a manner as possible under the circumstances whether remote methods of participation are necessary. If remote participation is deemed necessary, it is desired but not required that the person chairing the meeting be physically present. In the case where an overall emergency is declared the entire body would meet remotely.

A member who is unable to attend a meeting in person and who wishes to be part of the meeting remotely, shall notify the chair or presiding officer of the body as far in advance as possible. Every attempt shall be made by that member to notify the Chair or presiding officer at least one full week (7 days) in advance of the planned meeting date. A member of the Lisbon Town Council who participates remotely will be considered present for purposes of a quorum and voting.

Those members who are unable to physically attend shall have been granted remote meeting authorization by the chair or presiding officer prior to the commencement of the subject meeting and such will be noted during roll call. Long term remote attendance shall be discouraged, and individual situations shall be subject to a recommendation of the chair to the entire Town Council for affirmation. Long term remote attendance shall mean instances of more than three consecutive regular meetings or more than 6 total regular meetings in rolling year. Special meetings and workshops held alone shall not be included in determining long term remote attendance.

Remote methods of participation may include video technology allowing simultaneous reception of information and may include other means necessary to accommodate disabled persons. Telephonic participation may be used only if video technology is not possible but must meet the same conditions as is required for video participation. Remote participation will not be by text-only means such as e-mail, text messages, or chat functions.

The public will be provided a meaningful opportunity to attend via remote methods when any member of the body participates via remote methods. If public input is allowed or required at the meeting, an effective means of communication between the body and the public will also be provided by electronic means. The public will be provided an opportunity to attend the meeting in person and to participate as is allowed for all meetings conducted in person, unless there is an emergency or urgent issue that requires the entire body to meet using remote methods. When situations exist that allow the public to participate in person, remote participation may be limited to the ability of that or those members of the public to see {hear) the meeting and to participate actively by e-mail, telephone or text to a designated Town Councilor or town staff member attending in person.

Notice of all meetings shall be provided in accordance with 1 M.R.S. § 406 and any applicable charter, ordinance, policy, or bylaw. When the public may attend via remote methods, notice will include how the public may access the meeting remotely and will provide a method for disabled persons to request necessary accommodation to access the meeting. Notice will also identify a location where the public may attend the meeting in person.

The Lisbon Town Council will not restrict public attendance to remote methods except in the case of an emergency or urgent issue that requires the entire body to meet using remote methods of attendance. During periods when even any single member participates remotely, a method for remote commenting electronically for the public shall be provided in addition to the availability of an in-person participation opportunity as is the norm. In this case, remote input from the public shall be by

e-mail to a designated address which will also be provided in accordance with 1 M.R.S. § 406 and any applicable charter, ordinance, policy, or bylaw. All conditions shall be noted in all meeting documents and materials in advance of the meeting.

The Lisbon Town Council will make all documents and materials to be considered by the body available electronically or otherwise, to the public who attend remotely to the same extent customarily available to the public who attend in person, provided no additional costs are incurred by the body.

All votes taken during a meeting using any remote methods shall be by roll call vote that can be seen and heard if using video technology, or heard if using audio technology only, by other members of the body and the public.

This policy will remain in force indefinitely unless amended or rescinded.

<u>INTRODUCTION:</u> The Chairman stated that Council has examined and scrutinized this policy. There was no further discussion.

**VOTE** (2022-160) Councilor Fellows, seconded by Councilor Robishaw, moved to accept the Town Council Remote Meeting Policy as presented and to be effective immediately.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas – Fellows, Larochelle, Lunt, Moore, Jr., Cain, Robishaw, and Smith. Nays - None. Order passed - Vote 7-0.

#### MARIJUANA BUSINESS MORATORIUM

The Clerk read the Moratorium as prepared by Legal:

#### **TOWN OF LISBON**

# MORATORIUM ORDINANCE ON MEDICAL AND ADULT USE MARIJUANA RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS

WHEREAS, as authorized by Title 22, section 2429-D of the Maine Revised Statutes, on August 17, 2021, the Town Council of the Town of Lisbon enacted Articles XI and XII of Chapter 10 of the Town Code of Ordinances, governing the operation of Medical Marijuana Establishments Registered Caregiver Retail Stores and Adult Use Marijuana Establishments Marijuana Stores ("Medical and Adult Use Marijuana Retail Establishments") within the Town; and

**WHEREAS,** on August 17, 2021, the Town Council further voted to amend the Table of Land Uses within section 70-531 of the Town Code to permit medical and adult use marijuana establishments within certain areas of the Town; and

**WHEREAS,** these enactments did not include a cap on the number of medical and adult use marijuana <u>retail</u> establishments, or place restrictions on the proximity of such stores to one another; and

**WHEREAS,** since enactment of these ordinances and amendments, the number of medical and adult use marijuana <u>retail</u> establishments in the Town has increased substantially, with many such establishments located in close proximity to one another; and

**WHEREAS,** the concentration of medical and/or adult use marijuana <u>retail</u> establishments within the Town may dissuade other businesses from locating in these areas, and may also eliminate retail space that could otherwise be used for a range of businesses as needed for a vibrant community.

**WHEREAS**, the Town's current ordinances are insufficient to prevent serious public harm that may result from the insufficiently regulated proliferation of medical and adult use marijuana retail establishments within the Town; and

**WHEREAS,** a moratorium is necessary to allow the Town Council, Planning Board and other Town officials to review the current Town Code to determine what modifications, if any, to the permitted locations or approval, licensing and performance standards for medical and adult use marijuana <u>retail</u> establishments might be appropriate to address these issues; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that such a review and development of recommended changes to the Town Code will take at least one hundred and eighty (180) days from the Effective Date of this Moratorium Ordinance on Medical and Adult Use Marijuana Retail Establishments;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Lisbon Town Council does hereby ordain that this Moratorium

Ordinance on Medical and Adult Use Marijuana Retail Establishments (the "Moratorium Ordinance") be, and hereby is, enacted and, in furtherance thereof, the Town Council does hereby declare a moratorium on the acceptance of, review of, or action upon any new applications for licenses to operate medical or adult use marijuana retail establishments, as such terms are defined in Articles XI and XII of Chapter 10 of the Town Code.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** that, notwithstanding the provisions of 1 M.R.S.A. § 302 or any other law to the contrary, this Moratorium Ordinance, when enacted, shall govern any proposed medical or adult use marijuana <u>retail</u> establishment for which an application for a license was not submitted to and deemed complete by the Town Clerk prior to the Effective Date; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** that a medical or adult use marijuana retail establishment shall be exempt from this Moratorium and shall be eligible to receive a license during the pendency of this Moratorium if an application to the Code Enforcement Officer or Planning Board, as relevant, issued approval has been submitted and deemed complete for site plan, conditional use approval and/or building permits, with knowledge of the facility's intended use as a medical or adult use marijuana retail establishment, prior to enactment of this Moratorium; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** that any provisions of the current Town Code that are inconsistent or conflicting with the provisions of this Moratorium Ordinance are hereby repealed, to the extent that they are applicable, for the duration of the moratorium hereby ordained and as it may be extended, but not otherwise; and

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** that, should any section or provision of this Moratorium

Ordinance be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such a declaration shall not invalidate any other section or provision .

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#### **EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

This Moratorium Ordinance is hereby enacted as an Emergency Ordinance in accordance with Section 2.08(b) of the Town Charter, given the risk of public harm as set forth above, and shall therefore be effective immediately upon enactment. It shall stand as repealed on the 91 st day following enactment unless the Town Council shall have before that date adopted the moratorium pursuant to Section 2.08(b).

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<u>INTRODUCTION:</u> Councilor Larochelle said this Moratorium is the result of concerns from the Public. He said it will give Town government time to look at it. He added that the Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager will put together a committee to look at this.

Town Attorney Kristin Collins said the Moratorium is for 180 days, but it needs to be renewed on the 90th or 91st day.

<u>COUNCILOR COMMENTS:</u> Councilor Lunt said that there are two applicants in the works. Ms. Collins said we can change the Moratorium to accept the two who are in the pipeline.

Councilor Smith asked if this is everything from Growing to Retail to Manufacturing, and Councilor Larochelle asked if we can put a Moratorium on a certain kind of business.

Ms. Collins said this would halt every kind of Marijuana business, Medical and Adult Use.

Councilor Smith stated he has made sizable investments in buildings he ordered in addition to his current Marijuana business but has not requested permits yet, the moratorium would include that. Councilor Fellows suggested Councilor Smith step down from his seat at the Council table and recuse himself since he owns a Marijuana business. Councilor Smith recused himself from Council discussion and the vote.

Councilor Robishaw said we don't have proof of anything, we have the opinions of people. He said it's restricting a certain kind of business and there is no statement, there are no facts, there are emotions.

Councilor Larochelle said the original concern was for storefronts, but we are looking at all Marijuana businesses. He stated the Moratorium will allow us to reflect and give others the opportunity to have input.

Councilor Lunt asked how many of the storefronts are not Medical Marijuana. The Clerk confirmed there is only one.

Councilor Moore said he has spoken with some of the people who voted for him, he said he will support their wishes.

Jason Smith spoke at the lectern. He said he believes the issues have to do with the Retail businesses and shouldn't affect the other kinds of businesses. He requested to make the Moratorium only for storefronts and retail businesses. Councilor Fellows agreed that perception and signage are where the moratorium could come into play and that the Moratorium should only affect storefronts/retail.

Councilor Cain said she supports a moratorium that does not include growing and manufacturing.

Councilor Robishaw pointed out that this is what we do hear, that a lot of people don't like the big signs.

The Chairman confirmed that one change is to make sure the two businesses in the pipeline can continue.

Councilor Fellows agreed that if we only affect storefronts, it would accomplish what we've been addressed about.

The Chairman directed Ms. Collins to add Retail to all the parts of the Moratorium that address businesses, and to amend for the inclusion of the two businesses who are already in the pipeline. Ms. Collins agreed to make the changes so the Council could vote on the amended version of the Moratorium.

**VOTE** (2022-161) Councilor Fellows, seconded by Councilor Lunt, moved to declare a moratorium on the acceptance of, review of, or action upon any new applications for licenses to operate medical or adult use marijuana establishments, per the Emergency Ordinance as prepared by Legal Counsel, as defined in Articles Eleven (XI) and Twelve (XII) of Chapter 10 of the Town Code, and to add Retail to all the parts of the Moratorium that address businesses, and to amend for the inclusion of the two businesses who are already in the pipeline, for a period of 90 days and to be effective immediately.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas – Fellows, Larochelle, Lunt, Moore, and Cain. Nays – Robishaw. Abstain – Smith. Order passed - Vote 5-1.

# POLICE DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR PURCHASE OF FIREARMS

<u>INTRODUCTION</u>: Chief McGee stated the Police Department is on a 10-year replacement plan to replace the handguns for our Police Officers. This is an already budgeted item at \$16,000. The department has spent the last year testing out firearms from different manufacturers, which would be best for our department.

The firearms are a sole source directly through the vendor at a discounted rate for Law Enforcement, so there is no lower rate we can acquire, which is why he is asking to waive the three bid process. Chief McGee is requesting permission to purchase through a sole source Sig Sauer vendor who is the direct vendor for New England. The Firearms selected is a Sig Sauer with a (Romeo1 Pro sight) and included in that price are new updated triple retention holsters, to up-fit the department. Due to supply and demand issues, Chief McGee would like to start the process and go out to purchase immediately for the department.

<u>COUNCILOR COMMENTS</u>: Councilor Larochelle asked if the Chief will have enough firearms for all the Police Officers considering the new staffing. Chief McGee said yes, plus we do have additional firearms to trade in for extras if needed. He also assured Council there will be training for the new firearms.

**VOTE** (2022-162) Councilor Fellows, seconded by Councilor Lunt, moved to approve the Police Chief's request to purchase firearms for the Police Department and to waive the requirement for three bids due to Special Police Department pricing.

# Order passed - Vote 7-0.

#### ELECTION OF COUNTY BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<u>INTRODUCTION</u>: The Clerk provided information to the Council that the Androscoggin County Budget Committee Official Ballot has two candidates, the Town Council is asked to vote for two. They are Angela Mitchel of Sabattus and Sabattus Selectperson Noel Hinkley.

<u>COUNCILOR COMMENTS</u>: Council requested the Clerk to find out more about the nomination process for the Budget Committee for the next election so they can be better informed next time.

**VOTE** (2022-163) Councilor Fellows, seconded by Councilor Robishaw, moved to cast the ballot for Angela Mitchel of Sabattus and Sabattus Selectperson Noel Hinkley.

#### Order passed - Vote 7-0.

#### PLANNING SERVICES RFP

<u>INTRODUCTION:</u> Assistant Town Manager Glenn Michalowski presented the RFP information for Planning Services for the Planning Board. He said he reviewed the scope of the RFP, that it will open tomorrow, July 13, and will close on August 3, 2022.

<u>COUNCILOR COMMENTS</u>: Councilor Larochelle asked if the RFP will include having the firm work with Town Government to help us work through big Projects.

Mr. Michalowski confirmed that he tried to make it broad enough so they can help other Town departments.

**VOTE** (2022-164) Councilor Lunt, seconded by Councilor Robishaw, moved to approve the RFP search for a contracted Town Planner.

# Order passed - Vote 7-0.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT PURCHASE OF HYDRAULIC EXTRICATION EQUIPMENT

<u>INTRODUCTION</u>: The Fire Chief requested permission to purchase the hydraulic extrication equipment that is in the CIP plan and was budgeted for this fiscal year. The cost of the project is approximately \$28,300. The department did an evaluation 4 years ago and purchased the Genesis brand due to its use and ease of service. This upcoming purchase is the second phase of replacing tools.

Chief LeClair recommended and requested to go sole source and waive the bid process. He said purchasing the Genesis brand keeps the Fire Department's tools consistent. He said that, like many other products in the industry, there is only one vendor for this brand in Maine. Going sole source, for this order, will reduce the time and potential frustration with having to go out to bid.

<u>COUNCILOR COMMENTS</u>: Council agreed to Chief LeClair's request to donate the old tools to other Fire Departments in need.

**VOTE** (2022-165) Councilor Fellows, seconded by Councilor Lunt, moved to Authorize the Interim Town Manager and Fire Chief to purchase Hydraulic Extrication Equipment and waive the Bid Process and go sole source with the Genesis Brand.

# Order passed - Vote 7-0.

AMEND CHAPTER 70 ZONING ORDINANCE, SECTIONS 361 and 536 DIMENSIONAL REQUIREMENTS (ROSII) and CHAPTER 70 ZONING ORDINANCE, SECTION 362 (2) PERFORMANCE OR LAND USE STANDARDS Second Reading

# DIVISION 5A. RURAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT II

# Sec. 70-361. Dimensional requirements.

Lots in the rural open space II district shall meet or exceed the minimum requirements as identified in section 70-536 and the following (refer also to article VI of this chapter):

- (1) Maximum coverage. Maximum coverage of lot by structures in the rural open space district II shall not exceed 20 percent; except that high intensity farming shall not exceed 25 percent.
- (2) Lot standards. Lots shall comply with the following:
- a. Lots shall have a minimum area of 60,000 square feet and a maximum area of 100,000 square feet.
- b. After the effective date of this amendment, lots for residential use shall have the required frontage on an existing publically maintained road.
- The lot frontage to lot depth ratio shall be 1:1.5.

(C.M. of 11-15-2011, V. 2011-208)

#### Sec. 70-362. Performance or land use standards.

Permitted uses and conditional uses in this division shall conform to the performance standards delineated in article VI of this chapter and the following:

- (1) After the effective date of this amendment, residential subdivisions are prohibited.
- (2) After the effective date of this amendment, backlots rear lots are prohibited.

(C.M. of 11-15-2011, V. 2011-208)

#### Secs. 70-363-70-380. Reserved.

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# Sec. 70-536. Dimensional requirements.

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Rural Open	60,000	<del>See Sec.</del>	200'	50'	75'	25'	25'	20 Percent		
Space II	<del>sq. ft.</del>	<del>70-361(2)a</del>								
	Minimu	200'								
	m									
	<del>100,000</del>									
	<del>sq. ft.</del>									
	Maximu									
	m									
	100,000									
	100,000 sq. ft <u>.</u>									

<u>INTRODUCTION:</u> Bill Kuhl, Chair of the Planning Board, stated this is a tweak to the Rural Open Space (ROS) that has caused problems along the Route 9 corridor so people can use personal property in the way they wish.

<u>COUNCILOR COMMENTS</u>: Councilor Larochelle said there are other areas, too. This is where a Planner will be helpful. He thanked Mr. Kuhl for his information.

**VOTE** (2022-166) Councilor Fellows, seconded by Councilor Lunt, moved to Approve the Amendments to Chapter 70 Zoning Ordinance, Sections 361 and 536 Dimensional Requirements (ROSII) and Section 70-362(2) Performance or Land Use Standards as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Yeas – Fellows, Larochelle, Lunt, Moore, Jr., Cain, Robishaw, and Smith. Nays - None. Order passed - Vote 7-0.

# **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- School Committee: Councilor Larochelle said he has had positive feedback regarding the decision to add a new School Resource officer.
- 2. Planning Board: Councilor Fellows said the last meeting was mainly about the Marijuana businesses. He said other discussion included the sign ordinance, which has been sent to legal for wording.
- 3. Library Governing Board: Councilor Lunt said the library is seeing brisk business despite the construction on Main Street and the Summer Reading Program is well under way.
- 4. Conservation Commission: Councilor Moore said the Gazebo at Graziano Square has been put up, it is not finished but the first step is done.
- 5. Recreation Committee: The Chairman noted this will be the next item on the agenda.
- 6. County Budget Committee: Councilor Lunt said he had nothing to report.
- 7. Water Commission: Councilor Fellows said the Commission met earlier tonight and they may change their meeting time to 3pm. He said they established standards for uniforms, a dress code. He added that they are deeply involved with the Main Street construction.
- 8. Finance Committee: Councilor Robishaw said he had nothing to report.
- 9. Lisbon Development Committee: Councilor Smith said the Blues Festival shows the potential for the Worumbo site. He said Moxie brought people to town and they parked at Worumbo.

#### COUNCIL ASSIGNMENT TO RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Chairman asked if there were any Councilors interested in being liaison to the Recreation Committee. Councilor Moore agreed to be Council Liaison.

#### TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

The Interim Town Manager, Chief McGee, thanked all the employees and community volunteers for Moxie Weekend. He said Moxie was a great weekend, a very large turnout, and everything went well. He said Mark Stevens will do a review of the events and the weekend at the August Council meeting.

Chief McGee said Main Street between Union and Route 196 has a planned closing the week of July 25<sup>th</sup> for safety purposes so they can do two weeks-worth of work in one week. He said he talked with all the businesses on Main Street and they felt it was better to get it done as soon as possible as long as the sidewalks remain open. He said McGee Construction will put out a flyer and there will be safe crossing areas for pedestrians.

Since closing a road requires Council approval, Chief McGee requested permission to close the road.

**VOTE** (2022-166A) Councilor Fellows, seconded by Councilor Lunt, moved to close Main Street from the intersection of Route 196 to the intersection of Maple and Union for the week of July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

# Order passed - Vote 7-0.

#### DEPARTMENT HEAD WRITTEN REPORTS

The Chairman noted that Department Reports are now available to the public more easily online at the Town website on each Department's page.

#### **REVIEW OF COUNCIL GOALS**

Councilor Larochelle referred to the goals outlined by the Interim Town Manager with progress highlighted. Chief McGee went through them one by one.

#### TOWN COUNCIL GOALS

#### 1. Hire A New Town Manager

(The town hired David Barrett from MMA and is in the interview process for the Town Managers position, we have received 13 Applications)

Councilor Larochelle said it has not been easy but Council doesn't want to rush the process.

2. **Fill Open Staff Positions To 100%** (Working towards this goal, in the town office, the following positions this year; Front window clerk, Town Clerk position, Economic and Community Development position, Administrative Executive Secretary to the Town Manager, Public Works Admin Assistant, Assistant Town Manager, Sewer Treatment Plan Admin Assistant, Assistant Finance Director) (8 Full-time Positions filled so far this year)

Councilor Larochelle stated that almost all of the openings have been filled and the staff in the Town Office seems happier.

#### 3. Add 250 Housing Units (See Goal #12)

Councilor Larochelle said adding housing is on our radar.

4. **Move Forward With a Public Safety Building** (Port City was contracted and has started the process on seeing the feasibility of a Public Safety building and one Fire Department. When this report is completed, the Council can move forward with putting together a Public Safety Building Committee later this year.)

Chief McGee said the architect, Port City, is currently doing an analysis.

- 5. **Recover From COVID Restrictions** (Completed- Plexiglas was removed at the town office as well as the mask restrictions)
- 6. **Rejuvenate Lisbon Village** (Council is working on a plan towards this, including redoing roadways and sidewalks and completing the gazebo at the Graziano Park. Funding will be requested through the Ferry Road Bond project.)

Councilor Larochelle said the infrastructure is being improved and Public Works will update Village Street soon. He said there is more information coming soon.

7. **Review Financial Policies** (Finance Director, Assistant Town Manager and Interim Town Manager are working on updating the Purchasing Policy, and should have a proposal by early August for the Finance Committee and the Town Council to review.)

Chief McGee said this is in the works with the new Assistant Town Manager. Councilor Lunt said we may want to consider using the Finance Committee for this.

#### 8. Available Town Services Promotional Material(S) For Public Awareness

- A. Develop Comprehensive Description of Services (Working towards updating CivicPlus website for each department, this is a work in progress as the site is not very user friendly for non IT personnel)
- B. Ensure promotional materials are easy to understand (Have increased the use of Facebook, and the Town electric sign)
- C. Identify The Town's Needs For New Services (This was done through the meetings between the Town Manager, Finance Director and the Department Heads to see what each department in town needs to continue offering great services to the community. This included a new School Resource Officer, a new Fire Fighter, a new Assistant Parks and Recreation Director, a new public works Driver/Operator, and lastly removing two part-time employees and adding a fulltime Assistant Library Director to the Library.)
- D. Add a Senior Tax Break to freeze their taxes from going up at a certain age (Finance Director, Assistant Town manager and Interim Town Manager are working on what this will look like for the community)

Mr. Michalowski said the State Legislature just passed LD 290. He said it was heavily discussed at a recent conference and the State will be working on an application process.

- E. Develop Financial Document(S) Or Chart(S) to show where tax dollars go (Finance Director has made a "dollar" chart which shows where the money goes to and presented it during the making of the budget.)
- 9. Develop Procedures for Applying for the Climate Study

Councilor Larochelle pointed out that this is something the Council attempts to incorporate into everything they do as a Council.

- A. Develop Job Descriptions with Salary Ranges (Completed)
- 10. Develop More Forward Looking Projects/Programs Councilor Larochelle said a Planner will help with this.
  - A. Empower Committees (Have utilized the Planning Board as well as the Finance Committee to address projects that have come about.)
  - 11. Revive Downtown Business Communication with the Town. (The Economic & Community Development office has connected with over 80 businesses and established or improved relations.)

Chief McGee said that Mr. Cunningham has added Jobs and Properties to the Economic Development Page of the Town website.

- A. In both Villages (Weekly FB posting is town wide. Upcoming Joint promotion project with PCL will be highlighting businesses from both parts of town evenly)
- B. Develop a list of businesses needs to be met (ECD has this as an ongoing effort. Immediate needs are Main St support during construction and workforce development. ECD has revived FAME loan options for working capital and identified Workforce development grant dollars for local businesses. Info has been shared directly to those businesses. Additionally, ECD has launched a "Jobs in Lisbon" Web page on the town site to help promote living and working locally)
- 12. Re-Look at Zoning for adding housing units (ROSII has been discussed, and other topics are being looked into to, include completing the RFP for Planning Services) ECD is working with Codes and Planning Board on all three items below. Additionally, there is concern for additional housing needs to accompany the expansion at Springworks Farm [300+ new employees]. Expect to ramp up when new planner is on board
  - A. Investigate School System /needs to add more residents into housing units
  - B. Investigate cost of adding more residents into housing units
  - C. Determine how to develop rural and open space areas responsibly

Mr. Kuhl said recent State Constitution changes have been made. He stated there are issues we need to deal with and there will be legal ramifications, i.e. the Right to Food.

Councilor Larochelle said Council looks at goals every 6 months and can add to them.

Councilor Fellows said there are neglected areas and buildings in town. Somehow we need to address it and put our best foot forward.

# ANNOUNCEMENT OF NOMINATION PAPERS FOR THE NOVEMBER 8, 2022 ANNUAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION AVAILABLE BEGINNING MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2022

The Clerk announced those interested can pick up Nomination Papers at the Town Clerk's Office. The vacancies are as follows:

School Committee: three seats, 3 year terms

Water Commission: one seat, 3-year term

Town Council: three seats, 3 year terms and one seat, 2-year term. She added that the 2-year term is Councilor Cain's seat, due to Councilor Miller's departure and noted that an appointee to the Council may only serve until the next election period per the Town Charter.

She said nomination papers are due September 9, 2022 by 4:00 pm and announced the following committee openings:

- 2 Assessment Review Board (3 Year Term)
- 3 Board of Appeals (2-2 Year Terms and 1 -3 Year Term)
- 5 Cemetery Committee (2-3 Year Terms, 1-2 Year Term and 2-1 Year Terms Available),
- 4 Conservation Committee (1-1 Year Term, 2-3 Year Terms Available & 1-2 Year Term)
- 1 Ethics Panel (2 Year Term Available)
- 2 Finance Committee (2-2 Year Terms Available)

#### CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE PRESENTATION

Item removed from agenda, representative unable to attend.

#### WORUMBO DISCUSSION

Councilor Larochelle said a lot of things have taken place at Worumbo. He said the Blues Festival showed how we can use the site.

Councilor Fellows said back when we tabled it, we said we'd bring it up when we have an Economic Development Director. We had a plan with four options. He asked where the Council wants to go with this. He added that Councilor Lunt had objections to how the Park only option was presented. He asked if Council wants to go out to the public.

Councilor Larochelle said a lot of things have changed. He said the Blues Festival was an example of how a Park can be successful. He said since we gave a green light to the Blues Fest for 2023 earlier in the meeting, we need to look at it. He handed out some renderings for the Council to consider that he stated showed what would be considered buildable and what would not. He offered the idea of a non-profit run facility under the umbrella of the town, so the businesses in town could help to run and maintain it.

Councilor Robishaw said we could get the businesses involved, there are other opportunities. He said if we had 8 festivals a year, the businesses would thrive.

Mr. Cunningham said the Friends of Congress Square in Portland do all the work for that and will meet with them to learn more.

Councilor Cain said it can be more than a park, it can be a venue with monthly festivals.

Councilor Fellows said he is not stuck on building housing at Worumbo. He said he'd like to find out what the public wanted, and the most recent renderings should be looked at. He said we shouldn't just stop. We should consider everything, maybe with more options.

The Chairman invited Mr. Kimball to speak. Mr. Kimball said that Councilor Cain mentioned it could be a destination point. He said the Blues Fest is restricted to Maine-only artists. He said he has long felt there's no reason Lisbon can't be a music destination point.

Councilor Moore said he defers to the people who voted for him. He said they ask, what about taxes, how will it help them? He said he doesn't think that by giving up ownership, we won't get an influx of residents. He said he thinks it's time to put the Worumbo question to bed. He said he does not think the other scenarios are worthwhile, and it doesn't seem viable to him. He stated that what is needed is to start working on a good, effective use of the property.

Councilor Fellows said he is not opposed to development. He said his opposition is that a decision should not be made tonight. He pointed out that we need a vision, and we need a time frame.

The Chairman invited Mr. Kuhl to speak. Mr. Kuhl stated that he works for State Housing, that housing at Worumbo would be about 24 units and it would be for Seniors. He said that where he grew up in Pennsylvania there is no green space left. He recommended that for Planning Board purposes the town should maintain ownership.

Councilor Larochelle said it is the Council's responsibility to make the decision.

Councilor Moore suggested a steering committee should be put together instead of tasking the Lisbon Development Committee. The Chair tasked the Management Team and the Economic Development Director with putting together a committee. Chief McGee said he would task Assistant Town Manager Glenn Michalowski with establishment of a Worumbo Steering Committee with Councilors Robishaw and Moore representing Council on the Committee.

**VOTE** (2022-166B) Councilor Moore, seconded by Councilor Smith, moved to halt the previous direction of the research and development of the Worumbo site and pursue a Venue option.

Order passed 6-1, (Nay - Fellows).

# **APPOINTMENTS**

**VOTE** (2022-167) Councilor Lunt, seconded by Councilor Fellows, moved to appoint Lisbon Development Committee Associate Member Chris Rugullies to Full Member and to appoint new Associate Member Natalie Thomsen of Pinewoods Road.

Order passed – Vote 7-0.

# **COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilor Robishaw said McGee Construction did a very good job at making Main Street accessible for Moxie weekend. He said people thought there should be more stuff on Main Street. Chief McGee acknowledged his concerns.

Councilor Larochelle said unknowns are the biggest issue. He said there's going to be a Moxie wrap-up meeting and that Moxie will continue to grow.

Councilor Fellows said he volunteered at the last minute, it was fun. He said the Recipe Contest was interesting and the Governor had fun, too.

The Chairman thanked everyone involved for the success of Moxie. He said the Town really came together, there was a lot of planning that went into it.

Chief LeClair said there was a lot of planning. He said the amount of planning the Police Department did went above and beyond, and the security level was the highest ever.

# AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION & RESPONSE FOR NEW ITEMS - NONE

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**VOTE** (2022-168) Councilor Lunt, seconded by Councilor Smith, moved to go into Executive Session at 9:24 pm per M.R.S.A. Section 405 (6) (A) Personnel Matters.

Order passed - Vote 7-0.

The Council returned from Executive Session at 9:58 pm and resumed the meeting.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**VOTE** (2022-169) Councilor Lunt, seconded by Councilor Robishaw, moved to Adjourn at 9:58 pm.

Order passed - Vote 7-0.

Lisa M. Ward, Council Secretary Town Clerk

Date Approved: August 16, 2022