

**COUNCIL MINUTES OF  
AUGUST 11, 2016**

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Fred Sherburne, Mark Robichaud, Ron Apel, Sharon Grant, Marcia Delaware

**EXCUSED ABSENCE:** Mike Blake, Alan Wintle

**STAFF PRESENT:** Shelley Watson, Kim Hughes, Mike Gudroe, Steve Gudroe, Marilyn Curtis, Liz Breault

The Invocation was led by **Pastor Robert DeLeon** followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**I. PUBLIC HEARING**

*1. Ordinance C2016-4 Amendment to Motor Vehicles and Traffic Ordinance*

**BE IT ORDAINED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby amends Chapter 9, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Sec.9-68 Stop intersections to add the following:

Stop intersections in the Town shall be designated at the following locations:

*(x) At the junction of Highland Avenue and Crosby Street, all traffic on Highland Avenue to stop before entering Crosby Street.*

**Ruth Fogg** commented that the intersection is dangerous and that putting up a stop sign is a good thing. **Janice Reynolds** asked for clarification on where the stop sign is going and agreed that it is needed.

**II. MINUTES**

**Motion:** Ron Apel made a motion to approve the Minutes from July 14, 2016

**Second:** Mark Robichaud

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor, motion passes

**III. NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS, & ELECTIONS**

*1. Order A2016-62 Vote for MMA Vice President and Executive Committee Members*

**BE IT ORDERED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby nominate Linda Cohen for Vice President and James Gardner, Jr., Christine Landes, and Mary Sabins for Executive Committee Member Directors for Maine Municipal Association.

Filed August 11, 2016  
**SHARON GRANT**

**Second:** Marcia Delaware

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*2. Order A2016-63 Election Results from July 26, 2016*

**BE IT ORDERED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby accepts the results of the July 26, 2016 MSAD #46 District Budget Validation Referendum Election as follows:

YES 76

NO 35

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**SHARON GRANT**

**Second:** Marcia Delaware

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor, motion passes

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*3. Order A2016-64 Appointment to the Planning Board*

**BE IT ORDERED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby appoint Joseph Terrasi to serve on the Planning Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2016.

Filed August 11, 2016

**MARCIA DELAWARE**

**Second:** Ron Apel

**Sharon Grant** stated that she did not understand why the Council would want someone on the Board from Sangerville. She added that she looked in the Code Book and did not see anything there concerning qualifications and what Town someone had to be from.

**Marcia Delaware** agreed with **Ms. Grant** and added that a proposed Ordinance could be added to the next Agenda to clarify that members should be Dexter residents for both the Planning Board and the Board of Appeals since they are policy making committees. She added that anyone is welcome to come to the meetings but where policy or financial decisions are concerned, they should be made by residents of the Town.

**Mark Robichaud** and **Ron Apel** agreed.

**Shelley Watson** stated that the committee openings were not being actively advertised in the newspaper and added that she researched State statues and Town Codes and right now there is nothing stating that someone has to be a resident of the Town to serve. **Ms. Watson** also stated that she did not think it is appropriate for a non-resident to serve on the Board.

**Vote:** 0 to 5 (Sherburne, Apel, Robichaud, Grant, Delaware), motion fails

**Motion:** Marcia Delaware made a motion to add a Proposed Ordinance to the next Agenda to amend the Planning Board and Board of Appeals by-laws by adding Town of Dexter residency requirements.

**Second:** Mark Robichaud

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor, motion passes

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*1. Manager's Report*

**Shelley Watson** welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that the Town has three new employees and they are **Kenneth York**, who has just joined the Police Department as the newest full-time police officer, **Lonnie Parrilla** started work this week with the Facilities Department, and **Gordon Smith** will be the new mechanic at the Highway Garage, which is making a shift in duties there. **Ms. Watson** recognized the cemetery crew and **Steve Gudroe** for always going the extra mile. She received a really nice letter and photo with a compliment for everyone on the outstanding job they always do at the cemetery. **Ms. Watson** thanked **Mike Gudroe** and **Lonnie Parrilla** for all the work in the Council Chambers such as painting and cleaning and commented that the new ceiling and lighting was quite an improvement after the collapse of the old ceiling over the Council podium. She continued by saying that the summer camp program was a huge success. There is going to be a meeting with all the people involved to try to improve on what was in place this year and all the camp councilors were asked to write a report on what they felt should be changed. **Ms. Watson** suggested that maybe another year a day trip could be planned for the councilors but that all depends on future funding. **Ms Watson** recognized the Maine Highlands Federal Credit Union for donating T-shirts to everyone in the

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program and Toot's for providing each child with a water bottle. She stated that the Clerks are gearing up for the election and reminded everyone that nomination papers will be available in the Town Office on Monday for the Council, Utility District, HAD 4, and School Board. She closed by stating that she hoped to see everyone at the Red Hot Dog Festival on Saturday and thanked all the volunteers on the committee for all the hard work that they have done.

*2. Departmental Reports*

**Marcia Delaware** asked **Steve Gudroe** what was happening with the hunt for the new cemetery truck. **Mr. Gudroe** replied that he has looked through the State and has found that he is looking for more than the Town can afford for a four-door, ¾ ton pickup. So now he is hoping to find a two-door, extended cab pickup and will come back to talk to the Council if he finds something.

*3. Ordinance C2016-4 Amendment to Motor Vehicles and Traffic Ordinance*

**BE IT ORDAINED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby amends Chapter 9, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Sec.9-68 Stop intersections to add the following:

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**Filed August 11, 2016  
MARK ROBICHAUD**

**Second:** Sharon Grant

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor, motion passes

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

*1. Resolution B2016-2017-2 Tax Due Date and Interest Rate*

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the 2016-2017 property taxes shall be due and payable on or before October 14, 2016; and furthermore that the interest rate for the outstanding balance paid after that date shall be at the rate of 7% per annum.

**Filed August 11, 2016  
RON APEL**

**Second:** Marcia Delaware

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*2. Resolution B2016-2017-3 Mil Rate*

**BE IT RESOLVED, WHEREAS;** the sum of \$4,386,211.00 is required to be raised through taxation to support municipal operations, as well as the Town's contribution to School Administrative District #46 and payment to Penobscot County for the period of July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017, that a mil rate not to exceed 18.6 mils be hereby adopted for the 2016-2017 tax year.

**Filed August 11, 2016  
MARK ROBICHAUD**

**Second:** Ron Apel

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**Marcia Delaware** pointed out the three tax rate calculations that the temporary Assessor presented to the Council. There are three different tax rates and three different overlays. **Ms. Delaware** suggested that the Council approve the lowest mil rate of .01825 since everyone worked hard on the budget to not have an increase. She thought a marginal decrease would be a gift to the tax payers and it would validate the school's efforts to decrease their budget. She concluded that since the difference of the three calculations is so small, the taxpayers should get a one-time, feel-good decreased mil rate of 18.25. **Sharon Grant** stated that when she first came on the Council, a big tax deduction was given the year before and the Town had to come up with money and she is afraid the same thing could happen if the mil rate is lowered. **Ron Apel** thought the mil rate should remain at 18.6 since it is not an increase so as not to get behind on projects that need to be done in Town. **Mark Robichaud** agreed that the mil rate should be left at 18.6. **Ruth Fogg** stated that she respected the enthusiasm to lower the mil rate but the Town's reserves have already been stretched so she thought it should remain the same.

**Vote:** 4 to 1 (Delaware), motion passes

*3. Resolution B2016-2017-4 Tax Club*

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the continuation of the Tax Club for the collection of property taxes for the 2016/2017 fiscal year.

Filed August 11, 2016

**MARCIA DELAWARE**

**Second:** Sharon Grant

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*4. Order A2016-65 Office Closure for Presidential Election*

**BE IT ORDERED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby authorizes the closure of the Municipal Office for the Presidential Election on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 in order to allow the clerks to work at the election polls.

Filed August 11, 2016

**SHARON GRANT**

**Second:** Marcia Delaware

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*5. Order A2016-66 Reserve Expenditure for Repair of Library Chimney*

**BE IT ORDERED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby accepts the bid for the library chimney repair submitted by Walter E. Musson for the amount of \$ 12, 856 and hereby authorizes the Finance Officer to transfer up to \$ 12, 856 from Library Reserve Account E130-05-511-17 to Library Building Maintenance Account E106-01-505-20 for repair of the library chimney.

Filed August 11, 2016

**MARCIA DELAWARE**

**Second:** Ron Apel

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**Sharon Grant** asked **Liz Breault**, Librarian, if she was pleased with the work that has already been done and **Ms. Breault** replied “yes” and that she watched what was done with the copper flashing and they did a very good job. **Ron Apel** said he knew that part of the work was a stainless steel liner and cap to keep the rain out. He mentioned correspondence with the Maine Historical Preservation Society and stated they are strict about how repairs are done. **Mr. Apel** stated that a copper cap is mentioned in one of the proposals and wanted to know if that would be more historical. **Ms. Breault** replied that the stainless steel cap is not visible from the ground and the chimney has never had a copper cap.

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*6. Order A2016-67 Transfer Cemetery Funds for Veterans' Grave Markers*

**BE IT ORDERED**, that the Dexter Town Council hereby authorizes the Finance Officer to transfer \$1,000.00 from Cemetery Operating Account E 135-05-512-05 to Cemetery Grounds Maintenance Account E113-01-507-65 for Veterans' Grave Markers.

Filed August 11, 2016

**RON APEL**

**Second:** Mark Robichaud

**Steve Gudroe** advised the Council that two years ago \$2,000 was requested because all of the Veteran's grave markers were plastic and they were breaking so they were replaced with about 165 metal markers. Those markers have all been used so more markers are needed. The markers are just over \$20 each but if they are purchased in bulk a little money can be saved so he may be able to buy an additional 50 to 60 markers.

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*7. Discussion on ATV Road Access*

**Sue McAvoy**, Secretary/Treasurer of the Sangerville Knights ATV Club, introduced herself and thanked the Council for their time. The Club is newly formed and something the Town of Sangerville pushed for because there were a number of ATV riders that wanted to be able to access the railroad bed and other area Towns. ATV riders were already using the roads before they were opened so the Town wanted a club so issues could be addressed through an organization that could spearhead road issues, time frames of use, etc. The roads that the Club would like to petition Dexter to open are the Goff Road in Dexter from Route 23 to the Sangerville line which is approximately 900 feet and Silvers Mills Road from Route 7 to the Sangerville line which is approximately 1.28 miles. Sangerville still needs to petition the State to open from Frenchs Mills to the Goff Road which is 2000 feet and is 500 feet over the allowed distance. If the State opens the road, the Club is allowed to go 1500 feet without petitioning Dexter but would prefer to present the intention and ask permission. Silvers Mills is about 200 feet too long in distance to open without permission and then it might be possible to open the rest of Silvers Mills to Garland. Garland just voted to open all the Town maintained roads about two weeks ago. There have been questions in the past about Town liability, but according to Brian Bronson of the State of Maine Parks and Land ATV Program, town government has immunity through the Maine Tort Claims law. **Ms. McAvoy** concluded by stating there is a lot more ATV activity all the time and opening the roads helps businesses. **Sharon Grant** asked what part of the road the ATVs would be using and **Ms. McAvoy** replied the shoulder if there was one, and if not, they would be in the lane. ATVs are allowed to use the roads between May 15 and the first

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snow fall or December 1. The State of Maine requires ATVs to be registered and eventually may require insurance. She added that Dover-Foxcroft has opened several roads on a one year, trial basis and all roads in Parkman are open. Abbot has roads open and Monson is trying to open roads to bring business into Town. The Club is willing to pay for posting signs on the roads that are opened to ATV traffic. **Janice Reynolds** stated that when ATVs are insured it is for off-road use and **Ms. McAvoy** replied that the roads are considered part of the trail system when they are opened by the State or Towns. **Fred Sherburne** thanked **Ms. McAvoy** and said he appreciated her presentation. He added that he thought it should go to Public Hearing and have discussion with law enforcement as well.

**Motion:** Ron Apel made a motion to add a Proposed Ordinance to the Public Hearing in September for opening the Goff Road and the Silvers Mills Road to ATV traffic.

**Second:** Mark Robichaud

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor, motion passes

*8. Discussion on Entrance/Exit to Municipal Parking Lot*

**Shelley Watson** stated that this is an issue that she notices every time she pulls out of the Municipal parking lot. When you pull out onto Main Street, the building is blocking the view of any pedestrian coming down the sidewalk and a couple of weeks ago a young boy ran his bicycle into a car that was pulling out. The boy was alright but his bicycle was not and the car was scratched. **Ms. Watson** asked the Police Chief and the Highway Department their opinion and no one seems to have an issue with changing the exit so she suggested swapping the exit and entrance. **Ms. Watson** said if the Council wanted to go forward with the swap she would approach the business owners to see if they have any concerns with making the change. **Marcia Delaware** asked how that would work with the drive through at the bank and **Ms. Watson** replied that she thought the drive through would still be alright since you can see down the sidewalk from there. **Fred Sherburne** said he had that issue there himself and suggested that mirrors could be installed on a post to assist in seeing the sidewalk and everyone agreed that it would be worth a try.

*9. Approve/Sign Quit Claim Deed for Accentricity, LLC (Jim & Charlie Quimby)*

**Motion:** Marcia Delaware made a motion to approve the Deed for Accentricity, LLC

**Second:** Sharon Grant

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor, motion passes

**VI. PUBLIC FORUM**

NONE

**VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

NONE

**Motion to Adjourn at 8:07PM:** Marcia Delaware

**Second:** Ron Apel

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor, motion passes

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kim M. Hughes, Town Clerk

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