

**COUNCIL MINUTES OF
JANUARY 14, 2016**

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

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Alan Wintle

STAFF PRESENT: Shelley Watson, Kim Hughes, Mike Gudroe, Marilyn Curtis, Anita Colomy, Kevin Wintle

The Invocation was led by **Kim Hughes** and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Wanda Curtis drew a name from the contest jar for the 2015 Doggie Drawing. The winning name was **Pam Annis** and she won \$25 cash for registering her dog on time at the Town Office.

I. PUBLIC HEARING

NONE

II. MINUTES

1. Approve/Amend Council Minutes of December 10, 2015

Motion: Fred Sherburne made a motion to approve the Minutes from December 10, 2015

Second: Ron Apel

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

III. NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS, & ELECTIONS

NONE

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Manager's Report

Shelley Watson started by stating that the Recreation Committee had their first meeting as a full Board on Friday. **Ms. Watson** attended the meeting along with **Mike Martin**, Recreation Director, and **Angel Quick** and **Fawn Wentworth** from Skowhegan Savings Bank. The meeting started with a discussion of the grand reopening of the ice skating rink because of the project that **Bryce Greaves** did to attain Eagle Scout. There are plans for a Dexter skate night on January 29th from 4 to 8PM. There will be a bonfire, music, games, and prizes. The Recreation Committee is very enthusiastic and they are also interested in sprucing up the dining hall area of the Town Hall so with the Council's permission they would like to brighten up the area with paint donated by **Tillson's** and a volunteer to do the work. Unfortunately there was an accident with one of the Town's plow trucks. The plow truck driver was not hurt but one of the occupants in the car was taken by ambulance because of neck and shoulder pain. It looks like the accident was not the fault of the Town as the car was possibly going too fast for the road conditions but the report has not come in yet from the State police. **Ms. Watson** concluded by stating that she is getting ready to send out specs for the paving project and would like to recognize **Phil Curtis** from Maine Local Roads for the work he has done with the Highway/Equipment Committee. **Mr. Curtis** met with **Ms. Watson** and **Eric Campbell** earlier in the week and brought specifications and a model contract to assist with the pre-bid meeting on February 3rd, which is the same day as the Highway/Equipment meeting.

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Marcia Delaware pointed out that in the written Manager's report **Ms. Watson** said that she sent funding requests to area Towns for the library and asked why that was done. **Ms. Watson** replied that every year the Town sends out those requests so that residents from area Towns can use the Dexter Library at no cost to them. There are issues with one Town not wanting to pay that fee so their residents will now be charged for a library card. **Ms. Delaware** asked if Departmental Reports could be reinstated to the Agenda after the Manager's Report to open up any questions that the Council might have and also asked that all of the Department Heads submit a report since it is such a great educational tool for the Council.

Fred Sherburne stated that he missed the Manager's Agenda Report and asked if it could be reinstated.

Sharon Grant asked what was going on with Golf Course project and **Ms. Watson** replied that she had been up and that the inside looks really nice and that the deck should be done next week.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Order A2016-01 Police Cruiser Bid

BE IT ORDERED, that the Dexter Town Council hereby accepts the bid submitted by Chicago Motors, Inc. in the amount of \$1,200.00 for the Police Department's 2011 Ford Crown Victoria.

Filed January 14, 2016

MARCIA DELAWARE

Second: Ron Apel

Police Chief, **Kevin Wintle**, opened the discussion by stating that they were trying to get a School Resource Officer and that there is an Ad Hoc Committee in place. **Chief Wintle** requested that the Council hold off on selling the cruiser until there is more insight on the possibility of getting a School Resource Officer. He believes the cruiser is worth more than \$1200 and that the Town should retain the vehicle so there could be a visual deterrent in front of the schools. **Ron Apel** asked what kind of money would have to be spent to buy another police cruiser and **Chief Wintle** replied that it would probably run at least \$3000 but that the Crown Vic is in pretty good shape even though it has very high mileage. **Fred Sherburne** asked how the third vehicle at the police station is currently being used and if a fourth vehicle was necessary and **Chief Wintle** replied that three vehicles were necessary for patrol. Right now there are issues with the Chevy cruiser and it is difficult to get parts for the car. The rotation with four vehicles would be that the School Resource Officer cruiser would always be the oldest vehicle in the fleet. **Ron Apel** asked when the next vehicle would be traded and **Chief Wintle** replied "not this year". **John Parola** stated that fitting the money into the school budget would be a struggle. Also the committee is trying to decide what a School Resource Officer's job description would be and once that is clear the committee can move forward much faster. The committee also wants to look at other communities that have the program and see how they started and it takes time to explore all the possibilities. **Fred Sherburne** asked **Mr. Parola** if taking the Council's approval back to the committee would be of value so the Council voted informally to endorse the position of a School Resource Officer. **Mike Blake** asked what Newport was doing and **Chief Wintle** replied that they started with a grant. **Sharon Grant** mentioned that the school budget was really part of the whole budget that the taxpayers would be paying for and that there is some opposition to the position since some are concerned about cuts to other programs. **Chief Wintle**

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added that **Frank Spizuoco** estimated that the additional cost to have the position would be approximately \$4.60 per tax bill.

Vote: 2 to 4 (Robichaud, Apel, Sherburne, Grant), motion fails

2. Order A2016-02 Transfer of Funds for Printing of Code Book Updates

BE IT ORDERED, that the Dexter Town Council hereby authorizes the Finance Officer to transfer up to \$1,100.00 from Ordinance Codification Reserve Account #E130-05-511-08 to Council Other Contractual Expense Account #E102-01-504-51 for the printing of Supplement No. 37 to the Dexter Town Code of Ordinances.

Filed January 14, 2016

SHARON GRANT

Second: Marcia Delaware

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

3. Order A2016-03 Transfer of Funds for Safety Compliance

BE IT ORDERED, that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the transfer of up to \$4,800.00 from account #G10-37300-00 General Fund for the cost of emergency lighting, electrical work, and materials to account # E110-01/505-15 Facilities and Park Maintenance for safety compliance.

Filed January 14, 2016

FRED SHERBURNE

Second: Ron Apel

Mike Gudroe stated that he tried to get three bids for the job but one of the bidders pulled out and another person that he contacted could not get in to look at the job in time. **Mary Matthews** from the Department of Labor went around with **Mr. Gudroe** and listed safety issues such as emergency exit lights, etc. for the Town Office, Library, and Public Works garage. He continued by saying that no Department Head has enough money in their budgets to cover the costs which is why it was decided to ask for the money to cover all of the safety expenses. **Marcia Delaware** asked what the time frame is for doing the jobs and **Mr. Gudroe** replied that the work needed to be done by January 29th and that it should only take a few days to complete.

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

4. Discussion about the Public Beach/Campground

Shelley Watson stated that **John Parola** approached her to let her know that there is a benefactor who is interested in assisting the Town in improving the beach/campground area. Before she started the process of getting together all kinds of numbers, she decided to bring the project in front of the Council to see what plans the Council might want to suggest. **Ms. Watson** said in her opinion the campground has not worked well in the past and wondered if enhancing the swimming area, a new bath house, and day programs with school transportation and a lunch program might be the way to go. Also, P J Nicholas of the Dexter Fish and Game estimated the cost to bring electricity to just three sites in the campground to be around \$4500 which is very costly. **Ms. Watson** stated that she had a staff meeting with the Department Heads and **John Parola** so that everyone could bring out their ideas. She continued by saying that she would also like to see BBQ pits and had also investigated an outdoor movie theatre.

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Mark Robichaud stated that he would like to see a swim float and a new dock and remembered having a great time at the beach as a kid.

Ron Apel was in favor of bringing back the beach area and thought movies would be interesting but cautioned that the Town was not in a position to spend money on the project.

Fred Sherburne was also in favor of working on the beach and bringing back programs to keep kids busy and feels that keeping them away from drugs, off the streets, and fed would be a good investment. He also feels that more improvements could be made to the playground and that it would not be an issue if the campground went away.

Sharon Grant agreed with the other Councilors and also agreed that the campground has not worked so the investment should be in the beach and other activities.

Marcia Delaware also agreed with a float and swimming lessons and remembered a time when Kiwanis bussed kids to Dover to swim at the Y. **John Parola** added that the program stopped because of the decline in participation by the kids. **Ms. Delaware** added that there is no way to police a bath house and that is too bad.

Mike Blake also agreed and asked **Mr. Parola** to pass along the interest that the Council has in the beach area. **Mr. Parola** added that he would also pass along interest in a new dock, swim float, maybe a gazebo where families could come and picnic out of the rain, some type of summer programs, and possibly a new bathhouse with a changing area and take the campground out of it altogether.

Mike Blake presented the Council with information from **Bruce A. Manzer**. He works with Phil Curtis from Maine Local Roads who is working with the Highway/Equipment Committee. **Mr. Manzer** creates a spread sheet on all the roads in a Town along with an explanation on the scope of work needed. **Mr. Manzer** has offered to come and do the same work for the Town of Dexter and that would give the Town a dollar figure and a plan. He has offered to come and meet with the Highway/Equipment Committee. The spread sheet and scope of work information would cost around \$1500 but in addition to that he would be bidding on future paving jobs. **Mr. Blake** added that it could be a valuable tool for the amount of money it takes to have it done.

VI. PUBLIC FORUM

NONE

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

NONE

Motion to Adjourn at 8:00PM: Ron Apel

Second: Fred Sherburne

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim M. Hughes
Town Clerk