

**APPROVED
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
JUNE 29, 2006
5:00 P.M.
MUNICIPAL MEETING FACILITY**

5:10 P.M. Chair King called the meeting to order.

Councilors Present: Chair Joanne T. King, W. David Watson, Louise V. Ansari, Ryan E. Ewing, and Forrest Lowe. Councilor Daughtry arrived at 5:20 p.m.

Councilors Absent: Councilors Jacqueline A. Sartoris, Jeffrey A. Schneider, and Newell A. Augur.

Town Staff Present: Donald Gerrish, Town Manager; Elin M. Gould, Deputy Town Clerk; John Eldridge, Finance Director; and members of the TV video crew.

Correspondence: Manager Gerrish reminded the Council and the public of an LRA forum to be held this evening regarding the aviation feasibility study.

Manager's Report: None.

Adjustments to Agenda: None.

115. The Town Council will consider an emergency resolution authorizing an appropriation of \$90,000 for the purpose of repairing roads and infrastructure damaged by the heavy rains and flooding that took place in October of 2005.

Manager Gerrish said this would fund the cost of the road work after the flooding on Pleasant Hill and Raymond Roads. He explained that the funds are available in the snow removal budget but there needs to be a separate action to take care of this.

Councilor Lowe moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to adopt the Resolution for an Emergency Appropriation of \$90,000 from Unappropriated Available General Fund Revenues to Fund Unanticipated Expenditures to Repair Roads and Infrastructure that were Damaged During Heavy Rains and Flooding that Occurred in October of 2005. The motion carried with five (5) yeas.

(A copy of the Resolution will be attached to the official minutes.)

116. The Town Council will consider adopting resolutions authorizing the transfer of funds between Municipal Departments, and will take any appropriate action.

Manager Gerrish said that some accounts have overdrafts and others have a surplus. Overall, the year will end with between \$400,000 and \$500,000 in the appropriation account, which is excellent, and with revenues exceeding projections by approximately \$500,000, ending the year in good shape. Mr. Gerrish then went on to speak about each account that was over for the year:

Administration – over due to legal costs, and travel related to BRAC

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Personnel – safety program over budget as well as advertising costs due to several positions being filled

Municipal Officers – dues to MMA was paid ahead of time, out of the current budget instead of next fiscal year's to facilitate financial accounting

Economic Development – additional part time help

Fire Department – additional gas and oil costs of approximately \$10,000, and call back

Police Department – gas costs over by about \$10,000, and the new contract

Traffic signals – more repairs needed than anticipated

Refuse collection and disposal – more trash was generated on the town side

Central garage – costs of gas and oil, and repairs to equipment

People Plus – broken boiler

Industry Road building – nothing had been budgeted to maintain the building as is, had planned to renovate

Gardiner Savings parking – spent more than took in this year. The program has been turned over to the Brunswick Downtown Association, and is currently free parking.

Councilor Ewing asked why \$60,000 is coming from debt service.

Manager Gerrish responded that money had been put in the budget to borrow for renovations at the Times Record building, which would have included operating costs as part, and, since renovations were not done the money was not borrowed. Since the operating costs must be paid the choice was made to take the funds from the debt service that would have been paid had the money been borrowed.

Councilor Watson moved, Councilor Ewing seconded, to adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Transfer of Funds Between Municipal Offices, Departments and Agencies. The motion carried with six (6) yeas.

(A copy of the Resolution will be attached to the official minutes.)

117. The Town Council will consider adopting a resolution authorizing the over-expenditure of certain accounts for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2006, and will take any appropriate action.

John Eldridge, Finance Director, explained that the Charter does not allow over expenditures without Council action. This resolution will cover the final amounts that won't be determined until the end of July or first of August, when all bills for this fiscal year have been paid. If any account is over by more than \$10,000 it will be necessary for the Council to take an additional action.

Councilor Daughtry moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Over expenditure of Certain Accounts for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2006. The motion carried with six (6) yeas.

(A copy of the Resolution will be attached to the official minutes.)

118. The Town Council will consider authorizing the Town Manager to issue quit-claim deeds on behalf of the Town for properties on which taxes have been

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paid but for which tax liens may not have been discharged prior to the date of automatic foreclosure.

Mr. Eldridge said this would authorize the Town Manager to sign on behalf of the Town. The lien process calls for the town to place a lien, and eighteen months later it automatically forecloses if the taxes have not been paid, and the title transfers to the town. If someone pays close to the foreclosure date this authorization allows for the paperwork to be filed in a timely manner.

Councilor Watson moved, Councilor Daughtry seconded, to authorize the Town Manager to issue quit-claim deeds on behalf of the town for properties on which taxes have been paid but for which tax liens may not have been discharged prior to the date of the automatic foreclosure. The motion carried with six (6) yeas.

119. The Town Council will consider a request from the Finance Director to abate real and personal property taxes deemed uncollectible.

Mr. Eldridge said all remedies available to collect these taxes have been exhausted. These are insignificant amounts where often the person or business has gone through bankruptcy or the taxpayer moves and cannot be located. The large amount in 2001 is related to the bankruptcy of EnvisionNet.

Councilor Watson moved, Councilor Ewing seconded, to abate real and personal property taxes deemed uncollectible pursuant 36 MRSA §841(3). The motion carried with six (6) yeas.

(A copy of the list of uncollectible taxes will be attached to the official minutes.)

120. The Town Council will consider any other action necessary to close out the 2005-06 Fiscal Year, and will take any appropriate action.

Mr. Eldridge requested a resolution for an emergency appropriation of \$100,000 from fund balance to fund furnishings, equipment, and supplies for the Cook's Corner Fire Station. He explained that two and one half million dollars was funded by bond ordinance with an allowance included in that of \$100,000 for furnishings and equipment. Mr. Eldridge said he felt those were not appropriate items to be bonded for twenty years.

Councilor Lowe moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to adopt the Resolution for an Emergency Appropriation of \$100,000 from Unappropriated Available General Fund Revenues to Fund Furnishings, Equipment, and Supplies for the Cook's Corner Fire Station. The motion carried with six (6) yeas.

(A copy of the Resolution will be attached to the official minutes.)

121. The Town Council will consider a resolution designating \$900,000 principal amount of its debt as bank qualified.

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Mr. Eldridge said this item relates to the Times Record building on Industry Road. A temporary note was issued at the time of its purchase by the town, becoming due on June 30, 2006. He would like to see the town roll that note for one year until the property is sold. This was originally done on a taxable basis because, at the time of purchase, the property was not a public use, a requirement for non-taxable status. Now that the building is vacant it qualifies as a public, thus, tax-exempt, use. This designation will save two percent on the interest rate.

Councilor Watson moved, Councilor Ansari seconded, to adopt the Resolution designating \$900,000 principal amount of its debt as bank qualified. The motion carried with six (6) yeas.

(A copy of the Resolution will be attached to the official minutes.)

122. The Town Council will consider the six-month Beano/ Games of Chance licenses for the Evergreen Senior Citizens Club and Knights of Columbus, and will take any appropriate action.

Manager Gerrish said this is the semi-annual approval for these requests; the dates and times have not changed.

Councilor Ewing moved, Councilor Daughtry seconded, to approve the six-month Beano/Games of Chance for licenses for the Evergreen Senior Citizens Club and Knights of Columbus. The motion carried with six (6) yeas.

(A copy of the days and times of the games will be attached to the official minutes.)

Councilor Ewing moved, Councilor Daughtry seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with six (6) yeas.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS.

*Elin M. Gould
Deputy Town Clerk
June 30, 2006*

July 10, 2006

Date of Approval

Council Chair