Town Council
Meeting Minutes
September 5, 2024
LISBON TOWN OFFICE
6:30 PM - COUNCIL MEETING

Harry Moore, Jr., Chair
Raymond Robishaw, Vice Chair
Mark Lunt
Normand Albert
Jo-Jean Keller
Christine Cain
Fern Larochelle

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE TO FLAG

The Vice Chair, Ray Robishaw, called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag at 7:00PM.

ROLL CALL

Council Members present were Councilor Albert, Councilor Cain, Councilor Keller, Councilor Larochelle, Councilor Lunt, and Councilor Robishaw. Also present were Glenn Michalowski, Town Manager; Sarah Bennett, Assistant Town Manager; Pat Maloy, Public Works Director; and 15 citizens in the audience.

(Vote) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Lunt, moved to excuse Councilmember Moore's absence.
Order Passed: 6-0.

GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION

Councilor Larochelle congratulated the Town on coming together to fix the Town's recent water issues.

Councilor Lunt thanked Assistant Town Manager Sarah Bennett for her help coordinating the efforts to address the Town's water issues.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Bond Ordinance for $6,000,000 General Obligation Bonds for Philip W. Sugg Middle School Renovations and Construction
Councilor Robishaw opened the Public Hearing at 7:04pm.

School Superintendent Rick Green presented the Council with the Renovations and Construction project plan. During his presentation, he provided details about the school's history, Lisbon classroom sizes, the State of Maine's classroom requirements, current and previous placements of various school facilities within the current gymnasium, the use of portable classrooms, and overcrowding issues. The Superintendent then provided information on recommended renovations, new construction, budget, funding, and payments.

After the presentation, the Council; Traci Austin, prior School Committee Member and Lisbon Resident; Don Fellows, Former Town Councilor and Lisbon Resident; and Superintendent of Schools Rick Green discussed various details that included, without being limited to, topics such as previous and current school facilities, community growth, bond interest rates, school programming, and potential alternative funding sources.

Councilor Robishaw closed the Public Hearing at 7:55pm.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION & RESPONSE FOR AGENDA ITEMS

No participation

CONSENT AGENDA

(Order 2024-162) ***Consent Agenda Items***

Muncipal and School Warrants:
Municipal Accounts Payable: $314,450.62
Municipal Payroll: $243,791.81
School Accounts Payable: $243,066.96
School Payroll: $17,567.57

VOTE: (2024-162) Councilmember Larochelle, seconded by Councilmember Keller moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
Order Passed: 6-0.

COUNCIL ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS, & ORDINANCES

(Order 2024-150) Bond Ordinance for $6,000,000 General Obligation Bonds for Philip W. Sugg Middle School Renovations and Construction

VOTE: (2024-150) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Lunt moved to approve the Bond Ordinance for $6,000,000 General Obligation Bonds for Philip W. Sugg Middle School Renovations and Construction as presented.
Roll Call Vote:
Yays: Cain, Keller, Robishaw, Lunt, Larochelle, Albert
Nays: None
Order Passed: 6 Yays, 0 Nays

(Order 2024-151) Order Awarding $112,000 Bid to Gendron & Gendron for 2024-2025 Road Resurfacing Program

Town Manager Glenn Michalowski presented the project and recommended rewarding the bid to Gendron & Gendron on the basis of their proposal including some culvert replacement and grinding of the base of the road.

Public Works Director Pat Maloy then provided specific project details that were in the bid before a brief Council discussion.

VOTE: (2024-151) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Albert, moved to approve the Order awarding the $112,000 Bid to Gendron & Gendron for the 2024-2025 Road Resurfacing Program.
Order Passed: 6-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council Committee Reports:

School Committee – Councilor Cain

Councilor Albert wished good luck to the School Department during the days before the election.

Planning Board –Councilor Larochelle

Councilor Larochelle stated that he was unable to attend. Planning Board Member Nicholas Craig then provided a report detailing potential new businesses and the Board's progress on developing new road standards for a Code of Ordinances update.

Lisbon Development Committee – Councilor Larochelle

Councilor Larochelle stated that he had nothing new to report.

Conservation Commission – Councilor Moore

Councilor Moore was absent.

Parks & Recreation Committee – Councilor Moore

Councilor Moore was absent.

County Budget Committee – Councilor Moore

Town Manager Glenn Michalowski reported that District 4, which includes Lisbon, Sabattus, and

Wales, now has two representatives on the Committee. Planning Board Member William Kuhl was appointed to the Municipal Officer seat and Deidre Smith was appointed to the At Large Resident seat of the County Budget Committee.

Library Governing Board – Councilor Keller

Councilor Keller said the Lisbon Library recently restarted its Inter-Library Loan program, which is a service that allows the Lisbon Library to borrow books from other libraries in Maine to provide books that would otherwise be unavailable to Lisbon Library patrons. Councilor Keller continued by stating that it was Banned Book Month; that according to statistics, the incidents of banning books are increasing; that Stephen King has 20 of his books banned in certain parts of the United States; and that the book most often banned is George Orwell's 1984. Councilor Keller concluded her report by stating that the Library is scheduling events for students who are homeschooled and providing services for residents who are unable to leave their homes.

Water Commission – Councilor Robishaw

Councilor Robishaw said that the Water Commission would not be meeting until the following Tuesday.

Finance Committee – Councilor Robishaw

Councilor Robishaw said that the Committee discussed changes to Chapter 86 of the Lisbon Code of Ordinances at the previous week's meeting and that the Town Audit will likely be completed before the end of the year.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Glenn Michalowski said that the Town is working to fill the recent vacancies in the Town Clerk and Fire Chief positions; that he would be attending a Clerk Training for Voter Registration scheduled for September 11th and12th, as well as the Annual ICMA conference from September 23rd-25th; and that the last day for submitting nomination papers for the Town Council and Water Commission seats available during the November 5, 2024 municipal election is 4:30 PM on Monday, September 9, 2024.

APPOINTMENTS

(Order 2024-163) Appoint Sarah Bennett as local Emergency Management Director
VOTE: (2024-163) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Lunt, moved to approve the appointment of Sarah Bennett as local Emergency Management Director.
Order Passed: 6-0.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Albert suggested that Town Council should formally ask the Town Manager to start the process of forming a Charter Commission to address various deficiencies in the Charter.

Councilor Robishaw said that Tasty Tuesdays recently completed its last scheduled event for the year, that community members told him they would miss the events, and that the last event was well attended. Councilor Robishaw concluded his remarks by thanking everyone who worked to organize the events.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION & RESPONSE TO NEW ITEMS

No participation

ADJOURNMENT

VOTE: Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Albert, moved to adjourn at 8:30pm.
Order passed: 6-0.

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Glenn Michalowski, Council Secretary

Date Approved: April 15, 2025