Town Council
Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2024
LISBON TOWN OFFICE
7:00 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 Chair, Harry Moore, called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL

Council Members present included Councilor Chair Harry Moore, Jr.; Vice Council Chair Ray Robishaw; and Councilors Mark Lunt, Normand Albert, Jo-Jean Keller, Christine Cain, and Fern Larochelle. Town Manager Glenn Michalowski, the Town attorney, representatives from Lisbon EMS, Planning Board Member Nick Craig, Economic and Community Development Director Ross Cunningham, and over 30 citizens were also in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

(Order 2024-153) Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E) for Consultation with Legal Counsel

(Vote 2024-153 A) Councilor Albert, seconded by Councilor Robishaw, moved to enter into Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E) for Consultation with Legal Counsel at 6:03 p.m.
Order Passed - Vote 7-0

(Vote 2024-153 B) Councilor Albert, seconded by Councilor Robishaw, moved to exit out of Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E) for Consultation with Legal Counsel at 7:12 p.m.
Order Passed - Vote 7-0

GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION

Economic and Community Development Ross Cunningham spoke about the success of Tasty Tuesday, a food truck event that occurred on alternating Tuesdays during the summer months, and thanked the volunteers and Summer Intern Oscar Herrera for their help.

The Chief of Lisbon Emergency Services spoke about recently completed and upcoming training courses available to first responders in Lisbon and in some neighboring communities. She continued, speaking about interdepartmental successes at Moxie Fest, current staffing expansions, and the addition of new emergency service trucks.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

New Liquor Permit for Angelo's Pizza
The Chair opened the Public Hearing. Seeing no speakers, the Chair closed the Public Hearing.

Food Truck Permit for The Eighty8 Donut Cafe
The Chair opened the Public Hearing. Seeing no speakers, the Chair closed the Public Hearing.

Food Truck Permit for Vintage Food and Beverage
The Chair opened the Public Hearing. Seeing no speakers, the Chair closed the Public Hearing.

Food Truck Permit for Red Barn
The Chair opened the Public Hearing. Seeing no speakers, the Chair closed the Public Hearing.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION & RESPONSE FOR AGENDA ITEMS

Dean Willey from Lisbon Falls asked the Council if they could provide any additional information on

upcoming plans for the Town's Emergency Medical Services budget.

Several members of the community spoke in support of LACO.

CONSENT AGENDA

(2024-154) ***Consent Agenda Items***
VOTE (2024-154) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Moore, moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
Order Passed – Vote 7-0.

Set a Public Hearing for October 1, 2024 for the enactment of the General Assistance Ordinance and its Appendices

Muncipal and School Warrants:
Municipal Accounts Payable: $623,242.66
Municipal Payroll: $223,595.50
School Accounts Payable: $0.00
School Payroll: $417,218.42

Approve New Liquor Permit for Angelo's Pizza

Approve Food Truck Permit for The Eighty8 Donut Cafe

Approve Food Truck Permit for Vintage Food and Beverage

Approve Food Truck Permit for Red Barn

COUNCIL ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS, & ORDINANCES

(2024-155) Order Authorizing the Town Manager to Adopt a Permanent 4-Day Workweek for the Town Office
Town Manager Glenn Michalowski presented information on the benefits and initial successes of the pilot program before recommending that the Council continue the policy.

After discussion, Councilor Moore stated that he would prefer to see a policy before he votes, and Councilor Albert agreed with the idea of seeing a policy first. The Council then agreed to vote on an extension of the current 4-day work week pilot program until the next meeting.

VOTE (2024-155) Councilor Albert, seconded by Councilor Lunt, moved to amend the Order Authorizing the Town Manager to Adopt a Permanent 4-day Workweek for the Town Office to instead extend the current 4-day workweek pilot program to a later meeting, which will include a policy.

Order Passed – Vote 7-0.

(2024-156) Order Authorizing the Town Manager to Execute a 1-Year Lease Agreement with LACO Food Pantry
The Councilors spoke about how they were moved by the audience's support for LACO. Discussion involving the Council, LACO supporters from the audience, and the Town attorney followed.

After continued discussion, Council chose to vote down the order with the intent of negotiating a new LACO lease that addresses the concerns raised by the community and the Council. Voting down the order resulted in maintaining the previous, ongoing 18-year lease.

VOTE (2024-156) Councilor Albert, seconded by Councilor Robishaw, moved to authorize the Town Manager to execute a one-year lease agreement with LACO Food Pantry, as negotiated, and to take

any necessary actions to implement the terms of the agreement.

Order Failed – Vote 0-7

Charter Commission Discussion

The Town Attorney spoke about the entire process involved when conducting a Charter Commission, as well as ordinance amending options that could be taken instead of a Charter Commission.

After discussion, the Council agreed to wait until after the upcoming election before scheduling any other Charter Commission agenda items.

(2024-152) General Assistance Ordinance and its Appendices - First Reading

This item was taken out of order to allow the Maine Department of Marine Resources to present at an earlier time.

VOTE (2024-152) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Albert, moved to approve the General Assistance Ordinance and its Appendices as presented, and set a Public Hearing for October 1, 2024.

Roll Call Vote:
Yeas – Councilor Cain, Councilor Albert, Councilor Keller, Councilor Larochelle, Councilor Lunt, Councilor Moore, Councilor Robishaw
Nays – None

Order Passed – Vote 7-0.

EMS Ordinance Discussion

Town Manager Glenn Michalowski stated that the purpose of the EMS Ordinance Discussion agenda item was to provide Council with an opportunity to decide on a structure for implementing town-run EMS services, adding that once the policy direction is finalized, the town could then focus on refining the cost estimates and operational details.

Discussion involving the Council, Lisbon EMS representatives, and the audience followed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council Committee Reports:

School Committee

Councilor Albert said that the School Committee focused on ways to advertise their referendum vote, which is to take place during the upcoming November election.

Planning Board

Councilor Larochelle reported that the Board also talked with Casey Clark from the Maine Department of Marine Resources about the state's upcoming Mill Street and Farwell Mill projects.

Lisbon Development Committee

Councilor Larochelle stated that the committee continued their discussions regarding tree removal.

Conservation Commission

Councilor Moore said that he was unable to attend the meeting.

Parks & Recreation Committee

Councilor Moore said that he was unable to attend the meeting.

County Budget Committee

Councilor Moore stated that no meetings had occurred since the two new budget committee members were appointed.

Library Governing Board
Councilor Keller said that the Library added a new picnic table to the Children's Garden; that Mac Smith, the author of Plain Madeleine, would be giving a talk on September 24; and that the annual Tiny Art Exhibits will be on display until October 4.

Water Commission
Councilor Robishaw stated that the Commission was continuing to work on creating a report with information regarding the recent water issues.

Finance Committee
Councilor Robishaw reported that the Committee had not met since the last Council meeting.

Town Manager's Report
Town Manager Glenn Michalowski said that he would be in Pittsburgh for the next week to attend a professional development conference for town managers.

Paid Family Medical Leave - Staff Payroll Deductions Effective 1/1/2025
The Town Manager stated that he wanted the Council to be aware that the town budget was adapted to accommodate for the upcoming January 1, 2025 changes to Maine's Paid Family Leave laws.

Department of Maine Marine Resources - Mill St Project
This item was taken out of order after the Charter Commission Presentation.
Casey Clark from the Maine Department of Marine Resources explained that the end result of the state's Mill Street construction work will help local wildlife, adding that the Farwell Mill portion of the construction will remove part of the dam to add a fishway, which will look like a naturally occurring site within the river. Casey Clark also noted that the state will work with local landowners to minimize any potential damage that might be caused by the work, that the state will create a landfill by clearing out trees and adding new plant life, and that the state will allow public access after the work is completed if local landowners allow it and if the area is deemed safe.

APPOINTMENTS

None

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Keller stated that the Historical Society's extra room was almost completely emptied on the previous day. The councilor continued, stating that the room was cleared by moving some items to the Historic Society's other room at the MTM Center, to the schoolhouse if they did not require climate-controlled storage, or to climate-controlled storage when required for preservation.

Councillor Albert said that mobile home park residents had specific concerns that came up during the Water Department's issue because the town's water is not tested within the boundaries of most parks and because most parks also have fewer water sources and fire hydrants.

Councilor Larochelle discussed the possibility of having the Town Council work more closely with the Water Department.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION & RESPONSE TO NEW ITEMS

A Lisbon Falls resident voiced his concerns about potential Code Enforcement violations at the MTM Center, and suggested that the Town should work to address the issues he observed.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councillor Lunt, moved to adjourn at 9:38 PM.

Order Passed – Vote 7-0

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Council Secretary

Date Approved: March 4, 2025