Town Council
MEETING MINUTES
October 15, 2024
LISBON TOWN OFFICE
6:00 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

Members present were Councilors Cain, Albert, Keller, Larochelle, Moore and Robishaw.

Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Albert, moved to excuse Councilor Lunt's absence. **Order Passed – Vote 6-0.**

Also present were Town Manager Glenn Michalowski; Assistant Town Manager Sarah Bennett; Economic and Community Development Director Ross Cunningham; Chief of Police Ryan McGee; Michael Carey, attorney for the Town of Lisbon; and over 30 citizens in the audience.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION

Item taken out of order after Public Hearing to Consider Suspension or Revocation of Marijuana-Medical Retail Store License Number 85 and Order (2024-170) Order to Suspend or Revoke Marijuana-Medical Retail Store License Number 85.

Len Lednum from Discover Lisbon announced the Worumbo Wellness Festival and 5k on October 19.

Economic Development Director Ross Cunningham congratulated Blue Ox Alehouse on its recent ribbon cutting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearing to Consider Suspension or Revocation of Marijuana-Medical Retail Store License Number 85

Councilor Larochelle stepped away to avoid a conflict of interest.

Councilor Moore introduced the Public Hearing by stating that the goal of the hearing is to determine whether any standards for the revocation or suspension of Lisbon Cannabis's Medical Marijuana Retail license have been met; whether the license should be suspended or revoked; and, if ordered, the date that any suspension or revocation would take effect.

Brad Pattershaw, attorney for Lorelei Hilliker; Johnathan Barry, attorney for Jason Smith; Jason Smith, owner of Lisbon Cannabis and co-owner of Riverbend Investment Properties, LLC; and Lorelei Hilliker, owner of 207 Edibles and co-owner of Riverbend Investment Properties, LLC then introduced themselves.

Brad Pattershaw and Lorelei Hilliker brought up points in favor of suspending or revoking the Retail Medical Marijuana License for Lisbon Cannabis, while Jonathan Barry and Jason Smith brought up points against suspending or revoking the Retail Medical Marijuana License for Lisbon Cannabis.

Discussions involving Hilliker, Smith, Hilliker and Smith's legal representatives, several members of the audience, the Town's attorney, and Town Council followed.

The Council then decided to vote on Order 2024-170, Order to Suspend or Revoke Marijuana-Medical Retail Store License Number 85, after the public hearing ended.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION & RESPONSE FOR AGENDA ITEMS

Guy Lebida stepped forward to briefly talk about his campaign for the Maine State Legislature.

CONSENT AGENDA

(2024-164) ***Consent Agenda Items***

VOTE (2024-164) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Robishaw, moved to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.
Order Passed – Vote 6-0.

Approve Local Medical Marijuana Retail Store Permit for Clubhouse Cannabis

Set Public Hearing for November 19th on Ordinance to Establish a Department of Emergency Medical Services

Waive the Application Fee for the Worumbo Wellness Festival and 5k based on Discover Lisbon's Non-Profit Status

Approval of Municipal Accounts Payable of $789,245.64, Municipal Payroll of $230,523.83, School Accounts Payable of $764,509.48, and School Payroll of $884,710.01

Accept Timberline Top Soil Donation for Community Improvement Projects

Waive the Special Event Application Fee for the Recurring Girl Scouts Meeting based on Their Non-Profit Status

COUNCIL ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS, & ORDINANCES

(2024-165) Order to Award Contract for Police Cruiser and Animal Control Officer (ACO) Truck Bid

Chief of Police Ryan McGee presented information regarding the bid to the Council. Discussion followed.

VOTE (2024-165) Councilor Albert, seconded by Councilor Robishaw, moved to Award Contract for Police Cruiser and Animal Control Officer (ACO) Truck Bid.
Order Passed – Vote 6-0.

(2024-166) Order to Amend the Personnel Policy to Adopt a 4-Day Work Week

Town Manager Glenn Michalowski read from a memo that provided an overview of the program and its benefits. Council then discussed the policy.

VOTE (2024-166) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Albert, moved to amend the Personnel Policy and Adopt a 4-Day Work Week.
Order – Vote 6-0.

(2024-167) CDBG Facade Grant Project Approval

VOTE (2024-167) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Robishaw, moved to approve the CDBG Facade Grant Project applications for the presented businesses.
Order Passed – Vote 6-0.

(2024-168) Worumbo Riverfront Annual Report and Request for Contract Extension

Councilor Cain spoke to the Council in her capacity as Director of the Friends of Worumbo. During the presentation, Councilor Cain announced that she would soon be stepping down as director, introduced Tracy Austin as the next Director of the Friends of Worumbo, and requested to have the Town continue to work with the local organization. Discussion involving Councilor Cain, Tracy Austin, and Town Council followed.

After discussion, Councilor Albert motioned to delay the vote in order to see additional financial information from the organization, but the motion failed because it did not receive a second.

VOTE (2024-168) Councilor Robishaw, seconded by Councilor Cain, moved to extend the Memorandum of Agreement between the Friends of Worumbo and the Town of Lisbon for an additional five years.
Order Passed – Vote 5-1.

(2024-169) First Reading of Ordinance to Create a Department of Emergency Medical Services
VOTE (2024-169) Councilor Robishaw, seconded by Councilor Larochelle, moved to adopt the ordinance to create a Department of Emergency Medical Services as presented.
Roll Call Vote:
Yeas – Councilor Cain, Councilor Albert, Councilor Keller, Councilor Larochelle, Councilor Moore, Councilor Robishaw.
Nays – None.
Order Passed – Vote 6-0.

(2024-170) Order to Suspend or Revoke Marijuana-Medical Retail Store License Number 85
The Vote for item 2024-170 was taken out of order after the Public Hearing to Consider Suspension or Revocation of Marijuana-Medical Retail Store License Number 85. Councilor Larochelle abstained from vote number 2024-170 to avoid any conflict of interest.

After item 2024-169 First Reading of Ordinance to Create a Department of Emergency Medical Services, the Town Attorney presented a Notice of Decision and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law document to the Council. The Council delayed taking any action on the new document until the next meeting.

After all Council Committee reports were presented, the Town Attorney spoke again to clarify that the Council should review the Notice of Decision and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law document for approval by vote during the meeting. Councilor Larochelle stepped away for the Council's review and vote regarding the Notice of Decision and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law document.
(Vote 2024-170B) After a brief review period, Councilor Moore, seconded by Councilor Albert, motioned to accept the Notice of Decision and Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law After Hearing re: Revocation or Suspension of a Medical Marijuana Establishment License document.
Order Passed – Vote 5-0.

VOTE (2024-170) Councilor Albert, seconded by Councilor Robishaw, moved to suspend or revoke Marijuana-Medical Retail Store License Number 85.
Roll Call Vote:
Yeas – None.
Nays – Councilor Cain, Councilor Albert, Councilor Keller, Councilor Moore, Councilor Robishaw.

Order Failed – Vote 0-5.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council Committee Reports:

School Committee
Councilor Albert stated that the School Committee was scheduled to meet on October 16, 2024.

Planning Board
Councilor Larochelle stated that he had no updates to provide.

Lisbon Development Committee
Councilor Larochelle stated that the recent meeting discussing Facade Grants and potential improvements for the Lisbon Falls area went well.

Conservation Commission
Councilor Moore stated the Conservation Commission postponed their recent meeting.

Parks & Recreation Committee
Councilor Moore stated the Parks and Recreation Committee postponed their recent meeting.

County Budget Committee
Councilor Moore invited County Budget Representative Bill Kuhl to present the report. During the presentation, Bill Kuhl recommended that a town official with municipal budgeting and town budget knowledge be appointed to serve as part of next year's County Budget Committee representation from Lisbon.

Library Governing Board
Councilor Keller announced that the Friends of the Library Week would run from October 20 through October 26 and that a Halloween parade and party involving local businesses would be held on October 25.

Water Commission – Councilor Robishaw
Councilor Robishaw announced that a recent memorial service for Bill Bauer went well.

Finance Committee – Councilor Robishaw
Councilor Robishaw stated that no report was available because the committee had not met since the last Town Council meeting.

Town Manager's Report
As Town Manager, Glenn Michalowski stated that he had no report to provide. As Acting Town Clerk, Glenn Michalowski announced that early voting started on October 5, that the town had already received over 900 absentee ballot requests, that the town receives 30 to 50 absentee ballot requests each day, and that Meet the Candidates Night is scheduled for October 29.

Statutory Quarterly Financial Report
After the Town Manager announced that the report's numbers could be found in the agenda packet, no discussion followed.

APPOINTMENTS

(2024-171) Appoint William Hyland to Lisbon Development Committee
VOTE (2024-171) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Robishaw, moved to appoint William Hyland to the Lisbon Development Committee.
Order Passed – Vote 6-0.

(2024-172) Appointment of Charles Turgeon to the Finance Committee
VOTE (2024-172) Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Robishaw, moved to appoint Charles Turgeon to the Finance Committee.
Order – Vote 6-0.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

No communications were presented.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION & RESPONSE TO NEW ITEMS

An audience member discussed snowmobile access with the Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Larochelle, seconded by Councilor Cain, moved to adjourn at 8:56 pm.

Order – Vote 6-0.

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Glenn Michalowski, Acting Town Clerk

Date Approved: