

Fort Fairfield Town Council Meeting  
Council Chambers  
Wednesday, October 19, 2011  
6:00 P.M.

Councilors: David McCrea, Kim Murchison, Mark Babin, and Ruel Flannery

Staff: Bill Campbell, Tony Levesque, Mike Bosse

Citizens: 5 including media

Roll Call - Chair David McCrea asked that the record reflect that all councilors are present with the exception of Terry Greenier.

- II. Prayer – Councilor Mark Babin offered the prayer
- III. Pledge to the Flag - All in attendance pledged their allegiance to the Flag.

Public Comment Period – NONE

V. Correspondence and Reports

- A. Licenses/Permits – One (1) off site catering permit for the Lions Club and a Liquor License for Canterbury Royale
- B. Financial Report – Dan - With the completion of this year’s first quarter we are in very good shape. Expenses are very much in line with our budget. Revenue sharing is consistent with what we have been promised and excise tax is a little ahead. Our cash flow is still in good shape.
- C. Tri-Community Landfill Report – Stev Rogeski – We have good news, the leach aid pipeline is complete. It has been leak tested and it has passed. We are under scrutiny from the DEP because of the enormous amount of rain we have gotten over the summer which has created more than normal leach ate breakouts in the landfill.

David McCrea – There is a lot of waste from the Simplot building that is being torn down, what is happening to that and what is the towns cost.

Dan – Mark is keeping track of the materials that they are bringing in, we get charged on tonnage not volume. The good thing is that they are salvaging the metal and only bringing in insulation which doesn’t weight a lot.

We are going to be sending them a bill, our attorney says that legally we can not enforce a bill, but we are sending one anyway. Why should the citizens pay for disposing of a perfectly good building so that the owners don’t have to pay taxes on it?

- D. Update on Riverside Park Project – Dan – diligently working on finishing up the pavilion. Public Works is putting up pine inside and once the pine is treated they will be done for the year. Work that is left to do is the landscaping, paving, and cameras will be going up for security purposes. We are getting \$5,000.00 from the Fort Fairfield Rotary and there is \$10,000.00 on account. The building is looking great, now Mike is working on how we

are going to recognize individuals and organizations that have volunteered their time and financial resources on the project.

- E. Update on Coal Furnace Installation – Dan - The new furnace is up and running, we did have a little issue when we started it up. The coal gas built up and blew the cap of the chimney. We contacted the manufacturer and was told to turn down temperature on the ash tray. Jeff did a great job installing and it is working well. The oil furnace is still hooked up so if there are any issues with the coal furnace we have a backup.
- F. Update on Senior Citizens Housing –Dan - Application was submitted and we made it through the first round. Maine State Housing signed off of the application and agree that financially this makes sense and has moved it to the next level and we are looking at an answer sometime this week.
- G. Update on FARM Park –Dan - A letter was sent to Stev Rogeski regarding billing for the two Blue Grass events that were held this year. We will net \$1,280.00 and currently have \$2,037.78 in the FARM Park reserve account. Pineland Farms had agreed to sponsor the Blue Grass Festival when the Town was responsible for the event and gave us \$5,000.00 two years ago which was placed in a reserve account since we are no longer doing it. As time allows Public Works will be doing some upgrades using the funds from this reserve account.
- H. Update on Central Aroostook County Meeting –Dan - Both Dan and David went to this meeting, there were 6 – 7 managers that got together to better understand the need for process. It's going to be more difficult for smaller communities to utilize or consolidate departments with larger community because in the long run it may cost them more. The goal of this committee is to get together again in November, they are looking at ways to enhance the level of service and reduce cost to provide this service.
- I. Police Department Update – Bill Campbell – He had an update on the weapons that he is trying to sell, the Colt 9mm machine gun is sold, just working on the paperwork on that sale. He has also sold the Remington 308. On October 19<sup>th</sup> he met with the Fort Fairfield Housing, listened to their concerns and on the 20<sup>th</sup> he will be having a pot luck dinner with the sunshine club at Fields Lane. On September 27<sup>th</sup> met with area chiefs and they are looking at a grant to help link the departments together, so that they can see what area departments are doing, this will help with criminal prevention. The downside of this program is the cost of maintaining it. In September he became a member of the Maine Chiefs Association. He also received his certificate from the Academy and to keep this updated he will need to have 80 hours of training in the next 3 years. On November 7th-10th Shawn will be attending supervision class. Shawn is doing a great job. The department was also award a \$2,075.00 grant to purchase bullet proof vests.

- K. Next Gen Update, “Fort Kids First”-Dan -It was a great day yesterday, we launched the Fort Kids First program at the elementary school. We have 45 kindergarten potentials to sign up for the \$50.00 vouchers. We have processed one kindergarten already and two new born (\$250.00). Mike has done a great job in pulling together this gathering at the Elementary School. The kindergarten class was in attendance with their parents and each child received a t-shirt with our logo on it. This is a great program for our youth and really makes Fort Fairfield shine, since we are the first community in the State to adopt this program for our youth.
- L. Maine Development Foundation Annual Meeting – Dan attended their annual meeting on September 16<sup>th</sup>. MDF has positioned itself as a facilitator of state wide issues in a non partisan manner. They have gained the respect of business leaders, non profits, special interest groups and the state legislature. They are the one state wide organization that has the ability to bring diverse groups together in a collaborative manner. It is an organization worthy of our membership.
- M. Update on Innovative Entrepreneurship Seminar – Dan- This was a request from a member of the Quality of Place Council. Carolyn Dorsey who has been training at the University of Maine on a new program called Innovative Entrepreneurship, had agreed to conduct this seminar free of charge. This was truly a unique experience, the group came up with numerous ideas, and we would like to take the ideas to the next level.
- N. Update on Graphic Utilities – Dan- We have entered into an agreement with Graphic Utilities to pay us \$1,000.00 a month until the back rent that is owed to us is paid. They paid July and owe for August, September and October. Though they have been out of the building for five months, they continue to store a significant amount of ink and they have been denied access to until the payments are current. It is our intent that if they do not become current that the Town will take ownership of this property and sell it to offset what is owed.
- O. Update on Central Aroostook Humane Society – Dan -Fee increased to \$6,800.10 from \$5,010.00 two years ago. We have actually sent to the facility ten cats and four dogs which averages about \$485.00 per animal. Chief Campbell is attending training to become a certified Animal Control Officer and hopefully he will find out what we are required to do. In the past I have asked them for a profit and loss statement so that we could see what they are receiving for revenues and how those resources are being used but have yet to receive anything from them.
- VI. Old Business -
- A. Approve Audit for FY 10/11 – This audit was completed by Felch & Company, which went very well. There were no reportable conditions, very clean audit.  
Motion: Mark Babin moved to approve the Audit for FY 10/11 as presented.  
Second: Ruel Flannery  
Vote – All affirmative

- B. Approve Bid for Tax Anticipation Note – We received two bids this year, one from Katahdin Trust of 2.75% and the other from Machais Savings Bank of 1.55%.

Motion: Kim Murchison motioned to approve the bid from Machais Savings Bank bid at 1.55%

Second: Mark Babin

Vote – All affirmative

- C. Approve Library Policy –The Community room at the Library is a very busy place and the staff receives a number of requests regarding its use. Sharon and the Trustees have decided to put a policy in place that will help staff determine if a request is consistent with the purpose of the facility. They are asking that the council approve this policy.

Motion: Ruel Flannery motioned to approve the policy as written

Second: Kim Murchison

Vote – All affirmative

## VII. New Business

- A. Approve Snowmobile Grant Application – Each year the Town submits a grant on behalf of the Snowmobile Club to help cover 70% of the costs associated with maintaining the community's trail system. Tony has completed this application and the councils approval is required prior to its being submitted.

Motion: Kim Murchison moved to approve the Grant process for the snowmobile application.

Second: Mark Babin

Vote – All affirmative

- B Approve MPS Distribution Line Clearance Notification- Each year we receive notification regarding MPS's intent to clear brush and trees that may interfere with their lines. This notification requires that we either want them to notify us every time or we can waive this requirement.

Motion: Mark Babin moved to approve waiving this notification process

Second: Ruel Flannery

Vote – All affirmative

- C Approve Town Order #11-08 to Establish McShea Siding Road – Since we have sold the balance of the land that we own at McShea Siding, it has become necessary to except from that sale the road so that the Town can continue to plow and maintain it.

Motion: Mark Babin moved to approve keeping McShea Siding Road as a Town owned road, therefore the Town will be responsible for the maintenance and plowing of this road.

Second: Kim Murchison

Vote – All affirmative

- D Approve Sale of Excess Equipment – George has provide us with a list of equipment that we now longer are using and he would like permission to sell them in order to use the funds for equipment that we can use.

Motion: Ruel Flannery moved to put out to bid the equipment recommended by the Public Works Director.

Second: Mark Babin

Vote – All affirmative

- E. Approve General Assistance Appendices –Each year we receive new information from DHHS regarding the new standards to qualify for general assistance. We are required to approve these in order to receive reimbursement from the State.  
Motion: Ruel Flannery moved to approve the appendices as presented.  
Second: Kim Murchison Vote – All affirmative

VIII General Election

- A. Council Designation of opening and closing of polls  
Rec. Open 8:00 am and close 8:00 pm
- B. Council Designation of central counting location  
Rec. Town of Fort Fairfield Community Center
- C. Council Designation of voting polls location  
Rec. Fort Fairfield Community Center
- D. Council Ratification of election warden  
Rec. Mary Whitmore, Warden
- E. Council Ratification of election warrants
- F. Council Ratification of election clerks and counters

Motion: Kim Murchison moved to approve A – F as presented.  
Second: Mark Babin Vote – All affirmative

VIII. Minutes: September 14, 2011

Motion: Mark Babin moved to approve Minutes of September 14, 2011 as written.  
Second: Kim Murchison Vote – All affirmative

- IX. Warrants: #7 - \$172,232.07; #8 - \$263,149.78; #9 - \$393,421.21  
Motion: Kim Murchison moved to accept warrant #7, #8, & #9 as presented.  
Second: Mark Babin Vote – All affirmative

X. Other - NONE

XI. Executive Session -  
move into executive session at 7:12 PM

MRSA 405(6)(A) – Personnel Matter

No action taken

XII. Adjournment at 7:44 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca J. Hersey  
Council Secretary