

Fort Fairfield Special Town Council Meeting
Council Chambers
Wednesday, October 28, 2020
12:00 P.M.

I. Roll Call

Councilors – All Councilors are present with the exception of Scott Smith.

Staff – Andrea Powers, Billie Jo Sharpe, Tony Levesque, Chief Newell, Deputy Fire Chief Fenderson.

Citizens – Three.

II. Prayer

III. Pledge to the Flag

IV. Public Comment Period

V. Correspondence and Reports

VI. Old Business

A. GA Maximums ORD 20-06

Background: Mr. Butler introduced Ordinance 20-06 for General Assistance (attachment 1) at the September 16, 2020 regular Town Council meeting. A public hearing was held on September 30, 2020, at 12:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at the Fort Fairfield Municipal Building. The minutes of the public hearing are at attachment 2.

Discussion: The new maximums for the 2020-2021 General Assistance Ordinance are at attachment 3.

The law requires municipal officers adopt the Ordinance after notice and hearing.

Recommendation: Town Council adopt Ordinance 20-06, an ordinance for General Assistance.

Mr. Kilcollins made a motion to adopt Ordinance 20-06, an ordinance for General Assistance.

Mr. Butler seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

VII. New Business

A. Fort Fairfield Snowmobile Club Trail Grant

The Town of Fort Fairfield has provided a channel for snowmobile trail maintenance funds from the State to the Fort Fairfield Snowmobile Club since 1999.

There is very little staff time required to assist the Fort Fairfield Snowmobile Club in their grant application. The Club prepares and manages all the paperwork. The State distributes the grant funds to the municipality and the municipality appropriates the grant funds to the Club in accordance with M.R.S.A. Title 12, Chapter 220, Subchapter 8, Section 1893.3.

Recommendation: Town Council approves the Fort Fairfield Snowmobile Club's application for the Municipal/County Grant-In-Aid Program for Snowmobile Fund and authorizes the Town Manager to sign the application for financial assistance.

Mr. Butler made a motion to approve the Fort Fairfield Snowmobile Club's application for the Municipal/County Grant-In-Aid Program for Snowmobile Fund and authorizes the Town Manager to sign the application for financial assistance.

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative

B. Fort Fairfield Housing Authority Board of Commissions Nomination

The Housing Authority of Fort Fairfield has provided a letter of recommendation for Anne Blanchard to serve the remainder of Daniel Ayoob's term as he is stepping down from the Board of Commissioners.

Mrs. Blanchard's term would be effective November 1, 2020 and run through June 30, 2021.

Recommendation: That Town Council appoints Anne Blanchard to the Fort Fairfield Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, for a term beginning November 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Mr. Butler made a motion to appoint Anne Blanchard to the Fort Fairfield Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, for a term beginning November 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Mrs. Libby seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

C. Appointment to Alternate Position on Planning Board

The Fort Fairfield Planning Board has a vacancy for an alternate member. John Chartier (application attached) has put forth an application of interest to serve on this Board.

Recommendation: That Council votes to approve the appointment of John Chartier as an alternate on the Fort Fairfield Planning Board.

Mr. Kilcollins made a motion to approve the appointment of John Chartier as an alternate on the Fort Fairfield Planning Board.

Mr. Butler seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

D. Appointment Board of Assessment Review

The Board of Assessment Review has three openings. We have three names to put forward for the openings.

1. Mr. Jason Barnes
2. Mr. Ken Hensler
3. Mr. Adam Swanson

Recommendation: That Council votes to approve the appointments of the three listed citizens for the Board of Assessment Review.

Mr. Butler made a motion to approve the appointments of the three listed citizens for the Board of Assessment Review.

Mrs. Libby seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

E. Garbage Ordinance

Background: Last month's Council Meeting we discussed the issues surrounding a property in Fort Fairfield and the issues surrounding the litter, vehicles in the roadway, noise, etc.

Discussion: I have attached the three ordinance examples for the Council to look at regarding litter, illegal dumping and property maintenance.

Ordinance 20-08: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR

The Adoption of Litter/ Illegal Dumping and Property Maintenance Ordinance

Recommendation: Council to introduce Ordinance 20-08 during the October 21, 2020 Council meeting and direct staff to hold a public hearing on the Ordinance on Friday, November 6, 2020 at 12:00 Noon in the Council Chambers of the Fort Fairfield Municipal Building.

Mr. Butler introduced Ordinance 20-08: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR

The Adoption of Litter/ Illegal Dumping and Property Maintenance Ordinance

VIII. General Election

The General Election is schedule for November 3, 2020.

As of October 28th, Clerks have issued 672 Absentee Ballots and have received 551 which include in person voting in the Clerk's Office.

This may slow down in person voting at the Polls; however, we must still be prepared for a large voter turn-out.

Election Clerks will be compensated at \$12.00 per hour per (minimum wage).

As in the past we need to have the Council vote on:

- A) Opening (8:00AM) and closing (8:00PM) of the polls, which is set by the State as stated in Title 21-A §626.
- B) Voting location *Community Center per Title 21-A §622-A.
- C) The election warden, Billie Jo Sharpe.
- D) Approval of Election Clerks of the Town Clerk's choosing.
- E) The warrant for payment for the election clerks.

Recommendation: That Town Council approves A – E as presented.

Mr. Butler made a motion to approve A – E as presented.

Mrs. Libby seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

IX. Minutes of the September 16, 2020 Regular Council Meeting.

Mr. Kilcollins made a motion to approve the Minutes of the September 16, 2020 Regular Council Meeting.

Mr. Butler seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

X. Warrants #7: \$380,092.95 #8: \$425,387.69 #9: \$138,740.46

Warrant #07 in the amount of \$380,092.95 was completed on 09/29/2020. Checking account balance as of 09/30/2020 is \$299,648.42; Machias Savings balance \$5,000.00.

Warrant #8 in the amount of \$425,387.69 was completed on 10/09/2020. Checking account balance as of 10/19/2020 is \$70,523.94.

Warrant #09 in the amount of \$138,740.46 was completed on 10/26/2020. Checking account balance as of 10/26/2020 is \$111,092.72; Machias Savings balance \$5,000.00

Loan balances as of 9/30/2020:

Jones fuel - \$1,730.63

Langley #5275 - \$18,816.63

Langley -#5277 - \$6,799.37

Total excise collected as of 9/30/2020 is \$248,719.55 which equals to 39.80% of our budget versus 25% anticipated.

Total 2020 real estate & personal property taxes collected as of 9/30/2020 is \$71,579.63.

2020 Real Estate & Personal Property taxes were committed on 10/01/2020.

XI. Other

To see if the Town of Fort Fairfield will vote to change its plan for its Police Officers, Fire Fighters and Emergency Medical Services employees effective November 1, 2020, for future service only.

The Town agrees to:

- a) Provide Special Plan 3C to its Police Officers, Fire Fighters and Emergency Medical Services employees who work more than 20 hours per week and who are not seasonal or temporary as defined by the Appendix to MainePERS Rule Chapter 802 for service rendered after October 31, 2020. Service rendered prior to November 1, 2020 remains under Regular Plan AC.
- b) Continue to provide Regular Plan AC to all other employees who work more than 20 hours per week and who are not seasonal or temporary as defined by the Appendix to MainePERS Rule Chapter 802. All other employees, including elected/appointed officials, are excluded from membership.
- c) To authorize Mark M. Babin, Council Chair and Andrea L. Powers, MPA, Town Manager to sign the Amended Agreement between the Town and the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

Recommendation: Council votes to approve the Article as written.

Mr. Kilcollins made a motion to approve the Article as written.

Mt. Butler seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

XII. Adjournment

Mr. Butler made a motion to adjourn.

Mrs. Libby seconded.

Vote: All Affirmative.

Council Adjourned at 12:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Billie Jo Sharpe,
Council Secretary