

Fort Fairfield Town Council Monthly Meeting
Council Chambers
Wednesday, April 17, 2019
6:00 P.M.

I. Roll Call

Staff: Andrea Powers, Billie Jo Sharpe, Ella Leighton, Tony Levesque, Chief Newell, Ryan Eagles, Janet Owens.

Councilors: All Councilor are present

Citizens: 26 including media.

II. Prayer

Tony Levesque offered the Prayer.

III. Pledge to the Flag

All in attendance pledged their allegiance to the American Flag.

IV. Public Comment Period

Dave Deschesne – resident of Fort Fairfield read a prepared statement outlining his request that Council not open all local roads for ATV access.

V. Special Recognition – Janet Owens

Council Chair, Mark Babin presented a plaque and read a letter of appreciation for Janet Owens who is retiring after working at the Fort Fairfield Library for 20 years.

VI. Correspondence and Reports

A. Licenses and Permits

As of April 17, 2019 we have received a Malt, Vinous, and Spirituous license renewal from Boondocks Grille

B. Financial Report

The Town's Real Estate and Personal Property total tax collections as of March 31, 2019 were \$2,942,459.85. Tax collections are \$79,568.90 less than for the same period last year.

Excise tax collections as of March 31, 2019 are \$448,071.57. We have collected 80% of our budgeted amount, which is 5% greater than the anticipated amount for March 31, 2019.

State revenue sharing as of March 31, 2019 is \$179,766.96; this shows a slight decrease compared to our budget. History shows this as normal for this time of the year.

Our expenses as of March 31, 2019 are \$3,835,258.17. Expenses are on target @75%.

March 31, 2019 revenues are 14.5% above budget.

Our cash flow is in fantastic condition. Our checking account balance as of March 31, 2019 is \$819,483.47 including \$600,000 from TAN; CDARS balance is \$1,474,763; ICS balance is \$162,878 and Machias savings has a balance of \$5,000.00.

We have received our 1st statements on our CDARS and ICS investments. Even though our money was only invested for four days in March, we did make money in interest. We made a total of \$315.19 on our CDARS accounts and \$26.66 on our ICS accounts for a total of \$341.85 in interest income over four days.

An update on loan payments and balances as of March 29, 2019:

Jones Fuel – Balance @\$2,630.63 – Pays \$50.00 per month. (G 1-1620-00)

Langley #5275 – Balance @\$20,016.63 – Paid \$200.00 this month. (G 1-1620-00)

Langley #5277 – Balance @\$7,399.37 – Paid \$100.00 this month. (G 1-1620-00)

Pelletier – Balance @\$1,248.91 – Paid \$125.00 this month. (G 1-1630-00)

C. AWS Report - Mr. Rogeski

Mr. Rogeski provided an overview of the Minutes from the AWS Board of Directors meeting held on March 29, 2019 highlighting the following:

- Approved the 2018 Financials.
- Attended the Kiwanis Spring Show.
- Had non-profit groups picking up the blow-off trash.

Mr. Butler asked if the Merger with Presque Isle is going good.

Mr. Rogeski responded, “very well.”

Mr. Kilcollins asked how the new baler was working.

Mr. Rogeski responded that there was an issue with the State Electrical Inspector so the baler hasn’t been started yet.

VII. Old Business

A. UTV – Chief Newell

On December 12, 2007, the Fort Fairfield Police Department purchased a 2007 Polaris Ranger for \$10,000 from Chandler Farms in Mapleton. That UTV was used by Police and Fire for the past twelve years and served the agencies well. Unfortunately, our

needs for a larger UTV and one that could support tracks could not be met with the 2007 Ranger.

On April 5, 2019, the Town purchased a 2018, 900 XP/PS Polaris Ranger, complete with a heated, fully enclosed cab, front minute-mount plow (free), power steering, and tracks.

Chandler Farms sold the new UTV to the Town for a sale price of \$18,000 (original price was \$25,500), tracks were sold at a price of \$4,000 (regularly \$5,500), and a trade in value of \$7,000 for our old UTV, bringing the total cost to \$15,000.

The Fire Department and Police Departments will equally split the cost of the UTV.

B. **Generator Update – BRSA – Tim Roix*

Mr. Roix presented an updated proposal per Council's request that would include adding the new side of the Community Center (Town Office and Police Department) to the Generator Project proposal.

There would be an increase to the original proposal of approximately \$98,310.00.

Mr. Smith asked if the noise levels on the generator were going to be loud. Mr. Roix stated that he does not have that information at this time.

VIII. New Business

A. ATV Club - Ken Stratton

Kendall Stratton, President of the Fort Fairfield ATV Club and resident of Fort Fairfield thanked Council for approving the Forest Avenue access route. "It has been a success, worked out wonderful for the residents who live in that area and the other folks from out of town." Mr. Stratton also thanked Councilor Smith for asking Town Staff to work on this last year.

Mr. Stratton asked Council if he could answer any questions or concerns they may have about the information he provided them.

Mr. Stratton commented that he is here tonight to ask Council what they can do for the residents of Fort Fairfield; make it easier for them to get out and enjoy their UTVs.

Mr. Stratton – Every other town in Central Aroostook County is "ATV Friendly." "We are the only town that isn't." Mr. Stratton stated that all the information he provided Councilors has been confirmed with every Game Warden from here to Augusta and that "1500 ft. is 1500 ft.", "a destination is a destination", and "a road is a road." It does not have to be from trail-head to trail-head.

Mr. Babin asked Mr. Stratton to briefly share what it is he is asking of Council.

Mr. Stratton – We are asking that the Town of Fort Fairfield either:

A: Establish an access route in the middle of our compact zone so folks in the compact zone will be able to get to the trails. 75% already can by being within 1500 ft. of either the trail head or approved access route. The other 25% are on the sides streets that live a little too far to be able to use the same exact streets that other folks are using.

B: Open up all side streets within the compact zone where the speed limit is 25 or 35 mph or less; “in the compact zone, 25 mph or less for the sole purpose of getting to and from the trails.” “No riding around the block, no tooling up and down the street, no going to your friend’s house two blocks over, getting to and from the trail from your house.

Mr. Kilcollins – People are looking for just that extra access to get to the trailhead?

Mr. Stratton – “If I have to trailer to the park and ride, I am just going to trailer to Presque Isle or Caribou. If we have to trailer it we are going to gas up and buy our snacks/beverages out of Town. Mr. Stratton stated that he had given 13 letters of support from local business in Town who would like to see local citizens be able to hop on their machine, get downtown, gas up, buy their snack and head out on the trails.

Mr. Babin – 75% of citizens already have access to Main Street businesses?

Mr. Stratton – 75% within the compact zone, yes.

Mr. Stratton – all of them are within 1500 ft. of downtown.

Mr. Kilcollins – So you are not asking for the difference actually.

Mr. Butler – Are you talking about 75% of the ATV owners or 75% of the residents?

Mr. Stratton – the residents.

Mr. Butler – what is the percentage of ATV owners in Fort Fairfield?

Mr. Stratton – Scott did some homework, last year and said that there were 13 people affected...

Mr. Smith – there was 25 people last year, last year there were 259 registered ATV owners, 7 were out-of-towners, 122 ATV’s were registered in the country, 28 were unknown because of P O Boxes for addresses. 40.5% of the ATV owners are in the compact zone, subject to a margin of error.

Mr. Stratton – there is somebody on every street in the compact zone that can legally drive down that street.

Mr. Butler – when you bought an ATV, knowing where you live, you knew you would have to trailer them.

Mr. Stratton – No, when I moved to Fort Fairfield, I checked with all four Police Chiefs including Neil Saucier, Joe Bubar, Bill Campbell, and Shawn Newell, asking if there was an issue with him riding down the Brunswick Ave., Columbia Ave., and Elm Street. All of them said, “Behave yourself and nobody is going to bother you.” Last year because of one complaint, they are starting to shut streets down and issuing summons for operating on a public way.

Mr. Butler – the park and ride is owned by the Town?

Mr. Stratton – yes.

Mr. Butler – so the Town gave you access to the trails from the park and ride?

Mr. Stratton – yes.

Mr. Butler – when I first got on Town Council, your main thing was to finish the loop to get downtown from Dorsey Road.

Mr. Stratton – there were actually two things that we wanted to accomplish. One was to have that loop, cut the time to get into Fort from out of town from 45 minutes to 18 minutes. The other purpose of Forest Ave was for all the ATV owners that live on the side streets of Forest Ave so that they can legally be on Forest Ave. Forest Ave is a State Road; it had to be approved by the State. That’s why we needed your endorsement for this.

Mr. Butler – didn’t we do something on Cheney Grove?

Mr. Stratton – we have a storage shed on the Town lot up on Cheney Grove with all of our equipment.

Mr. Butler – So we have extended the roadway for Dorsey road, for which I am all for. You have a park and ride down at the old highway garage, and we also gave you a shed off Cheney Grove. “To say that Fort Fairfield is not “ATV Friendly” is ludicrous.

Mr. Stratton – The definition of “ATV Friendly” means citizens don’t have to worry about using the side streets to get the trails.” All the other Towns are.

Mr. Kilcollins – stated that he got information on how Washburn set up their streets to ATV access and said that they haven’t had any problems and other Towns are now allowing ATV access on their streets. Mr. Kilcollins agreed that we are the only Town in Aroostook County that isn’t allowing access to all streets to ATVs. Fort Fairfield has always had a problem between Limestone and Caribou. It’s been hard to work with an access route. Mr. Kilcollins stated that opening up the side streets is not going to bring an influx of out of town ATVers and bombard our back side streets, it would only be for these people that live in the community to get on their machine and go the extra 400 feet to get to a trailhead.

Mr. Babin – asked if the orange lines on the map that Mr. Stratton gave to Councilors, already have access?

Mr. Stratton – yes.

Mr. Babin – according to the law?

Mr. Stratton – if your house is located where there is an orange line, you are within 500 yards of an ATV access route or trail head.

Mr. Babin – So legally?

Mr. Stratton – “legally, according to the Game Warden.” We spoke to the top-notch Game Warden last Wednesday.

Mr. Babin – Can I ask our Chief of Police, because he is the Chief in Fort Fairfield.

Chief Newell – stated that he does not care what the Game Wardens say. “I work for the District Attorney.” The Deputy District Attorney and the Assistant Deputy District Attorney both independently reviewed the law and say that it is trailhead to trailhead, not a free for all.

Mr. Stratton – Nowhere in the law does it say trailhead to trailhead and Game Wardens agree.

Mr. Butler – the game wardens are not the judges on this, the D.A’s are the ones that say if it is legal or not.

Mr. Stratton – She told our Town Manager last year that we couldn’t be two feet on the road without an access route sign, which is completely false.

Mr. Kilcollins - could we make a motion to reevaluate the legalities for next council meeting?

Mr. Smith – “I think we already did.” We got a ruling from the D.A. You need to take it further to get him overruled because you’re asking the Council to disregard his opinion.

Mr. Smith also stated that he spoke to Jim Caron who is the Recreational Trail Coordinator for the State of Maine and he told him “do not do this because once you do, it’s hard to go back,” because we can’t regulate it. After we voted Forest Avenue, we said we will give it a year and see what happens. Mr. Smith referred to information that Mr. Stratton had given Councilors last year where Mr. Stratton said he had a “gentleman’s agreement” as the Police Chief said “no one is going to bother you”, but you pushed and pushed and you got a ruling from the Council and the Chief and the D.A. That’s why you got a couple summons and then you stopped on Milk Street and you argued with them and got three complaints. You got three complaints and were

told to stay off Milk Street. “You’re arguing with the people that don’t want ATV’s there.

Mr. Smith – “Ten year olds that have taken a class can drive an ATV with an adult.” “So you want us to put a ten year old on the streets of Fort Fairfield and drive to a trail with all this heavy traffic?” “The State of Maine doesn’t let a ten year old get into a car with an adult and drive around; they have to be at least 16 years old.” “I’ve got the law, I’ve read the law.” “You’re asking us to do too much.”

Mr. Smith - The problem is that you pushed and pushed. You could have just done it and kept it, but you like to have stuff in writing. “You got something and you don’t like it.” “I’m sorry.” “I’m not going to rule against the D.A.” The rules and the law are so vague. It’s hard to understand.

Mr. Stratton – “I think it’s very clear.”

Mr. Smith – “I’m not going to go against a recommendation of the Recreational Trail Director for the State of Maine.” “I’m not going to go against the D.A and do that.”

Mr. Stratton – Look what happened, they started shutting down the street and that cuts off my access.”

Mr. Smith – “That’s right.”

Mr. Stratton – “because of one complaint.”

Mr. Smith – “No, it was three complaints.”

Mr. Smith stated that ATVs were designed to be used on private property. They are not designed for roads.

Mr. Smith gave multiple examples of times he has witnessed improper use of ATVs downtown.

Mrs. Libby stated that by looking at the letters that Mr. Stratton shared with Council from the Businesses, “I agree there should be a way for ATVs to get to these businesses.” “I don’t think that it’s opening up our streets.” “I think that we need to stop pushing and driving this issue so hard that we are not looking at any other options.” “Sometimes we have a want and sometimes we have a need.” “I think the need is to get the ATVs to the businesses in Town, that’s what we need.” “The businesses need that and the Town needs that.” “The want is to be able to ride our personal ATVs to the trails or to wherever is convenient for us.” “I have to look at what’s good for the Town, not what’s good for a couple people.” “Our main concern should be for the businesses.” “Put some energy and effort into that portion instead of fighting for your own individual needs or needs of a few.” “I think this has become a personally driven issue.” “There has got to be another way and I think that we can continue to work together.

Mrs. Libby stated that the letters written basically makes “us” look like you think that we are not educated or we don’t know the laws. “That’s not the way things are going to get passed.”

Mr. Stratton – “Can we all just agree that everyone highlighted in orange, can legally go down that street and get to a trailhead?”

Mr. Butler – “That’s up to the Police Department; I don’t make that judgment call.” “I enforced the laws when I was a police officer and when I had a question on the laws; I went to the D. A.” “Our Police Chief has done this and someone just doesn’t want to take no for an answer.” “I look at the safety of our kids walking back and forth on our streets and as far as all the businesses that sent letters; they already have access to the ATV’s going to their stores.”

Mr. Stratton – “for the outsiders though.”

Mr. Butler – We did a loop around the Town. The outsiders are going to go to a “park and ride, am I right?” They not going to come in from outside, they are going to come into the “park and ride.”

Mr. Stratton – “I am talking people coming from Presque Isle, Caribou, Easton.”

Mr. Butler – “Is there trails from Presque Isle?”

Mr. Stratton – “There is a trail all the way from Presque Isle that comes right in to downtown Fort Fairfield.”

Mr. Butler – “So we have people from out of Town coming into the Town of Fort Fairfield without opening up our streets.”

Mr. Stratton - “So what do we do for our local folks and getting them into our businesses also?”

Mr. Butler – It’s just a fact of where you’re living, you put the ATV on a trailer and you take them to a park and ride and you go on the trails. “To open up the Town because of 40 some people that have an ATV want to be able to go from one place to another,” “I’m sorry.”

Mr. Stratton – I’m talking about getting from your residence home to the trails.” Fort Fairfield can do like every other town has done and become “ATV Friendly.”

Mr. Butler - “I think we are ATV Friendly.” We gave you what you wanted last year, the loop to get to our local businesses.

Mr. Stratton – But some of our local folks don’t. If nobody had access on these streets, that would be one thing, but you have ¾ of these folks that are legally allowed to use these streets.

Mrs. Libby – It is my understanding that this was never an issue with them using that little extra distance until it started being pushed.”

Mr. Stratton - “I accepted the Gentleman’s Agreement until Milk Street got closed down.”

Mrs. Libby – “so because somebody complained about your ATV, you go the entire Club to get behind you and support all of this.” “I have nothing against you personally, I feel like this is a personal issue, and I agree that there are people that should have access to the trails, and they did.”

Mrs. Libby – “I’m glad to have the Club in Town, but I don’t think opening up all the streets is the right way to do it.”

Mr. Stratton – One alternative was to put one marked access route from R& J’s to Forest Ave. Then local resident would be within 500 yards. The other alternative was not to put the access route because if you do, you’re going to have outsiders venturing down Roosevelt and Milk Street and the other side streets. I recommend don’t put signs up and just tell the local residents that “we don’t have a problem with you guys heading to and from the trails from your house.”

Mr. Butler – in order to do that we’d have to have an Ordinance, and once you have an ordinance passed, it cannot be just for the residents of Fort Fairfield, you have to open it up for everyone.

Mr. Smith – Milk Street did not get shut down until last summer. You already had a gentleman’s agreement.

Mr. Stratton – I came to you and asked you then why the Town shut down Milk Street.

Mr. Smith – It’s not the Town, it’s the Chief. He had a complaint, he is the Public Safety Officer, and he has the right to do that. If it’s an issue, it’s an issue. He can do that, I am not going to overrule him; I am going to support him.

Mr. Stratton – If I put in a complaint about a pick-up truck with loud exhaust “barreling” down Brunswick Avenue, are they going to shut down Brunswick Avenue to loud pick-up trucks?”

Mr. Butler – they are going to give him a summons.

Mr. Stratton - “That’s what they should do with the ATVs.

Mr. Butler – Give them a summons? “Ok, we can look at that.”

Mr. Babin – “right now I don’t think this is getting anywhere and I think we should, as Mrs. Libby suggested and look for other options because this option is not going to work.” People do have access to the Main street businesses and I know that if someone creeps along, obeying the rules, needs to go a little further, I don’t think they’ll get in trouble.” I know opening up all the streets, will eventually cause all streets to get shut down due to complaints.

Mr. Babin – stated that he also witnessed the same ATV operating unlawfully as well as Mr. Smith had.

Mr. Babin thanked Mr. Stratton for his time. We don’t want to see the Club fail and believes that Fort Fairfield is friendly to four-wheelers and ATV clubs and it’s just a matter of moving on and seeing what we can do.

B. Solar Farm Proposal

David Lown of RLC Electric presented a proposal regarding a Solar Power Purchase Agreement (SPPA).

A solar power Purchase agreement (SPPA) is a financial arrangement in which a third party developer owns, operates, and maintains the photovoltaic (PV) system, and a host customer (Town) agrees to site the system on its property and purchases the system’s electric output from the solar services provider for a predetermined period. This financial arrangement allows the host customer to receive stable and often low-cost electricity, while the solar services provider or another party acquires valuable financial benefits, such as tax credits and income generated from the sale of electricity.

The host customer (Town) agrees to have solar panels installed on its property, typically its roof, and signs a long-term contract with the solar services provider to purchase generated power.

An SPPA is a performance based arrangement in which the host customer pays only for what the system produces. The term length of most SPPA’s can range from six years to as long as 25 years.

Mr. Lown –I would need to look at the Town’s current electric bills. Does it make economic sense for both parties? If it doesn’t then it a moot point.

Mrs. Powers – So you need to know what our energy costs are, if we have demand charges, and if we have land available?

Mr. Lown – that is correct.

Mrs. Powers – do you have a place specifically in Town that you are looking at?

Mr. Lown – the Town has property up where the water tank used to be.

Mr. Levesque – stated that there is zero land available there.

Mr. Lown – we looked at the land by the school one time, but didn’t go beyond that.

Mr. Butler – when you say it will save the Town money, you mean this building here, not the whole Town?

Mr. Lown – specifically the PPA would be between the Town of Fort Fairfield. As a government entity the Town of Fort Fairfield cannot take advantage of the tax advantages that are available to private citizens who buy solar power.

Mr. Butler – how much land do you need?

Mr. Lown – it depends on how much power the Town needs or wants. You don't want to overproduce power.

Mr. Smith – isn't our power rate going to get a little better as we switch over to LED street lighting?

Mrs. Powers – yes it its.

Mr. Smith – do we know what percentage that may save the Town?

Mrs. Powers – No, we don't but we can probably use those percentages and figure it out.

Mr. Lown – there will be no out of pocket expense for the Town on this project. The goal is to hopefully save the Town some money.

Mr. Lown – hopefully I can come back in about 60 days with a more formal presentation once I have more information.

C. Board of Assessment Review appointments/vacancies

Background: Local Boards of Assessment Review are established to hear appeals of decisions by the Local Tax Assessor.

The Fort Fairfield Charter mandated the establishment of a Board of Assessment Review.

The Town Council appointed a Board of Assessment Review by Ordinance on 01/21/1977.

The Ordinance mandated the make-up of the Board to be five (5) members with staggered 3-year terms.

The current Board has two (2) vacancies with a third member's term expiring on 06-30-2019. That expiring member very likely will not consider reappointment due to health reasons.

Discussion: The local Board of Assessment Review has only met once since the last revaluation of the Town in 1998 and that was in January 1999. The current Board has had no training on conducting Appeals Hearings.

Since the Town will be completing a Town Wide Tax Assessment Revaluation for the Tax Year 2020-2021 there very likely will be appeals taken to the Board of Assessment Review.

Mr. James Risner has submitted an application to fill a vacancy on the Board of Assessment Review.

Recommendation: To appoint Mr. Risner to the Board of Assessment Review to fill a vacancy and to provide training to all members of the Board on responsibilities and conducting Appeal Hearings.

Mr. Butler made a motion to appoint Mr. Risner to the Board of Assessment Review to fill a vacancy.

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative

There is an Annual Training Program offered by MMA for Boards of Assessment Review and there are sample Rules and Regulations for Boards of Assessment Review that could be made available.

D. Reval – Mr. Levesque

We put out a request for proposals of services to do a Town-wide revaluation. The first one was done in 1960 the next one was done in 1978 and the last one was done in 1998. We have some issues with reimbursements from the State because our assessments are not at 100%. Our sales ratio per residential sales is at 80%.

Since the Energy plant is closing and since it has been 20 years since we had a full Town-wide reevaluation you directed me to request the proposals. We met today with the gentleman who presented us with two options.

“Old School” and “New School”

If we go “New School” we save \$50,000 up front. If we go “Old School” and keep the property cards and the way that it’s generated at this time, it will cost us a lot more because it will cost him a lot more to duplicate that process. It’s been a long time since they’ve been done.

New School way will require training for Mr. Levesque and staff.

Mr. Levesque recommends that council signs a contract with Maine Assessment and Appraisal Services, Inc. for the cost of the property revaluation which included all residential, commercial, and industrial land and buildings and it also includes this year, reviewing the Energy Plant to be fair. At that point we will be submitting a potential request for forgiveness and return of some of our reimbursements for a sudden and severe stressed community. Contract price is \$169,840.

Mr. Butler – you’re recommending the “New School” way right?

Mr. Levesque – yes, using what’s called the Full TRIO package, we currently use a partial TRIO package.

Mr. Kilcollins made a motion for Council to sign the contract with Maine Assessment and Appraisal Services, Inc. for the contract price Mr. Levesque cited.

Mr. Butler seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

E. ReEnergy

ReEnergy ceased operations at the Facility in November 2018, and ReEnergy has determined that the Facility is no longer economically viable as a biomass-fired electric generating facility. Accordingly, the parties propose to work together to redevelop the Site for an alternate use as described below.

1. Demolition of Facility. ReEnergy will demolish, at its expense, all of the improvements on the Site down to grade level (leaving the foundations, other below-grade improvements and paved areas on the Site as-is). Furthermore, ReEnergy will leave in place the interconnection improvements that are located at the Site. ReEnergy expects to complete this demolition work by August 1, 2019. In addition, ReEnergy will have a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (“Phase I ESA”) conducted to confirm that there are no “recognized environmental conditions” (as such term is used in ASTM Standard Practice E 1527-13) with respect to the Site, which Phase I ESA must be satisfactory to the Town in its reasonable judgment.

2. Transfer of Title to the Site. After completion of the demolition work described above and the approval of the Phase I ESA by the Town, ReEnergy will transfer title to the Site to the Town free and clear of all liens (other than any lien for property taxes that may be due at such time), at no cost to the Town.

3. Redevelopment of the Site. ReEnergy will collaborate with the Town for at least one year after the transfer of title to the Site to the Town to identify parties that may be interested in redeveloping the Site for a new business enterprise.

Mr. Kilcollins commented that he thinks it’s a good idea to keep a good relationship with ReEnergy and that his concern at this time would be the possibility of contamination and any liability to the Town after the demolition.

Mrs. Libby commented that DEP guarantees their work.

Ms. Powers - That’s the purpose of the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment.

Mr. Butler also agreed to make sure there will be no contamination at the site that could bring any future liability to the Town.

F. Proclamation 19-01, Community Development Week

Background: The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program was established in 1974 and is a partnership of federal, state and local governments as well as private sector, non-profit and community efforts to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, suitable living environments and expanded economic opportunities, principally for low and moderate income persons.

The Town of Fort Fairfield has received \$10,728,926 in CDBG funds since 1988. Town projects funded with CDBG dollars include the clinic project, armory renovation and Monson pond dam and bridge project.

Discussion: The National Community Development Association established the National Community Development Week 33 years ago. This year, April 22 through April 26 has been designated Community Development Week.

The proclamation proclaims the week of April 22 through April 26, 2019 as Community Development Week throughout the Town of Fort Fairfield and gives special thanks and recognition to all the participants whose hard work and devotion to the neighborhoods and their low and moderate income residents to help insure the quality and effectiveness of the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Mr. Levesque read the Proclamation in its entirety.

Recommendation: Town Council sign Proclamation 19-01, Community Development Week.

Mr. Butler made a motion to sign Proclamation 19-01, Community Development Week.

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

G. Recreation Department acceptance of donation (s)

Background: Title 30-A M.R.S.A. §5654 states that a conditional gift for any specified public purpose offered to a municipality may be accepted or rejected by its legislative body.

Discussion: The Parks and Recreation Department received an anonymous donation from a citizen of Fort Fairfield, by way of a Dick's Sporting Goods gift card, valued at \$100. The only request was that it would be used on youth baseball.

Recommendation: That Town Council accepts the donation of a Dick's Sporting Goods Gift Card, valued at \$100.00.

Mr. Butler made a motion that Council accepts the donations of a Dick's Sporting Goods Gift Card, valued at \$100.00.

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

Discussion: After reaching out to Holiday Styling, our Parks and Recreation Department received a donation of an inflatable movie screen, and storage bag, for use in recreational programming. The value of this donation is \$396.98.

Recommendation: That Town Council accepts the donation from Holiday Styling, of an inflatable movie screen and storage bag, valued at \$396.98.

Mr. Kilcollins made a motion that Council accepts the donation from the Holiday Styling, of an inflatable movie screen and storage bag, valued at \$396.98.

Mr. Butler seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

Discussion: The Parks and Recreation Department inquired about a donation of golf and soccer training supplies for use in WAGM's golf expo, and department recreational programming. Podiumax Sports agreed to donate a variety of training equipment for these purposes.

The value of this donation is \$510.90

Recommendation: That Town Council accepts the donation of training supplies from Podiumax Sports, valued at \$510.90.

Mr. Butler made a motion that Council accepts the donation of training supplies from Podiumax Sports, valued at \$510.90.

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

Mr. Butler commented that he follows the Departments activities on their Facebook page. The Recreation Director is doing a great job. "It's great for the Town"

IX. Minutes of the March 20, 2019 regular Council Meeting

Mr. Butler made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2019 regular Council Meeting as written.

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

X. Warrant: #20; \$295,566.38

Mr. Butler made a motion to approve Warrant #20 for \$295,566.38.

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

XI. Other

A. Spring Clean-up

Ms. Powers read the flyer

XII. Executive Session

1 M.R.S.A. §943-C Post Foreclosure Process

Mr. Butler made a motion to enter into executive session regarding M.R.S.A. §943-C Post Foreclosure Process

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

Council entered into executive session at 7:42 pm.

Mr. Butler made a motion for Council to come out of executive session.

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Council came out of executive session at 7:52 pm.

Action taken: Mr. Kilcollins made a motion to allow Mrs. Leighton to move forward with the post foreclosure process.

Mr. Butler seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

2 M.R.S.A. §405 Personnel Matters

Mr. Kilcollins made a motion for Council to enter into executive session regarding M.R.S.A. §405 Personnel Matters

Mr. Butler seconded.

Council entered into executive session at 7:53 pm.

Mr. Butler made a motion to come out of executive session.

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Council came out of executive session at 7:58 pm.

Action taken: Mr. Butler made a motion to expunge disciplinary action against Officer Eagles and to give him back the two days pay that was also withheld.

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

XIII. Adjournment

Mr. Butler made a motion to adjourn.

Council adjourned at 7:58 pm

Respectfully submitted

Council Secretary

**updated after Agenda posted on 4/12/19*