



**SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2023 AT 5:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 59 MAIN STREET, ORONO, MAINE**

MINUTES

1. Roll Call at 5:00pm.

Present: Council Chair Pro Tem Meghan Gardner, Council Chair Tom Perry (remote), Leo Kenney, Cheryl Robertson, Geoffrey Wingard, Sonja Birthisel, Robert Laraway, and Town Manager Sophie Wilson.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6)(D) for Discussions Related to Collective Bargaining with the Town Attorney

At 5:04 p.m. Rob Laraway motioned and Sonja Birthisel seconded to move into executive session for discussions related to collective bargaining with the Town Attorney. All voted in favor, 7-0.

At 6:30 p.m, Meghan Gardner motioned and Cheryl Robertson seconded to move into regular session. All voted in favor, 7-0.

3. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Leo Kenney and seconded by Cheryl Robertson. All agreed, and the Council Chair Pro Tem Meghan Gardner declared the meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Minutes are not verbatim.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy W. Ward
Executive Assistant



COUNCIL COMMITTEES MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2023 AT 6:47 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 59 MAIN STREET, ORONO, MAINE

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

Present: Council Chair Pro Tem Meghan Gardner, Council Chair Tom Perry (remote), Leo Kenney, Cheryl Robertson, Geoffrey Wingard, Sonja Birthisel, Robert Laraway, and Town Manager Sophie Wilson.

2. Public Comments *(Video record time 0:0:40 - 0:56:50)*

Ms. Gardner read the Council statement addressing the community concerns related to the Town Administrative Clerical and Professional Employees unionization effort.

Residents made comments and asked questions regarding the unionization effort and asked that more information be made available to the public. Town Attorney Matt Tarasevich and Town Manager Wilson answered questions and provided information.

3. Community Development Committee

a. Parking 101: Understanding Existing Parking Infrastructure & Policies For Current Use *(Video record time 0:56:51 - 0:57:54)*

Ms. Wilson stated that Parking 101 would be postponed to another time.

4. Comp Plan Implementation Committee

a. Proposed Revisions To The Town Of Orono Ordinances, Chapter 18 Land Use, Article VIII Floodplain Management, For Compliance With The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) *(Video record time 0:57:55 - 1:10:59)*

Ms. Wilson stated the reason this item is before Council is because the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) has changed its map and requires the Town to update its local Floodplain Management Ordinances to reflect the change.

Town Planner Kyle Drexler stated that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has updated its maps to be effective for July 2023 (FEMA manages the NFIP).

He noted that the Town must adopt an updated Floodplain Management Ordinance (within the Land Use Ordinance) which references the new map date on or before July 19, 2023 in order to avoid being immediately suspended from the NFIP. Mr. Drexler commented that the new Ordinance is modeled after the State's Ordinance and the Town does not have much say in the changes, but must go through the ordinance amendment process. He reviewed the changes and stated the next step in the process is a public hearing and review by the Planning Board in April and then back to Council for its public hearing and review in May.

5. Public Comment (*Video record time 1:11:04 - 1:12:46*)

Ms. Wilson stated she was approached by the Orono Public Library Foundation regarding a resolution and letter of support for an expansion of the library to seek federal funding. She stated she would draft a letter for Council to consider at its next meeting. The Committee agreed.

6. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Cheryl Robertson and seconded by Tom Perry. All agreed and the meeting was declared adjourned by the Council Chair Pro Tem. The Council Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes are not verbatim. A video-recorded version is available on the Town's website at www.orono.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy W. Ward
Executive Assistant