



## **COUNCIL COMMITTEES MEETING & COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP**

**MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023 AT 5:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, 59 MAIN STREET, ORONO, MAINE**

### **COUNCIL COMMITTEES MEETING MINUTES**

#### **1. Roll Call**

Present: Council Chair Geoffrey Wingard, Sonja Birthisel, Rob Laraway, Leo Kenney, Sarah Marx, Dan Demeritt, and Town Manager Sophie Wilson.

The Council Committees agreed to discuss the Special Election item before hearing about the Climate Action Plan Update to allow time for a BACTS member to join the meeting.

#### **2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

##### **a. Discussion Regarding Procedure and Timelines for Holding a Special Election to Fill a Council Vacancy (Video record time 0:2:10 - 0:20:18)**

Ms. Wilson stated that on June 12, 2023 Council will accept Cheryl Robertson's resignation. She explained that Council must call a Special Election if the resignation is more than 6 months until the next Municipal Election. Ms. Wilson provided information regarding the process of filling the vacancy. She explained that the election must take place within sixty (60) days of formally accepting the resignation ( 6/12/23 Council meeting) and to hold the election by August 11, 2023 (the 60th day).

Ms. Wilson spoke of an abbreviated nomination period, with a minimum 30-day absentee balloting period. The Council Committee discussed the timeline and provided guidance as to the date of the special election and length of the nomination period. They agreed to have an order on the June 12th Council meeting that would allow for nomination papers to be available on June 13, 2023, with the absentee ballots available July 6th, and the special election to be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2023. The Committee discussed promoting the election through the website, social media, signage, and postcards to residents.

#### **3. ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

##### **a. Climate Action Plan Update (Presenters: Linnean Solutions and BACTS) (Video record time 0:20:19 - 0:39:30)**

Members of the Penobscot Climate Action Group and BACTS provided updates on the Climate Action Plan background, phase 1 and 2, and the 10 tool kits to be implemented to assist with climate action steps. They noted that the phase 2 outreach includes surveys, pop ups, working groups, and mitigation and adaptation strategy development.

#### **4. Town Manager's Report** *(Video record time 0:39:31 - 0:40:15)*

Ms. Wilson reported on the following items:

- Budget work
- Flags are up on the bridge
- Route 2 Crosswalk repainting of the rainbow

#### **4. Public Comment** *(Video record time 0:40:16 - 0:40:42)*

Fredrica Smith asked the Councilors to speak louder for the audience.

#### **5. Adjourn**

The Committee unanimously agreed to adjourn at 6:40 p.m.

## **COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP**

Present: Council Chair Geoffrey Wingard, Sonja Birthisel, Rob Laraway, Leo Kenney, Sarah Marx, Dan Demeritt, and Town Manager Sophie Wilson.

The Council met to discuss the following items: *(Video record time 0:40:45 - 3:03:04)*

- a. Discussion of FY24 Public Works Departmental Operating and Capital Budgets, Including a Discussion Related to Potential Decrease in Winter Maintenance Service Levels
- b. Final Discussion of FY24 Municipal Budgets, Fee Schedule, and Other Related Items for the June 12, 2023 Public Hearing

#### **3. Adjourn**

Minutes are not verbatim. A video-recorded version is available on the Town's website at [www.orono.org](http://www.orono.org).

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy W. Ward  
Executive Assistant