



## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, JULY 10, 2023 AT 5:00 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, 59 MAIN STREET, ORONO, MAINE

### MINUTES

#### 1. Roll Call

Present: Council Chair Geoffrey Wingard, Leo Kenney, Sarah Marx, Robert Laraway, Daniel Demeritt, Sonja Birthisel (remote and later in person), and Town Manager Sophie Wilson.

#### 2. Agenda Review *(Video record time 0:0:20 - 0:01:35)*

Council Chair Geoffrey Wingard noted two changes to the agenda: Consideration of adding Order 23-147 to the agenda, and the removal of the Executive Session due to no business to discuss.

Moved by Rob Laraway and seconded by Dan Demeritt to add Order 23-147 to the agenda. All voted in favor, 6-0.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes of June 12 and June 26, 2023 *(Video record time 0:1:36 - 0:02:15)*

Moved by Rob Laraway and seconded by Leo Kenney. All voted in favor, 6-0.

#### 4. Public Comments - None

#### 5. Public Hearings *(Video record time 0:2:50 - 0:12:00)*

##### a. To consider a Victualer's License for The Donut Grove, LLC, 153 Park Street, Suite B.

Public hearing a. opened at 5:02 p.m. Mr. Estey stated he is representing the staff when reporting on the licenses. He noted approval of the license is being conditioned on final inspection by Code Enforcement due to scheduling issues with the contractor to complete the project. Mr. Kenney stated he is excited to welcome a new business to town. No public comments were made. Public hearing a. closed at 5:03 p.m.

##### b. To consider a Class IV – Tavern Liquor License, Special Amusement Permit for Music, Dancing and Entertainment and Victualer's License for Timothy Gallon, d/b/a Black Bear Brewery, 19 Mill Street, Suite 4.

Public hearing b. opened at 5:03 p.m. Mr. Estey stated all inspections have been completed and staff is recommending approval. No public comments were made. Public hearing b. closed at 5:04 p.m.

##### c. To consider a Class I – Malt Liquor, Wine & Spirits Liquor License, Special Amusement Permit for Music, Dancing and Entertainment and Victualer's License for Marsh Island Brewing, LLC, 2 Main Street.

Public hearing c. opened at 5:04 p.m. Mr. Estey stated all inspections have been completed and staff

is recommending approval. No public comments were made. Public hearing c. closed at 5:05 p.m.

**d. To consider a Class I – Malt Liquor, Wine & Spirits Liquor License and Victualer’s License for ZRKM, LLC, d/b/a Tacorita, 2 Mill Street.**

Public hearing d. opened at 5:05 p.m. Mr. Estey stated all inspections have been completed and staff is recommending approval. No public comments were made. Public hearing d. closed at 5:06 p.m.

**e. To consider a Class A - Restaurant/Lounge (XI) – Malt Liquor, Wine & Spirits License, Special Amusement Permit for Music, Dancing & Entertainment and Victualer’s License for Woodman’s LLC, d/b/a Woodman’s Bar & Grill, 31 Main Street.**

Public hearing e. opened at 5:06 p.m. Mr. Estey stated all inspections have been completed and staff is recommending approval. New owner Dewey Hasbrouck stated he is excited to establish a new LLC. Ms. Wilson stated the license is being approved in the current business name and will be changed through the State in the near future. Public hearing e. closed at 5:07 p.m.

**f. To consider an Amendment to the Town of Orono Land Use Ordinances, Section 18-106, Schedule of Uses, to reduce the minimum lot area requirement in the Commercial-2 District from 40,000 square feet to 20,000 square feet.**

Public hearing f. opened at 5:07 p.m. Town Planner Kyle Drexler stated the Town’s Comprehensive Plan recommended making changes to the minimum lot size in the Commercial-2 zoning district (mainly on Park Street) to better reflect the district’s intent to be a mixed-use, compact area of the town which creates a more walkable feel. This change would make it possible for a 20,000 sq ft lot in the C-2 to have one dwelling unit along with a commercial unit. There are also a number of lots in the C-2 between 40,000 sq ft and 79,000 sq ft that would potentially now have more development options due to this change than they previously had. He noted the Planning Board also held its public hearing and recommended this change. No public comments were made. Public hearing f. closed at 5:12 p.m.

**6. Acknowledgments by Council Members (Video record time 0:12:01 - 0:015:15)**

Sonja Birthisel acknowledged the three people that stepped up to run for office for the Special Election.

Sarah Marx acknowledged Fred Heath for playing his trombone at the corner of Kelley Road and Main Street in the summertime for people to enjoy as they drive by. She also acknowledged Public Works for the tree plantings in Webster Park and the informative signs on Browntail Moths.

Rob Laraway also thanked Public Works for the tree plantings and signs in Webster Park.

Leo Kenney echoed Ms. Birthisel’s comment on the candidates running for office. He also acknowledged Town Clerk Shelly Crosby for her outstanding service to the public.

Dan Demeritt acknowledged and thanked the volunteers that work so hard on the beautiful flower beds and gardens around town. He noted they do a phenomenal job beautifying the community.

Geoffrey Wingard acknowledged the success with maintenance and opening the municipal pool. He noted it is great to see all of the kids return to such a great tradition.

**7. Unfinished Business - None**

**8. Consent Agenda** *(Video record time 0:15:20 - 0:18:51)*

Leo Kenney requested removing Order 23-129 from the consent agenda to be taken up separately because he has not had a chance to read the contract.

**Order 23-123** Order, approving a Victualer's License for The Donut Grove, LLC, 153 Park Street, Suite B, conditioned upon approval by Code Enforcement.

**Order 23-124** Order, approving a Class IV – Tavern Liquor License, Special Amusement Permit for Music, Dancing and Entertainment and Victualer's License for Timothy Gallon, d/b/a Black Bear Brewery, 19 Mill Street, Suite 4.

**Order 23-125** Order, approving a Class I – Malt Liquor, Wine & Spirits Liquor License, Special Amusement Permit for Music, Dancing and Entertainment and Victualer's License for Marsh Island Brewing, LLC, 2 Main Street.

**Order 23-126** Order, approving a Class I – Malt Liquor, Wine & Spirits Liquor License and Victualer's License for ZRKM, LLC, d/b/a Tacorita, 2 Mill Street.

**Order 23-127** Order, approving a Class A - Restaurant/Lounge (XI) – Malt Liquor, Wine & Spirits License, Special Amusement Permit for Music, Dancing & Entertainment and Victualer's License for Woodman's LLC, d/b/a Woodman's Bar & Grill, 31 Main Street.

**Order 23-128** Order, changing the time of the September 11, 2023 Regular Council Meeting from 7PM to 5PM.

**Order 23-130** Order, accepting and authorizing the expenditure of up to \$2,965 in Grant Funds from the Harold Alfond Center for the Advancement of Maine's Workforce for Fire Department Training.

Moved by Rob Laraway and seconded by Dan Demeritt to approve the consent agenda. All voted in favor, 6-0.

**9. New Business**

Order 23-129 was removed from the consent agenda to be taken up separately.

**Order 23-129** Order, confirming the employment contract of Meghan Mazzella as the Parks and Recreation Director for the Town of Orono, effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026. *(Video record time 0:18:52 - 0:28:52)*

Moved by Rob Laraway and seconded by Dan Demeritt. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Ms. Wilson described the role of the Parks and Recreation Director and its supervisory function. Councilors asked questions about the position and responsibilities. Councilors expressed their excitement to move forward with this candidate and the expanded role.

Ms. Wilson explained that each of the employment contracts has similar boiler-plate information

with individual nuances. This particular person is interested in benefits for professional development.

**Order 23-131 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to enter into a one year Pilot Operating Agreement with Bird Rides, Inc. of Santa Monica, CA for a Stand-up Electric Scooter Sharing System. (Video record time 0:28:53 - 0:36:50)**

Moved by Rob Laraway and seconded by Sarah Marx. All voted in favor, 5-0. (Sonja Birthisel was absent from the vote.)

(Ms. Birthisel left the Zoom meeting platform at 5:34 p.m.)

Assistant Town Manager Belle Ryder provided information about the Bird Scooters pilot program for Orono. She reviewed how this program would operate. Some of the information Ms. Ryder noted was that it will be a one year pilot program, Bird Scooter would be the sole provider of the stand up electric scooter sharing systems within the town, stand-up electric scooters would not be more restrictive than the regulation of bicycles, and the company will have a program manager and will provide 24-hour customer service, communicate rules with users, and collect and share unidentifiable user data.

Ms. Ryder confirmed that the scooters will not be allowed on the sidewalk and riders must be 18 years old to have a Bird account. Ms. Wilson noted the agreement spells out the conditions and the Town agrees to not create special ordinances within the pilot year.

**Order 23-132 Order, authorizing the Carrying Forward of \$174,193 from the balance of the FY23 Municipal Budget into FY24 to complete projects identified in FY23: (Video record time 0:36:51 - 1:07:10)**

- \$12,400 DEI Consulting Services
- \$45,833 MCJA Reimbursement
- ~~\$11,500~~ **\$20,500 FlashVote Community Engagement and Survey**
- \$ 2,000 Window Dressers
- \$ 2,000 August Election
- \$ 7,900 KACH Fire Panel Repair/Replacement (FY23 Encumbrance)
- \$48,200 PW Pickup (Approved FY22 and FY23 Project)
- \$ 5,000 Upgrades for Brownie's Beach Trail (FY23 Project)
- \$ 5,000 Upgrades for Brownie's Beach Trail
- ~~\$ 9,000 Council Chamber Project (Approved FY23 Project)~~
- \$15,360 PS Building Assessment (Approved FY23 Project)
- \$10,000 EV Charger (Approved FY23 Project)

Moved by Rob Laraway and seconded by Dan Demeritt.

Motion to amend by Sarah Marx and seconded by Sonja Birthisel to delete the \$9,000 Council Chamber Project and add the funds to FlashVote Community Engagement and Survey. The vote on the amendment was in favor, 5-1 (with Geoffrey Wingard opposed).

All voted in favor of the motion as amended, 6-0.

(Sonja Birthisel joined the meeting in person at 5:55 p.m.)

Councilors asked questions about the list of carry forwards, and specifically about the Council Chamber project and the FlashVote funds. Councilors voiced concerns about funding building space improvement projects without first knowing more about the Public Safety building space.

Councilors also asked about the FlashVote process. Ms. Wilson noted Council's desire to increase resident engagement and develop a better understanding of community opinion and priorities. Ms. Wilson provided information about the FlashVote service that assists developing and deploying up to six surveys over one year. She noted that Town officials would work with professionals to develop questions designed to elicit feedback from a statistically significant pool of community residents. Councilors also wanted to have a broader approach with community engagement and a community survey process.

Ms. Wilson provided information about the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) consulting services with Dustin Ward. Public Works Director provided information about the Electric Vehicle (EV) Charger to be installed at the Public Works facility for municipal vehicles.

**Order 23-133 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to enter into a Sole Source Agreement with It is Time... LLC of New Gloucester, Maine for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Training with Staff from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 at a cost of up to \$12,400 paid from funds carried forward from the FY23 Police Department Operating Budget. (Video record time 1:07:11 - 1:09:05)**

Moved by Sonja Birthisel and seconded by Sarah Marx. The vote was in favor, 5-1 (with Leo Kenney opposed).

Ms. Birthisel stated she hopes the DEIB Committee will be involved in the community outreach process with the consultant.

**Order 23-134 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to purchase of one (1) 2023 Ford Utility Police Interceptor Hybrid from Darling's Bangor Ford of Bangor, for the Police Department in the amount of \$50,685; plus up to \$5,770 paid to Island Tech Services Group of Levant, Maine for equipment purchase and set-up; and \$2,545 for miscellaneous equipment for a total cost not to exceed \$59,000 to be drawn from the approved FY24 Capital Equipment Budget. (Video record time 1:09:06 - 1:10:40)**

Moved by Dan Demeritt and seconded by Leo Kenney. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Leo Kenney requested that Town Manger Wilson report back to Council on where the used vehicles will be going within the fleet. She confirmed that she will do so.

**Order 23-135 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to pay Eastern Fire of Bangor, Maine up to \$7,900 for Emergency Repairs to the Keith Anderson Community House Fire Panel with funds drawn from funds carried forward from the FY23 Municipal Operating Budget. (Video record time 1:10:41 - 1:12:10)**

Moved by Rob Laraway and seconded by Leo Kenney. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Rob Yerxa indicated there have been issues with the Keith Anderson Community House (KACH) fire alarm and suppression system. More recently there has been a catastrophic failure with the fire monitoring panel which makes it more urgent to repair.

**Order 23-136 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to enter into a 5-Year Curbside Refuse and Recycling Collection Service Contract with Pine Tree Waste Services, Inc. until October 15, 2028, not to exceed \$261,000 in Contract Year One. (Video record time 1:12:11 - 1:35:10)**

Moved by Sonja Birthisel and seconded by Leo Kenney. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Mr. Yerxa stated that in June, staff published a request for proposals (RFP) to provide curbside collection of municipal solid waste (MSW) and single stream recycling. This RFP sought primary proposals to provide the current level of service: weekly curbside MSW collection and bi-weekly curbside recycling for residential properties. The RFP also offered the opportunity for vendors to provide an alternative for the Town's consideration. He noted the Town receiving one bid from Pine Tree Waste Services.

He stated Pine Tree Waste Services, provided an alternative, proposing a weekly MSW and recycling automated collection using a truck with two compartments. This system would require three collection days (Wednesday - Friday) and residents could only use the containers (MSW and recycling) provided by Pine Tree. Mr. Yerxa noted this change would require staff working with the vendor to develop a communication strategy and educational materials for residents this summer with an anticipated start date of October 15, 2023. Ms. Wilson noted that Pine Tree Services has offered to maintain the existing contract costs through the implementation of automated services, provided that the contract is extended for five years after this change occurs.

Jim Dunning of Pine Tree Waste Services, Inc. provided information to Council about the automated system and dedication to operator safety. Ms. Wilson provided information about the budget.

**Order 23-137 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to extend the 2022 Agreement and Unit Pricing for Hot Mixed Asphalt Paving Services with B & B Paving of Hermon for approved Capital Infrastructure Projects. (Video record time 1:35:11 - 1:37:30)**

Moved by Rob Laraway and seconded by Leo Kenney. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Mr. Yerxa stated that B & B Paving was the low bidder last year. He noted there were paving projects remaining from last year, and based upon current pricing, extending the contract with B & B appears to be a good deal and allows work to begin early this construction season.

**Order 23-138 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to accept \$7,734 from the Maine Forest Service, Browntail Moth Mitigation Assistance Grant for a Browntail Moth Mitigation Program; and, further to authorize the Town Manager to expend said funds according to the Grant Requirements. (Video record time 1:37:31 - 1:40:32)**

Moved by Sonja Birthisel and seconded by Rob Laraway. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Mr. Yerxa stated that Environmental Services Coordinator Megan Hess has worked hard to collect data on where the browntail moths were on Town trees and the Town has been awarded a grant

from the Maine Forest Service to fund efforts aimed at mitigating the moths. He noted the Town worked with the school to obtain the grant that looks to inject certain public trees with a pesticide treatment at Webster Park, RSU #26, and in downtown Orono. Ms. Wilson noted that the grant can only be used on Town trees.

**Order 23-139 Order, accepting \$300 in Grant Funds from the Maine Forest Service Invasive Plant Management Program to create an Invasive Plant Control Practice Plan (IPCPP) for the High School Lot, with the matching funds to be drawn from the approved FY24 Municipal Operating Budget. (Video record time 1:40:33 - 1:43:00)**

Moved by Dan Demeritt and seconded by Sarah Marx. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Mr. Yerxa stated that Ms. Hess worked with the Tree Board to focus on invasive plants at the High School Lot and was awarded grant funds from the Maine Forest Service to engage a licensed professional to create an Invasive Plant Control Practice Plan (IPCPP) for the Town-owned High School lot. The total cost of this project is estimated at \$600 with 50% of expenses covered by grant funds.

**Order 23-140 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to enter into a Contract with Fillion Associates, Inc. of East Providence, RI to provide and install approximately 310 feet of Pool Gutter at the Municipal Pool at a cost not to exceed \$87,750 with funds drawn from American Rescue Plan Act Funds (ARPA). (Video record time 1:43:01 - 1:51:53)**

Moved by Sarah Marx and seconded by Dan Demeritt. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Mr. Yerxa described the pool gutters and the leakage that is occurring along the seams and into the ground along the sides. He noted that Public Works will be performing the site preparation work (pulling up the necessary portion of the deck and demolition work, as appropriate) and will reinstall decking after Fillion has completed its work. He noted this project will be funded with the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. He noted the pool will close on approximately August 1, 2023 and described why this is the best timing for the project. Mr. Yerxa and Ms. Wilson described future upgrades to the pool over the next several years.

**Order 23-141 Order, authorizing the following FY24 Infrastructure Reserve Capital Projects totalling \$510,000: (Video record time 1:51:54 - 2:00:05)**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Funding Request</b>
<b>Maxfield Drive</b>	<b>\$55,000.00</b>
<b>Beech Street</b>	<b>\$130,000.00</b>
<b>Westwood Drive</b>	<b>\$85,000.00</b>
<b>Colburn Drive</b>	<b>\$100,000.00</b>
<b>Charles Street</b>	<b>\$95,000.00</b>
<b>MDOT Planning Partnership Project</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>

Moved by Sonja Birthisel and seconded by Leo Kenney. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Ms. Wilson stated at the end of each fiscal year the balance of unexpended Capital Infrastructure Budget funds lapses into the Infrastructure Reserve Fund. Staff then proposes a budget for these funds for Council's consideration. For FY24, staff is recommending infrastructure investment projects for Maxfield Drive, Beech Street, Westwood Drive, Colburn Drive, Charles Street, and the MDOT Planning Partnership Project. All of these projects were previously funded and are either in the design phase or have already begun. Mr. Yerxa provided details about the projects. Ms. Wilson described (an unaudited calculation) that \$411,827 was swept into the account, \$510,000 will be used, leaving a balance of approximately \$800,000.

**Order 23-142 Order, amending the Town of Orono Fee Schedule to add a fee of \$3/hour for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging. (Video record time 2:00:06 - 2:04:09)**

Moved by Leo Kenney and seconded by Sarah Marx. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Mr. Yerxa stated that last year the Town received grant funds to install two electric vehicle chargers (with two plugs each) for the public to use at the Municipal Parking lots behind the Public Safety Building and at the Public Library. These charging stations are equipped with credit/debit card readers which allow the Town to charge for each hour of use. Based upon an informal review of other public charging stations, it appears that the cost of use ranges between \$1-\$5/hour.

**Order 23-143 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to purchase one (1) 2022 Ford F250 SRW XL pick-up truck from Darling's Ford of Bangor for a total cost of \$48,196 with funds drawn from carried forward FY23 Capital Equipment Budget funds. (Video record time 2:04:10 - 2:06:06)**

Moved by Dan Demeritt and seconded by Rob Laraway. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Mr. Yerxa described the vehicle which meets the needs of Public Works is on the lot and available to purchase.

**Order 23-144 Order, authorizing the transfer of \$10,000 from the FY23 Public Works Winter Maintenance Salt Expense Account to Winter Maintenance Reserve. (Video record time 2:06:07 - 2:08:05)**

Moved by Dan Demeritt and seconded by Sarah Marx. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Mr. Yerxa stated in FY21, the Town Council created a Winter Maintenance Reserve Account and given the balance remaining in the FY23 Winter Maintenance Road Salt account, staff proposes transferring \$10,000 more into this account to fund budget shortfalls in salt, calcium, winter maintenance overtime, fuel, etc. This reserve account allows staff to budget for the norm as opposed to outlier years. He noted with this transfer the balance would be \$30,000, with a goal to reach \$40,000 in this account.

**Order 23-145 Order, deeming \$1,690.00 of delinquent FY2018 Personal Property taxes as uncollectible due to bankruptcy or related court proceedings, and authorizing the Town Manager to Write Off the Outstanding Taxes and related accrued interest (not shown) for Nexlinx Corporation, Inc., Account PP 410. (Video**



*record time 2:08:06 - 2:09:26)*

Moved by Dan Demeritt and seconded by Rob Laraway All voted in favor, 6-0.

Ms. Wilson stated that last year the Town Council approved writing off outstanding personal property tax balances for Nexlinx. Staff inadvertently omitted the 2018 outstanding balance and this action would clean up the intended write off.

**Order 23-146 Order, authorizing FY23 Budget Adjustments:** *(Video record time 2:09:27 - 2:20:25)*

- **Adjusting \$1,200 from the Municipal Pool Operating Budget to the FY23 Capital Pool Roof Project**
- **Increasing Afterschool Revenue and Expense Budgets by \$31,812 to reflect actual costs and revenues associated with this program in FY23**
- **Decreasing the Loader Loan Revenue and Capital Expense by \$42,250 to reflect actual borrowing and expense in FY23**
- **Adjusting \$22,275 from Overlay to the Town Council Contingency Account to cover expenses related to the Kelley Road Well Claim Settlement**

Moved by Sonja Birthisel and seconded by Dan Demeritt. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Ms. Wilson stated these changes do not add or subtract from the budget, it just adjusts the amounts to accurately reflect the expenses. She reviewed the adjustments. Mr. Kenney asked why the Town adjusts the amounts. Ms. Wilson explained the reasons for the adjustments. Ms. Marx asked for the running document that shows the shifts.

**Order 23-147 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to accept a 14-Foot Enclosed Trailer from the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) at no cost, to be used for Emergency Response to Hazmat incidents.** *Video record time 2:20:26 - 2:24:00)*

Moved by Sonja Birthisel and seconded by Sarah Marx. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Deputy Chief Kevin Sirois stated that the Orono Regional Response Team (RRT) received notification from the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) of surplus equipment available from a disbanded Decon Strike Team. He noted the Town has an opportunity to acquire a 14-foot enclosed trailer in good condition to support our RRT function at no cost to the Town.

Ms. Birthisel asked about the old trailer. Ms. Wilson stated that the old trailer could be used temporarily to store the physical agility gear outside at Public Works.

## **9. Future Agenda Items/Items of Concern** *(Video record time 2:24:01 - 2:27:28)*

Dan Demeritt asked about OTO Fiber Corporation and GoNetspeed. He noted Page Place has a conduit in place, but they have not yet put in the fiber. Assistant Town Manager and Vice President of OTO Fiber Corporation Belle Ryder stated that GoNetspeed excluded a

portion of town that had underground utilities (due to the expense), to get more mileage of fiber in place. She agreed to reach out to GoNetspeed to find out the current status.

Mr. Demeritt wanted to discuss at a future Council Committee meeting, the Council's authority to manage purchases over \$5,000.

Sarah Marxx asked for an update on the Special Election process. Ms. Wilson stated that three residents have submitted nomination papers and were certified as candidates. She noted their bios are on the Town's website. She noted that absentee ballots are available at the Town Office, and residents can register to vote and obtain an absentee ballot at any time. Ms. Wilson noted absentee ballots must be back before the polls close on August 8th at 8pm. The Town Office is open Monday through Thursday, 7:30am to 5:30pm.

Mr. Wingard thanked Councilors for their service promise ideas which will be discussed at an upcoming Council Workshop. He noted that ideas can still be submitted.

Ms. Wilson commented on upcoming events. She stated there will be a Council DEIB Committee Meeting tomorrow night at 6pm. On July 17th, Council will meet with the Orono Veazie Water District Trustees and interested parties regarding whether to fluoridate the water supply. Mr. Drexler will give an update on LD2003 Housing Law Ordinance amendments and proposed changes. She noted a legal matter on Stillwater Avenue and a stop work order violation. She reviewed the items for the July 24th Council Planning and Workshop and July 31st Special Council Meeting and Workshop.

Mr. Kenney asked about an update on the Property Tax Stabilization Program. Ms. Wilson stated that for this year, staff is working on how to implement a frozen tax year for FY24. After that, the program is being rolled into the circuit breaker program through the State. She noted more information on the changes will be coming.

**10. Public Petitions - None.**

**11. Public Comments - None.**

**12. Executive Session**

**a. Pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6)(D) for Discussions Related to Collective Bargaining Negotiations with AFSCME Council 93**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**13. Adjournment**

At 7:38 p.m., Dan Demeritt motioned and Sarah Marx seconded to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor, 6-0.

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