



## **SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING & COUNCIL COMMITTEES MEETING**

**MONDAY, JULY 18, 2022 AT 5:00 P.M.**

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

**WATCH ONLINE AT <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82722182865>**

**CALL IN (312) 626-6799 ID: 827 2218 2865**

### **SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

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

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

#### **2. New Business**

**Order 22-148 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to enter into an agreement for Hot Mixed Asphalt Paving Services with B & B Paving of Hermon in the amount of \$559,447.50 for the 2022 construction season including projects on Bennoch Road, Westwood Drive, Beech Street, Riverdale Drive, Maxfield Drive, Crestview Drive, and Ledge Hill Road. (Video record time 0:00:44 - 0:03:28)**

Moved by Meghan Gardner and seconded by Leo Kenney. All voted in favor, 7-0.

Public Works Director Rob Yerxa stated that five bids were received on July 13, 2022 for hot mixed asphalt paving for this construction season. He noted the following projects: Bennoch Road (portion of approximately 8,900 feet, Westwood Drive, Beech Street, Riverdale Drive, Maxfield and Crestview Drives, and Ledge Hill Road. He noted the low bid was from B & B Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$559,447.50 who was the contractor last year. Staff is recommending approval.

**Order 22-149 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with the Maine Department of Transportation for the Orono Planning Partnership Initiative for Route 2, Main Street, Downtown, and Park Street in Orono. (Video record time 0:03:29 - 0:28:55)**

Moved by Meghan Gardner and seconded by Cheryl Robertson. All voted in favor, 7-0.

Ms. Wilson stated that over the last several years, Town staff has been working with the Maine Department of Transportation to identify and address on-going concerns related to infrastructure, safety and design of the Route 2 corridor (from Kelley Road to the Orono-Old Town townline). Ms. Wilson

described the process through the State to qualify for future federal funds.

Mr. Yerxa noted the next step is to work with MDOT through a Planning Partnership Initiative (PPI) to study, evaluate, plan, and scope this larger transportation project. Participating with MaineDOT will allow the Town to identify regional and local interests, economic opportunities, and safety needs. This planning project is estimated to cost \$150,000 with the Town responsible for 50% of the total planning project cost (\$75,000). The Town match is included in the approved FY23 Capital Infrastructure Reserve Fund budget. Mr. Yerxa stated this agreement will provide the plan for future larger projects. Ms. Wilson stated the Town has been through a public process to identify the Route 2 corridor needs.

**Order 22-150 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to purchase six (6) Gateway Signs from DaVinci Signs of Hermon, Maine in an amount not to exceed \$11,664 with funds drawn from the Downtown and Transit Oriented Tax Increment Financing District Program Development Fund. (Video record time 0:28:56 - 0:33:44)**

Moved by Meghan Gardiner and seconded by Cheryl Robertson. All voted in favor, 7-0.

Ms. Wilson stated that earlier this year, the Town Council approved a new design for the Town's gateway signs that has since also been mirrored in logos and other branding efforts. Staff has worked to finalize the specifications for the gateway signs and solicited quotes from identified local vendors to complete this work in time for the signs to be installed by August 25, 2022. The lowest quote was received by DaVinci Signs and includes six (6) new 60"x72" single sided monument style signs.

Ms. Wilson noted there are also two directional signs that will be purchased that are not part of this order that are \$500 each.

### **3. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn by Cheryl Robertson and seconded by Geoffrey Wingard. All unanimously agreed. The Council Meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEES MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, JULY 18, 2022**

*Immediately following the conclusion of the Special Town Council Meeting*

### **1. Roll Call**

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

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

- a. Reviewing the Town's Winter Parking Ban Ordinance Language (Video record time 0:34:20 - 0:59:50)**

Ms. Wilson stated this request came from a Town Councilor and has been placed on the agenda to provide an opportunity for an initial discussion about the Town's current winter overnight parking ban

(November 1st - April 15th). Ms. Wilson noted this ban is found in the Town of Orono Code of Ordinances, Chapter 34 Traffic and Vehicles, Article III, Section 34-94, entitled “Special night parking regulations ” and states, “It shall be unlawful for the operator of any vehicle except a taxi to park such vehicle on any street between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 8:00 a.m. from November 1 in any year to April 15 in the following year.”

Councilor Robertson explained that the November 1st to April 15th time frame does not line up with the winter conditions due to climate change. She noted Bangor’s parking ban commences with the first snowstorm and ends March 31st.

Public Works Director Rob Yerxa reviewed the statistics regarding snow events in November over five years. He cautioned about waiting too late to put the ban in place for snow events. Ms. Robertson suggested keeping an eye on the weather in November and April to potentially shift the parking ban time span. Councilors discussed this issue and parking in general. Councilor Wingard noted the only exception is taxis and the language may need to be changed due to other delivery services.

**Councilors agreed to continue to review the winter parking dates and take the issue of overnight parking/parking limitations up at a Community Development Committee in the next quarter.**

### **3. Town Manager’s Report (Video record time 0:59:51 - 1:11:15)**

Ms. Wilson reported on the following items:

- Tyler Technology will present their contract zone project to the Planning Board July 20, 2022
- Community Facilities Meeting to be held on Thursday, July 28th at 5pm. The buildings being discussed are the Keith Anderson Community House, the Old Fire Station, the former Public Works Facility and the Birch Street School.
- Items for the July 25th Council Committees Meeting:
  - Penobscot County Jail construction/renovation discussion on July 25th
  - Citizen request to discuss flags. MMA recommends having a policy in place
  - OVWD correspondence regarding a public referendum on fluoridation of the public water supply
  - Review of draft DEI Committee charge
- Items for the August 1st Council Committees Meeting:
  - Low impact development ordinance guidelines (requirement of MS4 permit)
  - Homestay ordinance revision
  - Tyler Technologies Contract Zone feedback from Planning Board
  - Initial parking ordinance revisions
- Items for the August 8th Council Meeting:
  - Public Hearing on the Tyler Technology Contract Zone
  - Workshop or adoption of the DEI Committee Charge
  - Workshop on Town Council draft work plan
  - Public hearing or further discussion on procurement practices
  - Environment Committee meeting on August 25th
- September 1st Community Conversation/Feedback Meeting (quarterly meeting)
- Regular Council Meeting September 12th

**4. Public Comment** (*Video record time 1:11:16 - 1:18:26*)

Leo Kenney asked about the status of public access television. Ms. Wilson stated Council voted to not spend significant funds to upgrade the technology needed to broadcast cable. She noted the Town meetings are on Facebook (and the Town's website). Ms. Wilson stated the public can request copies of the minutes or copies of the meetings could be available at the library upon request.

Mr. Kenney asked if it was possible to send copies of the agendas in the email sent out to the public. Belle Ryder explained why it is not possible to attach an agenda through the mass mailing sent out to the public. She noted it is only possible to provide a link to the agenda.

**5. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn by Geoffrey Wingard and seconded by Leo Kenney. All unanimously agreed. The Council Meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

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