



## **SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING & WORKSHOP**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.**

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

### **MINUTES**

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

Present: Council Chair Geoffrey Wingard, Vice Chair Leo Kenney, Sarah Marx, Daniel Demeritt, and Town Manager Sophie Wilson. Robert Laraway and Sonja Birthisel joined later.

#### **4. Workshop: Transition to Automated Residential Curbside Collection of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Recycling Related to Service to Residents on Private Roads**

Staff will provide a presentation related to this agenda item and then Council Chair Wingard will facilitate a discussion of potential service options for residents located on private roads.

Public Works Director, Rob Yexa provided background information and introduced Jim Dunning, Market Area Manager with Casella.

Public Comment (*video record time 37:34*):

- Their driveway is 500 feet long and issues with hauling a 96 gallon trash can back and forth each week.
- Putting the trash cans at the end of the driveway will block their access to the driveway.
- With seasonal pickup and dump stickers in the winter, they feel that it will be better to have a dumpster for the entire year.

Responses:

- It was recommended to leave the bin at the end of the driveway, off the roadway.
- It was noted that the bins have wheels and move easily.
- Residents can use their own trash bags for the bins.
- The Fee for the transfer station will be waived to the residents who live on private property roads if the transfer station is the only option.

Council Direction (*video record time 58:55*): Personal pick up is the most cost effective, uses the current infrastructure; keeping traditional pick up for tier 2. Council is in favor of proceeding with Tier 1 roads as we planned. Provide them with bins. Will be expected to bring the bin or leave the bin at the end of the driveway. Can get a smaller bin if desired.

## **5. Brief Update on Town Council Potluck Series**

- Things are going well, including publicity
- Businesses want to donate to the potlucks. They would like to have a table with business cards to support local businesses.
- Bus service does not run on Sundays
  - Campus Bus
  - Town provide transportation but with cost, staff and liability
  - Residents can give rides to other residents
  - Ms Wilson said that it should be the community that organizes rides and not a Town Official.
- Council wants to partner with other town committees to help spotlight them.
- Council noted there is a lot of interest to have local bands, visual artists etc.
- This is not a potluck where everyone has to bring food; bring food if you can.

## **6. Public Comment - None.**

## **7. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405(6)(E) for Consultation with the Town Attorney regarding Council Rights & Responsibilities**

At 6:18 p.m., Motion by Rob Laraway and seconded by Dan Demeritt to move into executive session for Consultation with the Town Attorney regarding Council Rights & Responsibilities. All voted in favor, 7-0.

## **8. Workshop: Proposed Revision to Town of Orono Code of Ordinances Chapter 2 - Administration, Article V - Finance, Division 2 - Purchasing**

The workshop was not held. It will be scheduled for a later date.

## **9. 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