

**Town of Orono
Council Committee Meeting**

**Monday, May 2, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.
Council Chamber – Municipal Building**

Minutes

1. Roll Call

Present: Tom Perry (Finance Chair), Geoff Gordon (Community Development Chair), Council Chairman Cindy Mehnert, Sam Kunz, Judy Sullivan, Clint Relyea, Town Manager Sophie Wilson, Assistant Town Manager Belle Ryder, Finance Director Jessie Daniels and Parks & Recreation Director Mitch Stone.

Finance

2. Finance Report

Finance Director Jessie Daniels reviewed the FY16 financial report with the Committee. Mr. Daniels explained the reasons for any irregularities and exceptions to line items on the revenue and expense reports. Committee members asked questions for clarification.

Ms. Sullivan questioned why the sale of overnight parking passes was down and questioned whether it was due to the increased cost of the passes. Ms. Wilson explained that less were sold as a result of offering the option of monthly passes. She also noted the shortage of staff to enforce parking. Ms. Wilson stated that Council may want to revisit monthly overnight parking passes.

The Committee reviewed the upcoming budget schedule and agreed to the following:

- Council Budget Workshops will be held on Mondays, May 9, 16, 23, June 6, 2016 and at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 2, 2016. All meetings will begin at 5:30 p.m.
- The Council's Public Hearing on the budget will be held on Monday, June 13, 2016 at 7 p.m.
- Any additional meetings that are necessary will be held on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in May.

Ms. Wilson presented Councilors with the FY17 Proposed Budget. She noted that the Town Manager's letter would be distributed soon and Public Safety would be the first department reviewed.

Community Development

3. Solarize Project

Ms. Wilson explained the Greater Bangor Solarize Project. She stated that the goal of the Solarize Project is to promote the installation of solar power by bringing together individuals and

groups to contract for solar installation at a reduced rate. By participating, the town would lend its name to the project and assist with outreach to potential solar purchasers through established municipal networks and media tools (i.e. posters, website, Orono Observer).

Ms. Wilson stated that if the Committee is willing to move forward with this request, staff would check into it to make sure that the Town is not tying to unknown commitments.

The Committee agreed to move the Greater Bangor Solarize Project forward to the Council agenda.

4. Parks and Recreation Updates

- **Summer Programs (including the Municipal Pool)**
- **Programming After School Hours**
- **Community Arts**
- **Community Theater**

Parks and Recreation Director Mitch Stone updated the Committee on the summer recreation programs (including the municipal pool). He noted that the summer programs are similar to last year and includes the collaboration with UMaine for the RAD-O Summer Camp. Mr. Stone stated that last year's Pool Director will return for another season. This year's program will include the swim team and added lap swim times.

Mr. Stone stated that the recreation programming for after school hours will not be a full week program, but will have 6-8 week programs like horseback riding, karate and ballet. Mr. Stone noted that he will be connecting with high school students who need community hours to provide assistance with programs. Ms. Wilson noted that Old Town Recreation and the YMCA run the weekly afterschool programs, whereas Orono will have the unique offerings and programs.

Mr. Stone noted that Sandy Cyrus resigned from the Community Arts Theater. He noted that a new theater group (Some Theater Company) is paying for the space at KACH to run four shows per year.

Ms. Wilson noted that she would like to see the Stillwater Community Arts be advisors to the theater group. She spoke of possibly creating "Dinner and a Show" as an economic development tool in the future.

Mr. Stone stated that he is looking to upgrade the stage light board and creating a sub-stage on top of the stage. Ms. Wilson stated that the Community Theater has over \$3,000 for these projects.

The Committee agreed to forward the Keith Anderson Community House stage upgrades to the Council agenda.

5. Brief Town Manager's Report

Ms. Wilson updated the Committee on damage to an individual's car tire and rim due to hitting a manhole cover. She noted that the issue has been referred to the Town's insurance company. She noted that the road defect was reported and corrected within 48 hours.

6. Adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Minutes are not verbatim. A tape-recorded version is available in the Town Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy W. Ward
Administrative Assistant