

**TOWN OF ORONO
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBER - MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2016 AT 6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

Present: Council Chair Cindy Mehnert, Sam Kunz, Geoff Gordon, Tom Perry, Clint Relyea, Tom Spitz (arrived at 6:13 p.m.) and Town Manager Sophie Wilson. Absent: Judy Sullivan.

2. New Business

Order 16-134 Order, authorizing the Town Manager to approve and sign Certificates of Settlement to the Tax Collector Jessie Daniels under the authority contained in MRSA Title 36, Section 763, discharging him from further liability or obligation to collect the balances due.

Moved by Tom Perry and seconded by Sam Kunz. All voted in favor, 5-0.

Ms. Wilson explained that taxes are committed to an individual under Maine State Law and when the individual leaves employment the taxes need to be settled and agreed upon before being committed to another individual. Ms. Wilson noted that she is currently working on a software issue for reconciling the taxes which will be completed soon.

Order 16-135 Order, confirming the appointment of Town Manager Sophia L. Wilson as the Tax Collector and Treasurer, effective August 31, 2016.

Moved by Sam Kunz and seconded by Geoff Gordon. All voted in favor, 5-0.

Ms. Wilson explained that the Treasurer appointment will be short-term (a few months); however, the Tax Collector appointment will be for the fiscal year until June 30, 2017. She noted that in the interim, the Tax Assessor will be supervised by the Economic Development Director because the Tax Collector cannot supervise the Tax Assessor by State Statute. She noted that the two Staff Accountants will be Deputy Tax Collectors.

Order 16-136 Order, extending the due date for the first half of FY16-17 Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes from September 23, 2016 to October 21, 2016, and the date on which interest will commence on the uncollected first half of FY16-17 Real Estate and Personal Property from September 24, 2016 to October 22, 2016.

Moved by Geoff Gordon and seconded by Sam Kunz. All voted in favor, 6-0.

(Tom Spitz arrived at 6:13 p.m.)

Ms. Wilson noted that the Town is behind on its assessment of taxes, but will be committing taxes by September 6, 2016. She requested moving the tax due date to allow residents more time to receive and pay their tax bills. Ms. Wilson stated that there are funds available to cover the one-month due date extension. She noted that she would be bringing forward a proposal in September in regards to proceeding forward with the Assessing Department.

Mr. Perry suggested promoting the new tax due date to residents. Ms. Wilson noted the various ways that will be used to get the information out.

3. Adjournment

At 6:15 p.m., Clint Relyea moved and Geoff Gordon seconded to adjourn. All voted in favor, 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy W. Ward
Administrative Assistant