



**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 23, 2022 AT 5:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, 59 MAIN STREET, ORONO, MAINE
WATCH ONLINE AT <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/96629044748>
CALL IN (312) 626-6799 ID: 966 2904 4748**

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

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

2. New Business

Order 22-93 94 Order, authorizing the purchase and installation of Eight (8) VRS Pyramid Vehicle Repeater Systems and Five (5) Mobile Radios from Radio Communications Management, Inc. of Portland, for a total expense of \$28,777 to be drawn from the Police Asset Forfeiture Fund.

Moved by Meghan Gardner and seconded by Geoffrey Wingard. All voted in favor, 6-0.

(Correction: Order 22-93 has already been used, order changed to Order 22-94)

Ms. Wilson explained that police officers have been having significant difficulties maintaining communication (both receiving and transmitting) in the field due to the age of the current system. She noted how critical it is to maintain reliable radio communications to ensure officer and public safety. Ms. Wilson described the best practice of installing vehicle repeater systems designed to extend both the broadcast and reception for the mobile and handheld radio units. Ms. Wilson stated the radio system would be paid from the Police Asset Forfeiture Fund which has a balance of \$33,553, which would leave a balance of \$4,776 in the fund if approved.

Mr. Perry supported the purchase, stating good communication is important. Ms. Robertson questioned whether \$4,776 was enough to leave in the fund. Ms. Wilson noted that more funds are expected to be coming soon.

3. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Meghan Gardner and seconded by Geoffrey Wingard. All unanimously agreed. The Council Meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Minutes are not verbatim. A video-recorded version is available on the Town's website at www.orono.org. Respectfully submitted, Nancy W. Ward, Executive Assistant