

**Fort Fairfield Town Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Council Chambers**  
**Wednesday, February 19, 2014**  
**6:00 P.M.**

Councilors: David McCrea, Jason Barnes, Robert Kilcollins, Susan LeVasseur and John Herold

Staff: Ella Leighton, Tony Levesque and Mike Jalbert

Citizens: 2 including media

- I. Roll Call - Chair David McCrea asked that the record reflect all councilors are present.
- II. Prayer – Tony Levesque offered the prayer
- III. Pledge to the Flag - All in attendance pledged their allegiance to the Flag.
  
- IV. Public Comment Period – NONE
  
- V. Correspondence and Reports
  - A. Licenses/Permits- Liquor License for Frontier Fish and Game and a Bingo License for the Knights of Columbus.
  
  - B. Financial Report – Mike B. – Financial status for the first 7 months is pretty much on track. With the abundance of snow, it adds to the repair bill, however all in all George and his crew are doing an exceptional job at keeping the equipment functioning well. Our cash flow continues to improve, anticipating that our TAN will be paid off this week or after the next warrant. State revenue sharing is on track for this year with what was budgeted. With the increase in landfill permits, to date the town has generated \$6,680 or approximately 50% of anticipated yearly revenue used to offset that expense.
  
  - C. Tri-Community Landfill Report – Stev Rogeski – Last meeting was held on January 17<sup>th</sup>. The 2013 quarterly financial statements were reviewed, everything is on budget. Am pleased to let you know that the LD1483, a bill asking landfills to subsidize the burning landfill facilities to the tune of \$10.00 per ton, this bill has gone to rest and will not pass. The valuation on tonnage is still on a downward trend. Due to our cold weather we did have some equipment breakdowns.
  
  - D. Quality of Place Council Report – Attached to these minutes is the Annual Report as written by Phil Christensen. Due to the resignation of Vicki Adams and a vacancy created when Garrett Martin’s term ended the QOPC has nominated two people for those vacancies for the council’s approval. The QOPC was successful in bidding on 85 Presque Isle Street and has closed on that property yesterday. It is a 5 bedroom home, which we will convert to a 3 bedroom plus a master suite. This will be the second project for the HOMEBuyer Program.

David – Regarding the Fort Kids 1<sup>st</sup> and the NextGen programs, would you describe exactly what this is and how people can go about getting involved.

Mike – Fort Kids 1<sup>st</sup> is a program modeled after the NextGen program, to establish college grants for newborns, this can be applied for within the first year. This program offers \$250.00. You would need to apply with the NextGen program first, and then apply for the Fort Kids 1st. Currently there are 9 children enrolled. The second portion is for any child that goes to our Kindergarten is eligible for a \$50.00 grant which goes into the same college saving fund. It is tax deductible, the monies has to stay in the account until the child turns 18 and family members can make deposits.

Chamber of Commerce – Agri-business Trade Fair sold out since January. It is scheduled for March 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>, there will be seminars and educational training.

- E. Crown Ambulance – We have signed a lease agreement with Crown Ambulance for our first responder vehicle. They are currently utilizing it on calls and it is stickered with both the Town of Fort Fairfield and Crown Ambulance. Chief Jalbert has met with Crown’s management and has an anticipated start date for collaboration of staff of March 3.

There are three items that are going to be used to offset the Town’s cost with having Crown here, they are:

1. Signed lease for the Fire Departments ambulance being used by Crown
2. Staffing, Mike has been working very hard since last October
3. Housing the ambulance crew here in our facility

We are working hard to move these along quickly.

- G. Senior Citizen Update- 23 units are filled, 92%. As soon as all units are filled the Town will received the developers fees.
- H. Update on Revenue Sharing - The Legislature has back the continuation of the revenue sharing. A spread sheet is attached to these minutes as to what we are anticipating to be next years revenue sharing. There is approximately \$19,000.00 that we will have to make up for the shortage of revenue sharing elsewhere.

VI. Old Business – NONE

VII. New Business –

- A. Consider Appointment of Brent Churchill to fill a vacant position on the Board of Assessment Review

Motion: Susan LeVasseur moved to approve the appointment of Brent Churchill to fill a vacant position on the Board of Assessment Review

Second: Jason Barnes

Vote – All affirmative

- B. Consider Appointments of nominees Scott Craig to complete a 2 year term and Judy Armstrong to a 3 year term on the Quality of Place Council

Motion: Susan LeVasseur moved to approve the appointment of Scott Craig, 2 year term and Judy Armstrong 3 year term on the Quality of Place Council.  
Second: Jason Barnes                                      Vote – All affirmative

VIII. Minutes: January 15, 2014-

Motion: Jason Barnes moved to approve Minutes of January 15, 2014 as written.  
Second: Robert Kilcollins                                      Vote – All affirmative

- IX. Warrants: #15-\$363,700.66, #16 - \$64,487.71 and #17 - \$301,305.42  
Motion: Susan LeVasseur moved to accept warrant #15, #16 & #17 as presented.  
Second: Robert Kilcollins                                      Vote – All affirmative

- XI. Other – NONE

XII. Executive Session – 6:33 PM

Motioned: Susan LeVasseur moved to go into Executive Session to discuss  
1 MRSA, Section 405, Sub-section 6 (F)  
1 MRSA 405(6) (A) Personnel  
1 MRSA 405 (6) (C) – Economic Development  
Second: Robert Kilcollins                                      Vote – All affirmative

Came out of executive session at 10:20 PM

Motion to deny an abatement request made pursuant to 36 MRSA 841(2) in the sum of \$861.30 for the tax year 2011 for two parcels. As a remedy, in the event taxes are not paid in full by March 5, 2014, and at which time the properties will automatically go to tax acquired status. The Town is agreeable to a workout plan with the property owner: A quitclaim deed will be issued to the property owner when the two sources of income discussed are given upon receipt to pay the balance of the 2011 real estate taxes.  
Motion: John Herold  
Second: Susan LeVasseur                                      Vote – All affirmative

XII. Adjournment at 10:28 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Council Secretary  
Rebecca J. Hersey