

Fort Fairfield Town Council Monthly Meeting  
Council Chambers  
Wednesday, July 15, 2020  
6:00 P.M.

I. Roll Call

Councilors: All Councilors are present.

Staff: Andrea Powers, Billie Jo Sharpe, Tony Levesque, Darren Hanson, Officer Eagles, Officer Dubie, Deputy Chief Browning.

Citizens: Two

II. Prayer

III. Pledge to the Flag

IV. Public Comment Period

Ms. Powers – “Janet Giberson, Kevin Senal and Janet Giberson’s husband did a great job on the Potato Barrels in celebration the 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday for the State of Maine.” “It’s been very well received.”

V. Correspondence and Reports

A. Licenses and Permits – Ms. Sharpe

We have not received any license or permit renewals as of July 15, 2020.

B. Financial Report

We received June Revenue Sharing in the amount of \$41,615.14 on 6/19/2020. Total receipts for revenue sharing for the year are \$402,713.38 which is 92.84% of the amount budgeted. Our Revenue Sharing is down \$31,055 from the budgeted amount.

C. AWS– Mr. Rogeski

Mr. Rogeski was not present.

D. Corrected Quit Claim Deed – Ms. Leighton

Mrs. Leighton, Treasurer would like to have Councilors sign a corrected Quit Claim Deed for WJV Holding, LLC as the she had listed the incorrect previous owner on the previous deed.

E. *\*Victualers License*

We have had a hawkers and peddlers license application from the Paddy Wagon, now locally owned, to procure a spot in Town for various weekends for the remainder of the summer and fall 2020.

Their desired location is in the Town owned property adjacent to the Chapman building and this application requires written permission from the property owner (Town of Fort Fairfield).

The Paddy Wagon is a mobile food unit that sells take-out food items.

Recommendation: That the Town Council approves the Victualers License for the Paddy Wagon to be located at Town owned property adjacent to the Chapman building for the remainder of the summer and fall 2020.

Mr. Butler made a motion to approve the Victualers License for the Paddy Wagon to be located at Town owned property adjacent to the Chapman building for the remainder of the summer and fall 2020.

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative

VI. Old Business

A. Animal Ordinance

A Public Hearing for amendment changes to the Official Animal Ordinance held a public hearing on the ordinance on June 30, 2020 at 4:00pm in the Council Chambers of the Fort Fairfield Municipal Building. There was one resident that spoke against the proposed ordinance, no resident spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance, and one resident that spoke neither for or against the proposed ordinance.

Recommendation: That the Town Council does not approve the language of the proposed Animal Ordinance. The recommendation is that Council amends the current language of the Land Use Chart to state: no chickens allowed except for Rural Farm (RF).

Mr. Smith – “I’d like to see more than just chickens and to include all fowl and livestock.” The Planning Board put a lot of time into this Ordinance. “I don’t think Fort Fairfield really needs it.” It is just common sense and a Land Use Chart change.

Ms. Powers read a new recommendation: That Town Council amend the current language of the Land Use Chart to state “NO” Fowl and “NO” Livestock allowed except for Rural Farm (RF).

Mr. Smith made the motion that Town Council amend the current language of the Land Use Chart to state “NO” Fowl and “NO” Livestock allowed except for Rural Farm (RF).

Mr. Butler seconded.

Discussion:

Mr. Butler asked if this will take care of the problem we have with chickens in Town.

Ms. Powers replied “Yes”, No Fowl and No Livestock.

Mr. Kilcollins asked “Even if it is considered a pet?”

Ms. Powers replied “Yes”

Vote: All Affirmative.

## B. Request for Amendment of Zoning

### 1. Rural Farming

A Public Hearing for amendment changes to the Official Fort Fairfield Zoning Map was held on June 30, 2020 at 4:30pm in the Council Chambers of the Fort Fairfield Municipal Building.

Recommendation: That the Town Council approves the language on the proposed Ordinance Amendment and expand the Rural Farm Residential by changing all of Tax Map 9 Lot 20 from General Residential to Rural Farm Residential.

Mr. Butler made a motion that Town Council approves the language on the proposed Ordinance Amendment and expand the Rural Farm Residential by changing all of Tax Map 9 Lot 20 from General Residential to Rural Farm Residential.

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

### 2. Day Care Land Use Chart

A Public Hearing for amendment changes to the Official Fort Fairfield Land Use Chart will need to go to a public hearing, and Council introduce the attached ordinance and direct staff to hold a public hearing on the ordinance on August 12,

2020 at 12:00pm in the Council Chambers of the Fort Fairfield Municipal Building.

“Day Care Center by changing the language from No to PB2.”

Recommendation: That the Town Council approves the language on the proposed Ordinance Amendment and hold the public hearing on August 12, 2020.

Mr. Butler introduced (ORD 20-05) an Ordinance providing for an amendment to the Official Land Use Chart, “Day Care Center by changing the language from No to PB2” and hold a public hearing on August 12, 2020 at 12:00 pm in Council Chambers.

Vote: All Affirmative.

#### C. Re-Energy Closing

The closing of the property formerly owned by ReEnergy took place on June 26, 2020.

### VII. New Business

#### A. Monson Pond/Dock/Camping – Mr. Senal

Discussion: The Parks and Recreation Department has been contacted on numerous occasions, by local residents and some looking to travel into town and visit, if we have camping available in Fort Fairfield. In particular, I was asked about the spot at Monson Pond by the dam.

Due to current regulations and restrictions, we are not able to allow camping in that location. We are looking into a different location, one that was initially used for camping when Kip Park was initially built in 1967. That location is up behind the Fish and Game Club. The town owns about 6 acres of land there, and its size and distance from the water makes it a more suitable location for camping, given today’s restrictions and regulations.

Mr. Senal is not asking for a recommendation but to allow for us to move forward with trying to figure out if this is possible.

#### B. Donation Redemption Monies

Background: Title 30-A M.R.S.A. §5654 states that a conditional gift for any specified public purpose offered to a municipality may be accepted or rejected by its legislative body.

Discussion: The Parks and Recreation Department was notified by JJ's Redemption Center in Fort Fairfield, that someone has been dropping off bottles and asking them to donate the proceeds to the Fort Fairfield Recreation Department. The initial donation was \$6.85.

I am asking Council to allow the Recreation Department to accept this donation and all future donations that are dropped off through JJ's Redemption in Fort Fairfield, and allow us to advertise at the redemption center and on social media, that bottles and cans may be dropped off at JJ's Redemption as a donation to the Recreation Department. All donations through the redemption center will be deposited into our Recreation Department reserve account, to be used for department projects and equipment in the future.

Recommendation: That Town Council allows the Recreation Department to accept donations through JJ's Redemption Center in Fort Fairfield.

Mr. Kilcollins made a motion that Town Council allows the Recreation Department to accept donations through JJ's Redemption Center in Fort Fairfield.

Mr. Smith seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

#### C. Donation from Theriault Equipment

Background: Title 30-A M.R.S.A. §5654 states that a conditional gift for any specified public purpose offered to a municipality may be accepted or rejected by its legislative body.

Discussion: The Fort Fairfield Police Department was given a donation of \$500.00 from Theriault Equipment to help with the repair of damages to the Town's flowers and planters.

Recommendation: That Town Council allows the acceptance the \$500.00 donation from Theriault Equipment.

Mr. Kilcollins made a motion that Town Council allows the acceptance of the \$500.00 donation from Theriault Equipment.

Mr. Smith seconded.

Discussion: Ms. Powers stated that Smith's Greenhouse in Mapleton took all of the damaged plants and the pots, and have replaced or repaired any pots and replanted flowers in them. We have also had several citizens who have donated flowers and pots. "It's wonderful the reception that it has been given."

Mrs. Libby – “It was really nice to see everybody in the community reach out.”

Mr. Butler – “I’d like to give kudos to the Police Department for solving the crime so quickly.”

Vote: All Affirmative.

D. Vacancy Fort Fairfield Housing Authority Board of Commissions

The Housing Authority of Fort Fairfield has provided a letter of recommendation for Kerby Doughty to serve the remainder of Meg Hegemann’s term as she is stepping down from the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Doughty’s term would be effective July 1, 2020 and run through June 30, 2022.

Recommendation: That Town Council appoints Kerby Doughty to the Fort Fairfield Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, for a term beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022.

Mr. Butler made a motion that Town Council appoints Kerby Doughty to the Fort Fairfield Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, for a term beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022.

Mr. Smith seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

E. *\*Ladder Truck – Deputy Chief Browning*

Background: The Fort Fairfield Fire & Rescue is currently using a 1992 Pierce Arrow 100 ft. aerial ladder truck. The truck is equipped with a 300-gallon water tank and a 1500 gpm water pump. The truck also carries a variety of other specialized equipment and ground ladders.

Discussion: Our current ladder truck has been out of service for several months due to mechanical failures and is currently not safe for operation. The department has reached out to Autotronics (a company that builds, sells and repairs emergency vehicles) to get a quote on repairing the truck. Autotronics has compiled a list of problems ranging from the aerial failing to the fuel tank falling off the truck. They cannot provide us with an estimate at this time because they feel they will only discover more problems, however, they stated it will be in excess of \$400,000.

I have located a 2012 Sutphen 100 ft mid-mount platform truck. This truck meets or exceeds our current truck and is approximately 20 years newer. The asking price is \$649,000.

I have also researched and spec'd for a new truck. The truck can be configured to meet our department needs and its estimated cost is \$1,275,000. The average wait time for a new build is 12-18 months.

A new to us, aerial truck will allow us to maintain or advance on our ISO rating, (which affects our citizens) maintain current operational status all the while improving firefighter safety.

Recommendation: Is that Council allows the Town Manager to purchase a used aerial truck not to exceed \$649,000.

Financing options/information was provided in Council packets as well as emails from Autotronics regarding the issues with the current ladder truck.

Mr. Butler asked where the funds would come from.

Ms. Powers, the first payment would come out of the Fire Department reserves account and then thereafter we would just need to budget for that payment moving forward.

Mr. Smith – “Is the old one worth anything?”

Ms. Powers – Traditionally we obtained 25-30 years old and they become new to us, but they are still relatively old with excessive problems. This particular vehicle is 8 years old and coming from California from a department who every 8 years automatically turn over their equipment.

Ms. Powers – They have offered the Department to go out and look at the vehicle and the price is negotiable.

Mr. Smith – Is it currently Certified?

Mr. Browning replied that it ran out last month as far as the aerial.

Mr. Smith commented that it is good for a year then and that is good to know because that is sometimes very expensive to get that certified.

Ms. Powers – It is an important piece of equipment to our Community and what we do. We use it for many different things.

Mr. Butler – How would we get it from California?

Ms. Powers – It would be shipped. It will not be driven.

Mrs. Libby – What have we been using with the ladder truck being out of service?

Ms. Powers – We have the Engine. The Tanker is also currently out of service as well.

Mrs. Libby – Is that something that is feasible to use versus spending \$649,000?

Ms. Powers – No, it does not meet the needs that the ladder/aerial truck provides. This isn't just a ladder truck, it's a \_\_\_\_\_ it has the pump, it has the tank, it has everything they need. It is sort of a multipurpose vehicle. It is not just used for fires; it is also used for rescues.

Chairperson Babin called for a motion.

Mr. Butler made a motion that Council allows the Town Manager to purchase a used aerial truck not to exceed \$649,000.

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Discussion:

Ms. Powers – If council wishes, I can put an RFP out and see if we can get a much better interest rate.

Mr. Kilcollins- How long do we have to make an offer?

Ms. Powers – Pretty quickly. I know the banks can turn it around for us probably tomorrow.

Mr. Kilcollins – Will they hold that ladder truck?

Ms. Powers – Nothing is ever held; nothing is ever guaranteed.

Mr. Smith – I think you could get that a lot cheaper than \$649,000. It is 8 years old, and if you look on the marketplace, there are forums out there for fire trucks and there is an awful lot of stuff out there for sale.

Vote: All Affirmative.

VIII. Minutes of the June 17, 2020 Regular Council Meeting and June 30, 2020 Hearings.

Mr. Kilcollins made a motion to accept the Minutes of the June 17, 2020 Regular Council Meeting and June 30, 2020 Hearings

Mr. Butler seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

IX. Warrants: #29; \$98,207.88 #30; \$63,395.12 #1; \$326,255.91

Mr. Smith made a motion to approve Warrants #29, #30, and #1 as written.

Mr. Butler seconded.

Discussion: None.

Vote: All Affirmative.

X. Other

XI. Manager's Report

XII. Adjournment

Mr. Butler made a motion to adjourn

Mr. Kilcollins seconded.

Vote: All Affirmative.

Council adjourned at 6:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Billie Jo Sharpe,  
Council Secretary

*\*Added after Council Agenda Posted.*