

Town Council Meeting
April 7, 2026

Open Town Council Meeting: Councilor Lugdon acting as Town Council Chair opened the Town Council meeting, all members of the Town Council were present except for Councilor Ketch who was excused. Also, present was Town Manager, Melissa Doane.

Review of Minutes: Councilor Wade made a motion to approve the minutes of March 24, 2026, seconded by Councilor Clemons, vote 4/0.

Citizens Request: Resident Ann Delaware stated that tomorrow, April 8, 2026 there will be a historical gathering, Bob Sinclair will be presenting information regarding the ferry that crossed the river from Bradley to Orono. In addition, she stated that on April 15th there will be the monthly senior luncheon.

Manager's Report: Melissa stated that she contacted Versant regarding the request for additional lighting at the town office/post office entrance, a light is going to be installed on the pole that is at the entrance, the cost is estimated to be around \$120.00 per year. In regards to the Cram Street entrance, they are going to change the light that is located across from the entrance to a larger light with a longer arm to see if that helps.

Melissa has started working on the 2026 annual town report, each year the Town Council does a dedication for the town report. Melissa suggested doing a dedication to the return of the alewives and to celebrate the first alewife harvest. Town Council was in favor of the dedication.

Melissa stated that the meeting with Maine Forest and Logging Museum did not happen on March 30, 2026, however there is a meeting scheduled for Thursday April 9 at 4:00 here at the municipal building.

Melissa shared with the Town Council proposed changes to the personnel policy. The changes include adding new wording to reflect recent law changes in regards to surveillance, adding information on the Maine Paid Family Leave Act and clarify language around taking leave and the requirement that all accrued time be used on a leave. Town Council asked that she prepare a final draft for approval at the next meeting.

Melissa also shared with the Town Council an RFP she has prepared for an overlay for Penney Lane and Elm Street, both projects are in the 2026-2027 proposed budget. Councilor Wade made a motion to approve moving forward with the RFP, seconded by Councilor Clemons, vote 4/0. There was further discussion regarding the success of the RFP due to the uncertainty around fuel prices.

Melissa requested that the municipal attorney review and provide feedback on the information Councilor Lugdon presented regarding the potential recusal of the judge in the multiple cases involving 114 Cram Street. Based on the information provided, it was determined that a recusal is not warranted at this time. Instead, it was suggested that Justice Murray be encouraged to act promptly on the pending cases, with the understanding that she is not biased. Additionally, the possibility was raised of having Mr. Hayden sell the property to the Town, after which the Town could initiate a partition action to seek a court-ordered sale of the property. Melissa stated that if the Town Council is interested in

this; she would suggest a conference with the attorney as when this was discussed prior there were many concerns raised. Town Council requested more information and consult with the attorney.

Melissa also noted that another nuisance regarding 114 Cram Street was filed with the District Court as Mr. Wing has started placing his garbage in the town's right of way. She also added she requested that the neighbors provide her pictures from their property to see if another nuisance could be filed, they have not yet provided those photos.

New Business: None

Unfinished Business: Melissa presented an updated budget that includes new information on carryforwards. She noted that the figures may change slightly before the next meeting; however, as currently presented, the budget is \$9,941.96 below the cap. The public hearing is scheduled for April 21, 2026. The Town Council will make final adjustments and approve the budget ahead of its presentation on June 9, 2026.

Councilor Lugdon asked what the status was of the picture of Viola Rand. Melissa stated that it has been taken out of the frame, she now needs to get it to a place for scanning.

Municipal Warrants: Councilor Wade made motion to accept the municipal warrants as presented, seconded by Councilor Lugdon vote 4/0.

Next Meeting: The next meeting was set for April 21, 2026.

Online Comment: None

Adjourn: Councilor Wade made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Lugdon, vote 4/0.