

Town Council Meeting October 20, 2026

Open Town Council Meeting: Councilor Lugdon opened the Town Council meeting by introducing all Town Council members, Michael Wickett, Larry Wade, Charles Clemons and Ethel Hill.

Review of Minutes: Councilor Wade made a motion to accept the October 6, 2026 Town Council minutes as presented, seconded by Councilor Clemon, vote 5/0.

Citizens Request: Resident John Hallett of 859 Main Street was present to discuss noncompliance with his Home Occupation Permit. Code Enforcement Officer Dean Bennett reviewed the permitting history and existing violations. Following a lengthy discussion without resolve, Councilor Lugdon made a motion to proceed with legal action and seek reimbursement of legal fees and costs incurred by the Town. Motion seconded by Councilor Wickett. Further discussion occurred without resolve. Manager Doane suggested meeting with Mr. Hallett to provide written clarification of the permit requirements. Following further discussion, the Council agreed to table the motion until November 17, 2026, allowing Manager Doane and CEO Bennett time to meet with Mr. Hallett and provide detailed compliance requirements. The Council will review compliance at that meeting and determine whether further action is necessary. For the agreement to be considered Mr. Hallett is to sign the requirements.

Resident Ann Delaware reported that the senior luncheon will be held tomorrow, October 21, 2026 at Saint Ann Church. The meal includes Shepards pie.

Resident Rick Trimm requested that Manager Doane contact State of Maine representatives to discuss road access to Great Works Stream and repairs to the dam. Mr. Trimm noted that access concerns may be preventing the State from investing in improvements. He indicated that property owner Karen Twitchell may be willing to provide access following discussions with the State.

Manager's Report: Manager Doane provided the Council with preliminary speed data from the Cram Street Flex Post Project. The data indicates a reduction in speeds, although a significant number of vehicles continue to travel at higher speeds. Councilor Wickett asked for clarification of the percentiles shown in the graphs. Manager Doane explained that the 50th percentile is for speeds 39 to 35 mph, the 85th percentile from 47 to 40 mph, and the 95th percentile from 52 to 44 mph. A comprehensive report will be provided by the project consultant later this year. Manager Doane has again requested removal of the flex posts.

The fall clean up tonnage was 7.77, which is slightly lower than normal. The normal range is between 10 to 15 tons.

Melissa has offered the position to an applicant. She has not formally accepted; Melissa has a meeting scheduled with her tomorrow. She has over 20 years of municipal experience and is interested in working only part time.

Melissa is planning on attending a Zoom hearing on Monday October 26 in regards to Robert Wing. She is not sure if this hearing is on the mental health docket or an update regarding the Town of Bradley case, but has inquired.

Melissa also reported that the Town Council presented the Boston Cane to Lucien Lavoie this evening. She will be posting pictures on the town's social media and website. Mr. Lavoie did not want the event recorded.

New Business: Councilor Lugdon stated that he had come in possession of town reports dating back to 1879. He would like for the Town Council to consider using some of the surplus funds allotted to them for digital preservation. Melissa stated that she believes with new technology this could be a task that the new hire could do pretty inexpensive.

Councilor Lugdon requested that the Council consider canceling the November 3 meeting due to Election Day, stating his belief that the day should be reserved for voting. Councilor Lugdon made a motion to cancel the November 3 meeting, seconded by Councilor Clemons, vote 5/0.

Councilor Wickett requested that the Council receive updates regarding the property at 859 Main Street prior to the November 17 meeting. Manager Doane stated that the written agreement would be placed in the Councilors' boxes.

Unfinished Business: Melissa wanted to remind those in attendance and viewing online that the public hearing regarding the RSU ballot question is tomorrow night at 6:00 in the middle school cafeteria. Melissa plans on attending.

Municipal Warrants: Councilor Lugdon made a motion to accept the municipal warrants as presented, seconded by Councilor Wade vote 5/0.

Next Meeting: The next meeting was set for November 17, 2026. Melissa reminded Town Council she will have payroll and payables that will need to be approved on November 3, 2026 via email.

Online Comment: The online comment was directed towards the conversation regarding 859 Main Street. The only question posed was if there was zoning, Melissa reported that there is a land use ordinance which provides for districts.

Adjourn: Councilor Wade made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Clemons, vote 5/0.