

## Town Council Meeting

3/24/2026

**Open Town Council Meeting:** Councilor Chair Ketch opened the Town Council meeting. All members of the Town Council were present. Also, present was Town Manager Melissa Doane and Fire Chief Eric Gifford

**Review of Minutes:** Councilor Ketch made a motion to accept the minutes of March 10, 2026 as presented, seconded by Councilor Wade, Councilor Lugdon noted a change that was needed in regards to the manager report when discussing the 114 Cram issue, the wording states *rather than continuing* and it should state *in addition to continuing*. Vote 5/0.

**Citizens Request:** Resident Ann Delaware stated that at the last historical gathering there were 15 attendees, ten that were new. She also added that at the last senior luncheon they served 70+ people. The next luncheon is scheduled for April 8, 2026.

Resident Mike Eastman was present to discuss the issue of 114 Cram Street, however would like to wait until Melissa presents an update.

**Manager's Report:** Melissa reported that a contractor, David Hovencamp, was hired to clean the ditch area at 114 Cram Street, which had become cluttered with trash and debris. The debris was placed there by the occupant, Robert Wing. The cleanup was done on Monday March 16, 2026 without incident. Melissa was present with two deputies from the Penobscot County Sheriff's office. The total cost for the cleanup amounted to \$1,600.00, which is included in the warrant presented for approval. Melissa further stated that she has sent a formal notice to Robert Wing, informing him that the amount is due in full within 30 days. If the payment is not received by the deadline, the Town intends to take further legal action, including, requesting that the amount be assessed as a tax levy, and will seek a court order to garnish Mr. Wing's wages to recover the debt. As discussed in the previous meeting, the Town Attorney has filed a nuisance complaint with the Superior Court to get the issue in front of a different judge. Resident Mike Eastman expressed his frustration with the ongoing case and cost to the town; he cited several legal actions that he found in state law and with his discussions with the Sheriff's Department. Town Council and Melissa provided information that all the legal actions Mr. Eastman asserted have been done and have been successful in litigation, however the court is not taking any action. The Town Council asked that he write to Justice Ann Murray and provide his story. Councilor Ketch noted that all residents that have stories or note an issue should direct the stories to Justice Murray.

Melissa provided to Town Council an email that she received from Matt Cyr the superintendent of RSU 34. The email provides detail on the 26-27 RSU budget in which the board has set a target of a zero increase on tax assessment which seems to be providing a decrease in Bradley's assessment of \$48,254.91. She further stated that the board does not have any more scheduled budget meetings, questions could be addressed at their regular board meetings.

Melissa also provided to Town Council the Bradley Safety Action Plan provided by BACTS. For the town to be eligible for future funding through the safety streets program the Town Council will need to approve a resolve which Melissa provided for Town Council's review. This information was presented to the Town Council via email and there was some concern expressed in regards to making long term requirements of the Town. Melissa stated that she changed the wording from shall to may; in addition, the resolution confirms work that the Town Council does in regards to road and traffic safety. Councilor Lugdon made a motion to approve the resolve as presented, seconded by Councilor Wade, vote 5/0.

Melissa reminded the Town Council that nomination papers for two Town Council seats will be available on Thursday March 26. The two seats that will be open are for Councilor Hatch and Councilor Ketch.

Melissa reported that she will be out of the office on Friday March 27 to attend the annual Manager Interchange in Bangor.

Melissa received notice from the harvester that Maine Department of Marine Resources has approved fishing for the alewives to be four days rather than two. With Town Councils approval she would like to modify the harvest plan to reflect that change. In addition, she spoke with Mike Weatherbee, the president of Maine Forest and Logging Museum and he is trying to organize meeting to take place at the municipal office with Melissa and the harvester on Saturday March 28, 2026. Councilor Lugdon made a motion to change the harvest plan to include 4 days of fishing, seconded by Councilor Hatch, vote 5/0. Councilor Ketch verified the time of the meeting to be 10:00 am.

**New Business:** Councilor Lugdon stated that he has done some research in Maine State Statues in regards to judicial review as the ongoing issue with 114 Cram Street stems from the judge being reluctant to act. He would like to have Town Council request that Melissa have the municipal attorney provide guidance on the procedures laid out in Rule 76C that provides there are mechanisms to force a recusal of a judge in civil court. Town Council was in agreement with the request.

Resident Kristina Cote was present to request that more lighting or reflectors be added to the entrance of the post office/municipal building. She stated that her mother recently had an issue and missed the driveway and went into the ditch; Krista stated she has had difficulty as well. Councilor Clemons agreed adding that there were reflectors in the entrance for a while. Resident Ann Delaware added that the entrance into Cram Street at night is also an issue. Melissa stated she will investigate more lighting and or reflectors.

**Unfinished Business:** Melissa stated she has not made any changes to the municipal budget since the meeting on March 10, 2026. Councilor Ketch noted that a review will be done in April in regards to any carryforwards that can be used from the current year budget. The final public hearing on the budget will be April 21, 2026.

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

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting was set for April 7, 2026.

**Online Comment:** Residents agreed that the entrances were dark. Louise Magoon asked what the cost of students going to other schools were, Melissa will inquire with the superintendent's office.

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