

**Town Council Meeting**  
**June 16, 2026**

**Open Town Council Meeting:** Town Councilor Chair Ketch opened the Town Council meeting; all members were present except for Councilor Hatch who was absent. Also, present was Town Manager Melissa Doane.

**Alewife Harvest Update-Barrett Proulx:** Barrett Proulx was present to update the Town Council on the 2026 Alewife Harvest. He stated that the season produced 228 crates which is about 75,000 fish. There were minimal problems and each issue he and Melissa were able to navigate. Barrett also stated he had recorded the fish scales and reports with the Department of Marine Resources and will be providing copies to the Town. He asked that the Town consider a 5-year contract for future harvests. Councilor Wade asked if the demand for the fish sales were high, Barrett stated it was competitive for the fish. Councilor Lugdon asked if the harvest could begin sooner, Barrett stated that the fish come when they come, the first week was really good, then it dwindled; he reported also that was the trend statewide. Melissa reported that \$5700 in revenue was received for the harvest and she would recommend a contract extension.

**Review of Minutes:** Councilor Wade made a motion to accept the minutes of June 2, 2026, seconded by Councilor Clemons, vote 4/0 (Councilor Ketch was excused June 16, 2026).

**Citizens Request:** None

**Recognition of Departing Councilors:** Councilor Lugdon read a segment that honored the departing Town Council members, Mark Ketch and James Hatch. Commemorative gifts were provided along with thanks and shared reflections. Councilor Ketch has served for 15 years and Councilor Hatch for 3.

**Manager's Report:** Melissa stated that all the municipal articles passed on June 9, 2026. She has requested a payoff amount regarding the fire station debt. She would like to have a check ready for July 1 to take to the branch. The short-term investment from December 4 to May 28, netted \$6214.21. Melissa stated those funds are not being invested at this point; Melissa recommended placing them in with the investment funds. Two newly elected councilors, Michael Wickett and Ethel Hill have been mailed letters and notified that their first scheduled meeting is July 14, 2026.

The judge signed the order to allow the Town to enter the property of 114 Cram Street and abate any nuisance conditions such as trash, refuse, human waste and contaminated materials. Melissa believes this would include the items that line the property between 114 Cram Street and 108 Cram Street. She has contacted the same contractor that did the ditch clean up. He is going to provide her with dates in which he can do the work. Mr. Wing's ad litem would like to be there when the cleanup is being done. In addition, the municipal attorney did some research regarding garnishing Social Security benefits. He does not believe this is an avenue that can be pursued. The law provides that garnish can occur for child support, debts to the federal government and tax withholdings.

The Maine Municipal Association Legislative Committee has 4 members in district 10 that are running. Melissa recommends, Benjamin Bredmore due to his experience with land use and the fact that the legislatures in the past have been focused on housing and Andrew Hart due to the fact that he is from a smaller community and will have that voice. Councilor Lugdon made a motion to move forward with Manager Doane's recommendation, seconded by Councilor Clemons, vote 4/0.

**New Business:** Councilor members discussed extending a five-year contract with Barrett for the alewife harvest, agreeing that included in the contract will be a two-year review of the revenue sharing. Councilor Ketch made a motion to move forward with the contract, seconded by Councilor Lugdon, vote 4/0.

**Unfinished Business:** Councilor Lugdon made a motion to provide the town manager with the discretion to cancel the June 30 meeting due to the fiscal year closing and the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday, seconded by Councilor Ketch, vote 4/0. Melissa noted that Town Council will need to approve the June 30 and July 1 warrants via email.

Councilor Clemons asked with the passing of budget, would an additional dumpster be placed at Bradley Shore Road. Melissa stated it would be after July 1. The additional dumpster will be for July and August.

Councilor Ketch asked what road maintenance had been completed thus far. Melissa stated that a cross culvert was replaced on Boynton Street, she has contacted a contractor to do the paving. A cross culvert that was replaced in 2022 was causing erosion to an abutting property. It was necessary to divert the culvert and add stone and additional material to repair the erosion. John Milligan has been provided a list of work that will be done in July; she noted the work is minimal.

Councilor Lugdon verified that the speed deterrents will be placed on Cram Street July 7 through the 10<sup>th</sup>; there has been a lot of online comments regarding the speeding.

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

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting is tentatively set for July 14, 2026. Melissa will notify Town Council if the June 30, 2026 meeting is necessary.

**Online Comment:** None

**Adjourn:** Councilor Ketch made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Clemons, vote 4/0.