

Town Council Meeting
August 11, 2026

Open Town Council Meeting: Councilor Chair Lugdon opened the Town Council meeting. Members in attendance included: Larry Wade, Michael Wickett and Charles Clemons. Councilor Ethellena Hill was excused.

Review of Minutes: Motion to accept the July 28, 2026 Town Council Minutes as presented, made by Councilor Lugdon, seconded by Councilor Wade, vote 4/0.

Citizens Request: None

Manager's Report: Melissa reported that the crack sealing of the roads and municipal parking lot was completed on July 30, 2026. She also noted that the paving was completed on Penney Lane, Elm Street and the Boynton Street cross culvert on July 31, 2026 without incident.

The Fall Clean up has been set for October 3. The practice will be same as in the past, in which property owners will pay \$20.00 which will get them 2 loads of disposal. Loads are estimated to be the size of a pick-up truck. The time will be from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm.

Champion the Cure will be using the municipal parking lot Saturday August 15, 2026 for a hydration stop.

Melissa reported that she spoke with Jeff Pulver, a representative from the Maine Department of Transportation (DOT), regarding the speed feedback signs on Route 178. The signs are currently inactive while DOT collects baseline speed data to determine vehicle speeds without the signs in operation. Once the signs are activated, DOT will collect additional data at one month, three months, and one year to evaluate their effectiveness and determine whether the impact changes or diminishes over time. The study is being conducted in conjunction with the University of Maine and is part of a statewide research effort involving similar speed feedback sign installations. This is currently the largest speed feedback sign study of its kind in the country.

New Business: Councilor Lugdon stated that several concerns had been brought to his attention regarding the ditching work on Cram Street near the power line, specifically concerning the depth of the ditch and potential winter safety issues. Melissa explained that the ditch has historically been at its current depth and that the removal of vegetation was necessary to improve drainage and water flow away from the roadway. Councilor Lugdon asked whether reflectors, a guardrail, or another type of safety barrier should be considered. Melissa stated that she would look into possible options and noted that any additional safety measures would involve an added cost to the Town.

Unfinished Business: Melissa reported that a survey regarding the Cram Street traffic project had been posted on the Town website, Facebook page, and distributed through the Town's email list. Earlier in the day, she requested the survey feedback received to date and forwarded the responses to the Town Council for review. As of the meeting, 27 individuals had completed the survey. Melissa noted that a representative from BACTS indicated that the responses received were typical for projects of this nature. The representative explained that people often associate comfort with safety; however, when

drivers are less comfortable, they generally drive more slowly and pay closer attention to their surroundings. The purpose of the project is to encourage greater driver awareness and attentiveness. Councilor Wickett asked whether the additional traffic data being collected would be made available. Melissa responded that it would be. Councilor Lugdon commented that the survey results appeared to be divided. Melissa noted that similar feedback was received during the initial public outreach survey, which sought residents' opinions on whether the project should move forward.

Melissa reminded Town Council that she is scheduled for vacation August 14-21.

Municipal Warrants: Councilor Lugdon made a motion to accept the municipal warrants as presented, seconded by Councilor Clemons vote 3/0 (Wade stepped out).

Next Meeting: The next meeting was set for August 25, 2026.

Online Comment: None

Adjourn: Councilor Clemons made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Lugdon vote 3/0.