

**Town Council Meeting
September 22, 2026**

Open Public Hearing: Councilor Lugdon opened the public hearing.

Public Comment: General Assistance Appendices A-H: Melissa explained that the State of Maine Department of Human Services establishes the maximums that are to be used for the general assistance program each year. It is required that the municipal officers hold a public hearing before adopting them. Melissa also detailed what the appendices represent.

Councilor Hill asked about the time period covered by the maximums. Melissa explained that the maximums apply to a 30-day period. She added that General Assistance has strict eligibility requirements and is intended to provide assistance with basic necessities only.

Councilor Lugdon asked how many General Assistance cases the Town had handled. Melissa reported that during the previous year, the Town had five cases and paid a total of \$1,320 in rental assistance. She noted that the State reimbursed the Town for 70% of those expenditures.

Councilor Wickett asked whether the 70% reimbursement rate was typical. Melissa stated that the reimbursement rate is established by statute.

Close Public Hearing: Councilor Lugdon closed the public hearing.

Open Town Council Meeting: Councilor Lugdon opened the Town Council Meeting, all Town Council members were present, also present was Town Manager Melissa Doane and Fire Chief Eric Gifford.

Review of Minutes: Councilor Lugdon made a motion to accept the September 8, 2026 Town Council minutes as presented, seconded by Councilor Hill vote 4/0. (Councilor Wade was excused from the 9/8/26 meeting).

Citizens Request: None

Manager's Report: Melissa stated that public hearing being held by the RSU regarding the ballot question will be held on October 21, 2026 at 6:00, she reported at the last meeting that it was on October 2.

Melissa reported that she has received some applicants for the position that is open at the office, she is hopeful to set up interviews this week.

Melissa stated that information regarding the Maine Municipal Association annual convention is on their website. The convention will be in Augusta October 7 and 8. If a Town Council member is interested in attending, please let her know, the town pays for the registration fee.

New Business: Councilor Lugdon made a motion to adopt the General Assistance Appendices A-H as presented in public hearing, seconded by Councilor Clemons, vote 5/0.

Melissa provided information to the Town Council regarding abatement requests that were requested by taxpayers and recommended by the assessing agent Mark Gibson. Councilor Wade made a motion to approve an abatement in the amount \$1,193,100 for property identified as Town of Bradley Tax Map 16 Lot 16-55 Highland Ave, an abatement in the amount \$76,100 for property identified as Town of Bradley Tax Map 17 Lot 1-146 Cram Street, and an abatement in the amount of \$80,400 for property identified as Town of Bradley Tax Map 18 Lot 19-217 Main Street, seconded by Councilor Clemons, vote 5/0.

Councilor Wade noted that the 35 mile an hour speed limit sign going south on Route 178 is not visible due to trees. Melissa will trim the trees around the sign.

Unfinished Business: Reminder that the fall clean-up is scheduled for October 3 from 8 to 12:00

Councilor Wickett asked if the repairs had been made to the fire truck. Chief Gifford stated that they had and the truck passed inspection.

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 October 6, 2026.

Online Comment: Resident Louise Magoon asked if there were any town sponsored programs to help with fuel assistance other than general assistance. Melissa stated that there was none; she has referred residents to Penquis Cap for low-income heating assistance.

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