

# MINUTES

Cumberland Town Council Meeting

Town Council Chambers

**MONDAY, November 25, 2019**

## 7:00 P.M. Call to Order

Present: Councilors Copp, Edes, Gruber, Storey-King, Turner and Vail

Excused: Councilor Stiles

### I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Councilor Gruber, seconded by Councilor Turner, to accept the November 11, 2019 meeting minutes as presented.

VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

### II. MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Shane said that the annual Fill-A-Bus, Fill-A-Belly event was another huge success this year. Thank you to the PTO and the many volunteers who made it a success.

Thank you to the AMVETS who donated \$650 and gift cards for food pantry patrons to get turkey's for Thanksgiving. This community is blessed with such caring and giving people.

We are very close to moving the Historical Society building. Everyone should plan to avoid the Main Street intersection on December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. The traffic light will come down on December 9<sup>th</sup> and the building will be moved on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Last week, he attended the New England Town and City Clerk's Association banquet, where our own Tammy O'Donnell was the outgoing President. It was great to see the accolades bestowed on Tammy for her hard work.

### III. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

None

### IV. LEGISLATION AND POLICY

#### 19 – 134 To appoint Elizabeth Manning as Assistant Library Director.

Library Director, Thomas Bennett said that Elizabeth has been employed at the Library since 2005, she has a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from Simmons University, with an undergraduate in Russian. Elizabeth is the reference Librarian, she does 2 book groups a month all year, she does the author talks, and many other functions. Recently, she has been learning some of the administrative functions of the Director.

Motion by Councilor Copp, seconded by Councilor Edes, to appoint Elizabeth Manning as Assistant Library Director.

VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

**19 – 135 To set a Public Hearing date of December 9<sup>th</sup> to consider and act on the creation of an Institutional Use (IU) Overlay District in the Town center, as recommended by the Planning Board.**

Town Manager Shane explained that due to missing the Public Hearing notice requirement, the Planning Board was not able to hold a Public Hearing, but they reviewed the LED sign matter in workshop. After much discussion, the Planning Board was very clear that this would not receive a favorable recommendation from them to the Council.

Councilor Gruber added that the sentiment from the abutters was that they were totally against allowing LED signs, and the majority of the Planning Board is not in favor. He suggested that we table this item and stop it here.

Councilor Edes said that he would still like the Council to consider this. The Planning Board is not the final voice on this. It is ok for the Council to disagree with their recommendation and to move forward on it.

After polling the Council members to see who would like the Planning Board to hold a Public Hearing and continue consideration of this item, Councilor Edes was the only one in favor.

Motion by Councilor Turner, seconded by Councilor Copp, to table indefinitely.

VOTE: 5-1 (Edes opposed) MOTION PASSES

**19 – 136 To set a Public Hearing date of December 9<sup>th</sup> to consider and act on amendments to Chapter 315 (Zoning), Section 63 (Signs), of the Cumberland Code, to permit Electronic Messaging Signs in the Institutional Use (IU) Overlay District, as recommended by the Planning Board.**

Motion by Councilor Copp, seconded by Councilor Turner, to table indefinitely.

VOTE: 5-1 (Edes opposed) MOTION PASSES

**19 – 137 To set a Public Hearing date of December 9<sup>th</sup> to consider and act on a Liquor License renewal for Cumberland House of Pizza.**

Motion by Councilor Gruber, seconded by Councilor Edes, to set a Public Hearing date of December 9<sup>th</sup> to consider and act on a Liquor License renewal for Cumberland House of Pizza.

VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

**19 – 138 To set a Public Hearing date of December 9<sup>th</sup> to consider and act on a Liquor License renewal for Flannel Shirt Food Company, LLC d/b/a Cumberland Food Company.**

Motion by Councilor Gruber, seconded by Councilor Copp, to set a Public Hearing date of December 9<sup>th</sup> to consider and act on a Liquor License renewal for Flannel Shirt Food Company, LLC d/b/a Cumberland Food Company.

VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

**19 – 139 To set a Public Hearing date of December 9<sup>th</sup> to consider and act on Liquor License renewal for Louie's Grille.**

Motion by Councilor Edes, seconded by Councilor Turner, to set a Public Hearing date of December 9<sup>th</sup> to consider and act on Liquor License renewal for Louie's Grille.

VOTE: 6-0                      UNANIMOUS

**19 – 140    To adopt Town Council resolutions for the lease/purchase of golf carts for Val Halla, as approved at the November 11, 2019 Town Council meeting.**

Motion by Councilor Copp, seconded by Councilor Turner, to approve the attached Council Resolutions approving the 6-year lease agreement with TCF National bank of Iowa as outlined in Lease number 008-0777338-100, 008-0777338-101 and 008-0777338-300, and as recommended by the Finance Committee.

VOTE: 6-0                      UNANIMOUS

**V.        NEW BUSINESS**

**Councilor Vail** – asked for an update on getting information regarding a nursing home in town.

Chairman Storey-King said that his request to look into this has not been ignored. She had a conversation with the Town Manager and Councilor Gruber about it. Now that Portland has a new Mayor, the City Manager may have time to meet to discuss their nursing home.

He would like to be notified of Board of Appeals and Planning Board meetings.

**Councilor Gruber** – he attended the High School play “Once Upon a Mattress”. It was fantastic. We have a very talented bunch of kids in our community.

He attended the Christmas craft fairs that were happening around town over the weekend. The Congregational Church has the best lobster rolls.

Happy birthday to Bill Stiles.

Happy Thanksgiving to everybody.

**Councilor Edes** – he was disappointed this week to see that the State Chamber of Commerce endorsed the power transmission project. He wants the public to know that it was not our local Chamber of Commerce. The transmission line project is not a good project.

There was some discussion from the public at our last meeting in West Cumberland about Val Halla and its budget deficit. To him, Val Halla is a jewel in our community with a terrific staff. The deficit has gotten a lot smaller over the years and that is a testament to the Town Manager and his staff. In the golf business, you can't fight Mother Nature.

**Chairman Storey-King** – she also did the craft fair circuit this past weekend and she applauded Joanna Foster and company for the great job that they do with the High School craft fair. Each table is rented to a local vendor and the money goes to Firefighters for Kids.

Thank you to Councilor Vail for going to the School Board meeting and sharing his sentiments with them, which were well received. The current board is open minded and respectful, and we will be meeting with them and the North Yarmouth Select Board in early January.

She is grateful to live here and to have grown up here, for the services that our community provides, for the people, and the places that we have for everyone. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

**Councilor Copp** – over the last 5 weeks, there have been 2 serious accidents at the intersection of Skillin Road and Blackstrap Road. These are 2 more examples of why a traffic light is needed there.

**Councilor Turner** – happy birthday to Bill Stiles.

At the last meeting, Councilor Vail said that we need term limits on the Town Council and School Board. He feels that unless term limits are really necessary and needed, they thwart the rights of the voter. The biggest excuse for them is at the national level because people in congress have an advantage over anybody who runs against them. We have the purest form of democracy on a minimum scale and he feels that if it isn't broken, don't fix it. We should leave things the way they are.

**Town Manager Shane** – he will be meeting with the Maine Department of Transportation Commissioner soon. He will also reach out to Senator Breen and Representative Moriarty to ask for their assistance in getting a traffic signal at the intersection of Skillin and Blackstrap Road.

The Windham Planning Board has a concept plan that was submitted to them for a 7 megawatt solar project on 20 acres of land just over the Town line from Cumberland. This project is 14 times larger than our new solar array. The second piece of this is that the quarry application near Forest Lake is back before the Windham Planning Board. He is meeting with the Town Manager's from Gray and Falmouth later this week to discuss consolidating resources and talking about how to protect our resources with the Town Attorney.

At the December 23<sup>rd</sup> Town Council meeting, the Town Planner and Town Attorney will be here to give an update on our comprehensive plan.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilor Gruber, seconded by Councilor Copp, to adjourn.

VOTE: 6-0                      UNANIMOUS

TIME: 8:17 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Brenda L. Moore  
Council Secretary