

# MINUTES

Cumberland Town Council Meeting

Town Council Chambers

**MONDAY, April 26, 2021**

**6:15 P.M. Finance Committee Meeting**

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

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

Excused: Councilor Edes

## **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Councilor Vail, seconded by Councilor Turner, to accept the April 12, 2021 meeting minutes with one amendment by Councilor Storey-King.

VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

## **II. MANAGER'S REPORT**

State Representative, Steve Moriarty, gave the following legislative update. The Legislature will reconvene on Wednesday of this week for the first time this month. The committees have not stopped meeting and have continued their work throughout the pandemic. There are a series of bills that went before the Judiciary Committee recently, that all have to do with remote meetings of public bodies. Maine Municipal Association is the primary proponent of what appears to be the lead bill and they have had a very strong response from its member communities in terms of their success in meeting remotely. Towns are reporting that meeting participation rates are way above normal. In response to this, Maine Municipal asked a Senator from Aroostook County to sponsor legislation on their behalf, to continue the Governors Executive Order allowing towns and cities to adopt a policy to allow remote participation by both the members of the body and members of the public. This is not a mandate; it is an option. There is another bill that would prohibit Executive Sessions from being held remotely. The work sessions on this bill have not been scheduled yet.

Town Manager Shane said that at the last Planning Board meeting there was some exciting news about a new commercial building proposed on Route 100. It will be a professional building that will have a dental practice and a health spa type business. It is a beautiful building and would be a great addition to Route 100 and help attract other businesses to that area.

The Senior Property Tax Assistance Committee will meet on May 10<sup>th</sup> to review some ordinance changes.

The new street sweeper has been very busy and should be finishing up soon. We used approximately 30% less sand this past winter, which is good for less sand to sweep up.

We received a letter today in response to a 2019 speed reduction request for Orchard Road. The request was denied by the MDOT. We are seeing an increasing number of speeding concerns around Town. The Police Chief has addressed those who have reached out to him directly and he is in the process of setting up speed details around town as well as the speed sign.

Councilor Edes sent an email to the Manager and the Chairman this afternoon regarding his serious concern about LD214, which will come before the State Legislature later this week. It has to do with eliminating qualified immunity for police departments. Qualified immunity is a complex issue, and he feels that without it, it would be difficult to recruit police officers and it would be a difficult landscape for many communities in our State. Councilor Edes will draft a letter in opposition of this bill and is requesting that each of the Town Councilors consider signing it.

### III. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Mike Doyle of Portsmouth, N.H.:

I'm up here to give a roundup of items that have been pending because of my schedule and the Council's schedule. There was a question about who put the "Fire Porter" sign in front of Jeff Porter's House. It was me and I take a great deal of pride in doing that. I don't know how many of you people are paying for a \$741,000.00 house, but you're paying for one down in Scarborough that Jeff Porter lives in. That's the current market value of it. I thought it was kind of interesting that the guy's making, I don't know, \$200,000.00 a year and lives in a \$741,000.00 house and he's up here causing problems with parents, with kids in school, but he doesn't have any kids in school up here. He doesn't pay taxes up here, but he's causing trouble up here. Now the next question that came up was why is the Town so totally divided? You know people for MSAD 51 and people against it. People for Porter and people against Porter. Well, I can tell you something, you folks have been blissfully ignorant about what's been going on in the school system. I told you about this two months ago and that you should go over there and watch a meeting, but you refused to do it. You have no idea what's going on there. They are paying \$12,350.00 to a company that says to stop white supremacy, we have to end capitalism. Are any of you in favor of ending capitalism because that's what the program is over there at CCI. The CEO retweeted vulgarities from one of her followers, and this is a CEO of a national company. What kind of due diligence are you people doing? You turn \$40,000,000.00 loose with these people and they're bunch of morons. They don't do any work at all, they don't do any research at all, this was all on her website! I deal with the Assistant Attorney General, Brenda Kielty on a regular basis, because I do a lot of freedom of access requests all over the State. She helps people like me and other people looking for information to make sure that Towns obey the law. When the State Legislature has a revision in the Freedom of Access law, I've been invited to testify three times. I'm one of the three civilians who've been invited to testify because I use it a lot. When I say civilians, I mean non-government employees or non-lawyers. She had to scold Jeff Porter for the way he treated Shawn in an email. He was so disrespectful and so rude to Shawn that she scolded him. Now if you folks had your finger on the pulse of what's going over there you'd know about this stuff. You're letting this guy who's making 200 grand a year, living a \$741,000 house in Scarborough, run roughshod over taxpayers in this town. The question I get all the time from people is, what the hell are you guys doing? I say that I don't know, they're blissfully ignorant and they don't want to be involved in this. You know this is a separate entity. MSAD 51 is a like a power unto itself. I'm only up here because people complain to me. I don't have a dog in this fight, but I can see something that's wrong. People all over the United States are up in arms about this Critical Race Theory. You have to go on YouTube and type in Critical Race Theory and see some of the town meetings and some of the school board meetings where people are screaming about this. And guess who's complaining the most? Black parents because they're finding this to be working against their family. They're not happy about it. And basic universal income, something that Ann Maksymowicz is in favor of. It is strictly a Communist income distribution process. When I say she's a wannabe Communist, I'm not joking. That's her manifesto. When I say that she wants to hate America, she does it every chance she gets. I'm going to publish an email that she sent to me and an email that I sent back to her on my website, hopefully in the next few days, and just give you a taste of what it's like dealing with Ann. It's unbelievable. I'm glad she put it in writing. I think I pretty much covered my list my shopping list here, but I can tell you something folks, the Town is more divided than you realize because a lot of people are afraid to come forward. I don't worry about what anyone says about me, but the way they attack people that are against this cockamamie program is by calling them a racist. I'm not a racist. I know plenty of black people and I've had relationships with black people. I just think you guys ought to do some research. Do some work.

Cathy Harper of 102 Blanchard Road voiced concern about the speed of traffic on Blanchard Road. It has been an ongoing problem that doesn't seem to be improving. In fact, it seems to have gotten much worse during the pandemic. There has to be some sort of balance between the people who live on that road and those using it. It is a neighborhood, and a lot of people are using the road to walk and ride bikes. It's very dangerous and it has gotten out of control.

Bill Kinney of 3 Fryer Lane reminded everyone that the Cumberland Historical Society will have a program on Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. on Frances Perkins. There is plenty of room to come in person and it will be broadcast on cable channel 2. Frances Perkins was a remarkable woman. She was the longest serving continuous cabinet member in our history. She is from Maine and served as Secretary of Labor under Franklin Roosevelt. If you like Social Security, you can thank her. It will be a wonderful program.

Nicole Nevulis of 354 Blanchard Road Extension said that people tend to think that Blanchard Road Extension is the end of Blanchard Road and that it's a nice, quiet little road. Currently, the Planning Board is looking at a 17-home subdivision there, we just approved additional racing events at the fairgrounds, and there are three new homes being built at the end of the extension. She said that she loves growth in the Town and she fully supports the racing, but what a lot of people don't realize is that people don't know how to turn right to get to the fairgrounds. The sign is not there anymore so people go left instead of right. The dead-end sign is so far back that people don't see it, then when they realize, they turn around and speed out of there because they're mad. There are a lot of families that walk that road with their kids and dogs. 17 new families mean more landscapers, more UPS deliveries, more FedEx deliveries, etc.

Chris Neagle of West Cumberland said that in regard to traffic, he would like to remind the Council that we have an unnecessary stop sign at the intersection of Blanchard Road and Skillin Road and the Town Council chose to leave it there against the advice of their engineer.

In response to Mr. Doyle's comments, he found his comments angry, hurtful, and misdirected because his understanding is that the Town does not run the school department. His understanding is that the School Board is elected by people from two different towns. The School Board makes its own decisions, including who to hire for Superintendent. He also believes that the role of the Town Council is to find a whole lot of money to meet their budget. On behalf of the public, he wants to apologize to the Town Council for having to listen to that.

He recently had to file a complaint against two officers of the Cumberland Police Department. He is not here to tell the Council the story, but what he found odd was when he went to the police department to file his paperwork, the only piece of information available in the lobby was instructions on how to fire a complaint against a Cumberland Police Officer. This suggests that it is a common thing and it got him thinking. It is becoming more obvious that police officers perform poorly and even commit crimes, and their peers cover it up, so no one knows what happened and they are not charged. This is called the blue wall. It happens all over the State and the Country. When there were credible allegations made against our police department by a member of the bar, who would lose her license if she was lying, the Town accepted a report saying there was no evidence of any problem because the police officers couldn't remember. That's called a blue shield and you're endorsing it. He believes that the police department in our Town is supposed to be a community police force, not an aggressive, "I want to arrest you" police force, which has been his experience. Many of our police officers are very good, but he knows of two that he does not think are good. In his profession, any allegation that's investigated by the bar is a matter of public record, no matter what the result and no matter who did it. He cannot remember ever hearing of any Cumberland officer being reprimanded or disciplined. He is going to try to figure out how many complaints are filed in our Town, what they are about, and he hopes that he has the Council's support. It's time to be transparent and not cover up what's going on within the limits of the law. He encouraged anyone who is voting in the upcoming election for Town

Councilors, to vote for anyone who has not been on the Council before. While he respects a lot of the decisions that the Council has made, not this one. Not this policy and not this culture. He hopes that the citizens choose other people to sit up there and manage the Police Department. He also hopes that they will support legislation that is being considered that will take down qualified immunity and other things. The Town Manager just assumes that you agree. There are a lot of arguments on both sides. Listen to the other side.

Shawn McBreairty of Cumberland Center, read the following:

After watching some of the comments made at the last Town Council meeting, I think there may need to be a reset done with the facts on how we got here, aka “This isn’t the town you grew up in.”

This town has shifted dramatically in the last decade and this shift has been accelerated in the last few years. This is not the town from 40 years ago, 20 years ago, or even 5 years ago. This Town was once fairly balanced regarding political items, but many appear to be triggered quite easily now.

What I’ve experienced over the last ten months is that dissenting opinion is being stomped out in Cumberland, Maine, just like the rest of America.

It’s all political, whether you wish to believe it, or not.

Whether you support my use of the First Amendment is your own opinion, just realize that it currently speaks for everyone. I’ve done my diligence and I have not broken any laws.

If any of you wish to talk about treating our community with decency, I’ll gladly speak to any of you, one on one so you can understand what I’ve been put through for pointing out the facts.

Mainly, I’ve just documented the bad decisions made at MSAD51 and there have been a ton of them.

So, I see there are five main issues currently in Cumberland:

1. Lack of transparency by MSAD 51 regarding Greely students' indoctrination into Critical Race Theory.
2. Division of this community, when Superintendent Jeff Porter called us all “white supremacists” nearly a year ago.
3. The venomous cancel-culture, scaring people from voicing their concerns publicly.
4. Lack of accountability for MSAD 51’s decisions.
5. Poor leadership at MSAD 51.

I estimate that the Towns of Cumberland and North Yarmouth, through MSAD 51, have spent upwards of a combined \$250,000 of hard-earned tax dollars during the last two years on teaching Critical Race Theory.

In FY19/20, there were four (4) allegedly “racist” incidents with Greely students, all in grades 6-8. 2,200 students, over 9 months, in 3 buildings, there were 4 incidents. All in middle school. (Anyone remember the middle school playground?)

There have been two years of secret MSAD51 “Equity” Committee Leadership Meetings. No published agendas, no calendar entries on the MSAD 51 district calendar, no prior access to the meetings, no published minutes, no YouTube videos. Nothing. It’s like a secret society.

All members of this “Equity” Leadership Committee were hand selected and nearly all are registered democrats. Some are left wing democrats. Believe me when I say, it’s entirely political.

From MSAD 51’s own website, there are dozens of examples of Critical Race Theory. But first, what is Critical Race Theory, or CRT?

- CRT states that racism and white supremacy exists everywhere. Every situation, organization, school, town council, human relationship, every single decision you ever make.
- Any criticism of this ideology is seen as proof of the dissenter’s racism.
- Black people can never be racist, no matter what they do or say, unless of course, they stand in the way of CRT, then they are branded an “Uncle Tom.”

Simply put if you are not an “anti-racist” then you are a racist by definition.

CRT is *unconstitutional* and a violation of the Equal Protection Clause to single out one particular race for shaming, or discrimination. It is also a violation of the *Civil Rights Act of 1964*.

MSAD 51 is currently breaking the law by it's teachings to students with CRT! *This Town and Council may be breaking the law by funding it.*

Many parents across the nation are now going to court with their schools, because of CRT. There is a major backlash happening as parents wake up.

CRT is the antithesis of what Martin Luther King, Jr. stated in his *I have a Dream Speech* that people "will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

MLK would probably be very ashamed of Greely's direction right now.

MSAD51 "Equity" work to date, pulled right off the "Equity" page:

<http://www.msad51.org/home/strategic-plan/equity-inclusion>

- Multiple "Equity" trainings with CCI for all district staff focused on "systematic racism."
  - Think of the amount of payroll dollars spent on these efforts.
- Audits of Social Studies and English to ensure instruction of racism in the 21st century and provide a set of "diverse" authors.
  - Ann Maksymowicz School Board, "Equity" Committee member and head of the Policy committee" wants to provide books on diversity, by modifying the current policy on texts provided to students.
- Ann Maksymowicz also wanted to do a Black Lives Matter week at Greely.
  - BLM, the Marxist, domestic terrorist organization which took in a reported \$90M, mostly from woke white people, but only used \$22M to mostly fund the "peaceful protests."
- Anti-Defamation League (ADL) trainers at Greely Middle School provide intensive, four-day training to all students in grades 7-8, who then provide training through 6th grade classes.
  - They change the wording to "microaggressions, which is a subtle, often unintentional, form of prejudice.
  - Using the term microaggressions doesn't sound as bad as when you call kids racist.
  - ADL's CEO, Jonathan Greenblatt, is a former assistant to Barack Obama and now the ADL is just another left-wing pressure group. Why MSAD51 uses them is beyond me.
- Third grade guidance programs at Mable I Wilson incorporate lessons learning about race and skin color.
  - These are Third graders, being taught racism!

So far, no one at MSAD51, nor anyone at the Towns of Cumberland, or North Yarmouth have been able to provide any real examples of "systematic, or institutional racism" in our communities. This is because it's a myth created by leftist democrats to divide communities. Superintendent Jeff Porter fell for CRT, hook, line and sinker.

- Councilor Foster, when asked a number of weeks ago to describe it here in Cumberland, spoke about taking a spot in college, because of a relationship her parents had.
  - That's not institutional racism, that's just good parenting.

Ask yourself, why are you as a Town willing to pay MSAD51 monthly for this type of indoctrination to occur at Greely?

Why is this teaching occurring outside of the home, where parents should be doing the parenting, not the Greely teachers union and MSAD 51 administration?

The indoctrination of the students of Greely is absolutely TOXIC. It is flat out, unacceptable garbage and not something our children should be subject to.

Councilor Foster responded that she was not referring to Critical Race Theory when she made her comments a few months ago, she was talking about privilege. They are different and she wants to make sure that is not a misconstrued interpretation.

Mike Doyle's rebuttal comments to Mr. Neagle's comments:

Mr. Neagle is a prime example of somebody who is so uninformed that his comments about what he said are just ridiculous. He has done almost 850 articles on his website, and he has not been sued for 1 article. You can't sue him for telling the truth. You can't sue him for talking about Ann's actual beliefs that she espouses every chance she gets. The biggest myth in this state is that lawyer's police themselves. People outside the State of Maine make fun of our judicial system. It is unbelievably bad. We have a judge named Jeff Moskowitz who was told by the Chief Justice to have a hearing and to apologize to a Press Herald reporter for ordering him not to report what was testified to in an open court. Moskowitz is probably the worst judge in the State of Maine, and they allow him to run rampant over people in one case after another. The Board of Overseers are there to protect the lawyers from being sued by clients. They are not there to protect clients who have been screwed by their lawyers. He knows this factually and there are plenty of people out there that have had bad experiences, not only in the court system, but with lawyers. He can testify that all day long about what he knows about the Guardian Ad Litem's in this state, the Judges in this state, the District Attorneys in this state, and a lot of the top lawyers in this state. They are all crooked beyond all words and he will stand by every word he just said.

Nick Begin of Newell Ridge Road said that he has 3 daughters and he moved to Cumberland from Freeport 5 years ago for the Greely school system. He has never been too involved regarding the school system. He has coached recreation soccer and he runs an internship program at the High School. The topic of getting our kids back to school is emotional and frustrating for him. He started a group called Back to Five which had about 200 parents who joined and it quickly grew to a statewide group with over 3,000 members now. In late January, he started to try to work with Mr. Porter and offered to help in getting another survey sent out to parents, as he does this professionally. Mr. Porter acknowledged and appreciated the offer, but he didn't hear anything from him again. In mid-February, Mr. Porter sent out an email that basically said that the school will stay status quo with the hybrid model. At this point, he started getting a little annoyed. He has 3 daughters and he sees what is happening to them by not being in school, and it's not good. This is when he started the Back to Five Facebook group. Since then, he sent Mr. Porter and Tyler McGinley a few additional emails, simply asking questions. He had never had a single interaction with these two individuals prior. Mr. Porter offered to have a meeting with him and another parent, which they did, and it was a great discussion. He asked Mr. Porter to show him what had been done on the spatial studies and with staffing issues. Mr. Porter said that he had that data and he would send it to him. They asked for a walk through of the schools and Mr. Porter asked for dates that would work to do a walk through. Then he said that he had to run it by the Green Committee, and they voted the walk through down. This chain of events really got him wondering what kind of School Board we have in keeping our superintendent accountable. He feels that there is a significant amount of group thinking happening for them to vote 9-0 on the committee's recommendation, when the committee themselves voted against just doing a walk through. The board and the superintendent have a lot of parents in this community that want to help, and they shut them out. They shut people like him out who would take a month off from work to help get his kids back to school. The School Board continuously plays the lack of space card. They started the recall because they truly feel that we have an incompetent School Board. There are a lot of people that want to sign the petition and a lot who want to help get signatures, but they won't because they're fearful of retaliation. He has experienced it himself and he's a good person who just wants his kids back in school.

Town Manager Shane said that the Portland Press Herald and the Forecaster have requested copies of the signed petitions once they have been returned to the Town Clerk.

#### IV. LEGISLATION AND POLICY

##### 21 – 046 To hear a report from the Finance Director re: 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financials.

Finance Director, Helene DiBartolomeo, presented the following:

Town of  
Cumberland  
FY2021 Q3  
Results  
(July 1 –  
March 31)



##### General Fund FY2021 Q3 Overview

|                       | FY21<br>Budget      | FY21 YTD<br>Actual  | FY21 %     | FY20 %     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|
| <b>TOTAL REVENUES</b> | <b>\$ 5,640,668</b> | <b>\$ 4,832,158</b> | <b>86%</b> | <b>78%</b> |
| Controllable Expenses | \$ 9,003,366        | \$ 6,367,723        | 71%        | 75%        |
| Fixed Expenses        | \$ 22,658,516       | \$ 16,794,618       | 74%        | 77%        |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b> | <b>\$31,661,882</b> | <b>\$23,162,341</b> | <b>73%</b> | <b>76%</b> |

##### General Fund FY2021 Q3 Selected Revenues

|                             | FY21<br>Budget | FY21 YTD<br>Actual | FY21 % | FY20 % |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------|--------|
| Excise Tax                  | \$ 1,735,000   | \$ 1,785,089       | 103%   | 82%    |
| State Revenue Sharing       | \$ 500,000     | \$ 748,256         | 150%   | 90%    |
| Permits & Impact Fees       | \$ 177,174     | \$ 222,146         | 125%   | 79%    |
| Emergency Transport Billing | \$ 160,000     | \$ 89,355          | 56%    | 68%    |

##### General Fund FY2021 Q3 Selected Expenses

|                 | FY21<br>Budget | FY21 YTD<br>Actual | FY21 % | FY20 % |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|--------|--------|
| Police          | \$ 1,472,754   | \$ 1,051,094       | 71%    | 75%    |
| Fire            | \$ 1,070,962   | \$ 736,793         | 69%    | 70%    |
| Public Services | \$ 2,197,932   | \$ 1,525,210       | 69%    | 72%    |

##### General Fund FY2021 Q3 Val Halla Results

|                        | FY21<br>Budget      | FY21 YTD<br>Actual | FY21 % | FY20 % |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------|--------|
| Revenue - Val Halla    | \$ 573,645          | \$ 498,085         | 87%    | 59%    |
| Expenses - Val Halla   | \$ 781,125          | \$ 576,397         | 74%    | 73%    |
| <b>Net Gain (Loss)</b> | <b>\$ (207,480)</b> | <b>\$ (78,312)</b> |        |        |

##### General Fund FY2021 Q3 Recreation Results

|                        | FY21<br>Budget    | FY21 YTD<br>Actual  | FY21 %     | FY20 %     |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|
| Revenue - After School | \$ 270,000        | \$ 244,032          | 90%        | 94%        |
| Revenue - All Other    | \$ 659,770        | \$ 165,460          | 25%        | 64%        |
| <b>Total Revenues</b>  | <b>\$ 929,770</b> | <b>\$ 409,492</b>   | <b>44%</b> | <b>73%</b> |
| Expenses - Admin       | \$ 466,775        | \$ 259,955          | 56%        | 74%        |
| Expenses - Program     | \$ 447,243        | \$ 297,388          | 66%        | 87%        |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>  | <b>\$ 914,018</b> | <b>\$ 557,343</b>   | <b>61%</b> | <b>82%</b> |
| <b>Net Gain (Loss)</b> | <b>\$ 15,752</b>  | <b>\$ (147,851)</b> |            |            |

Motion by Councilor Vail, seconded by Councilor Copp, to accept the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter financial report, as recommended by the Finance Committee.

VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

**21 – 047 To accept the modified and corrected deed and easement between the Town of Cumberland and Foreside Community Church.**

President of the Cumberland Cemetery Association, Bob Storey, explained that a few years ago, we had our cemeteries surveyed and it was discovered that there was a discrepancy that showed the church owns some of the cemetery and the Town owns some of the church parking lot. The corrected deeds will straighten this out.

Chairman Gruber asked for any public comment.

Phil Gleason spoke on behalf of the Foreside Community Church. He thanked Mr. Storey and the Town Manager for taking the initiative and time to clear up this little boundary dispute that has been around for at least 150 years, if not more.

Motion by Councilor Storey-King, seconded by Councilor Copp, to authorize the Town Manager to sign the modified and corrected deeds and easements between the Town of Cumberland and Foreside Community Church.

VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

**21 – 048 To hold a Public Hearing to consider and act on a Mass Gathering permit application for the Penobscot Valley Kennel Club's "Chickadee Classic Dog Show" to be held at the Cumberland Fairgrounds from June 24<sup>th</sup> through June 27<sup>th</sup>.**

Town Manager Shane said that the application is complete, and staff is recommending approval.

Chairman Gruber opened the Public Hearing.

No public comment.

Chairman Gruber closed the Public Hearing.

Motion by Councilor Copp, seconded by Councilor Foster, to approve the Mass Gathering permit for the Penobscot Valley Kennel Club's "Chickadee Classic Dog Show" to be held at the Cumberland Fairgrounds from June 24<sup>th</sup> through June 27<sup>th</sup>.

VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

**21 – 049 To hold a Public Hearing to consider and act on the adoption of the FY2022 Municipal Budget.**

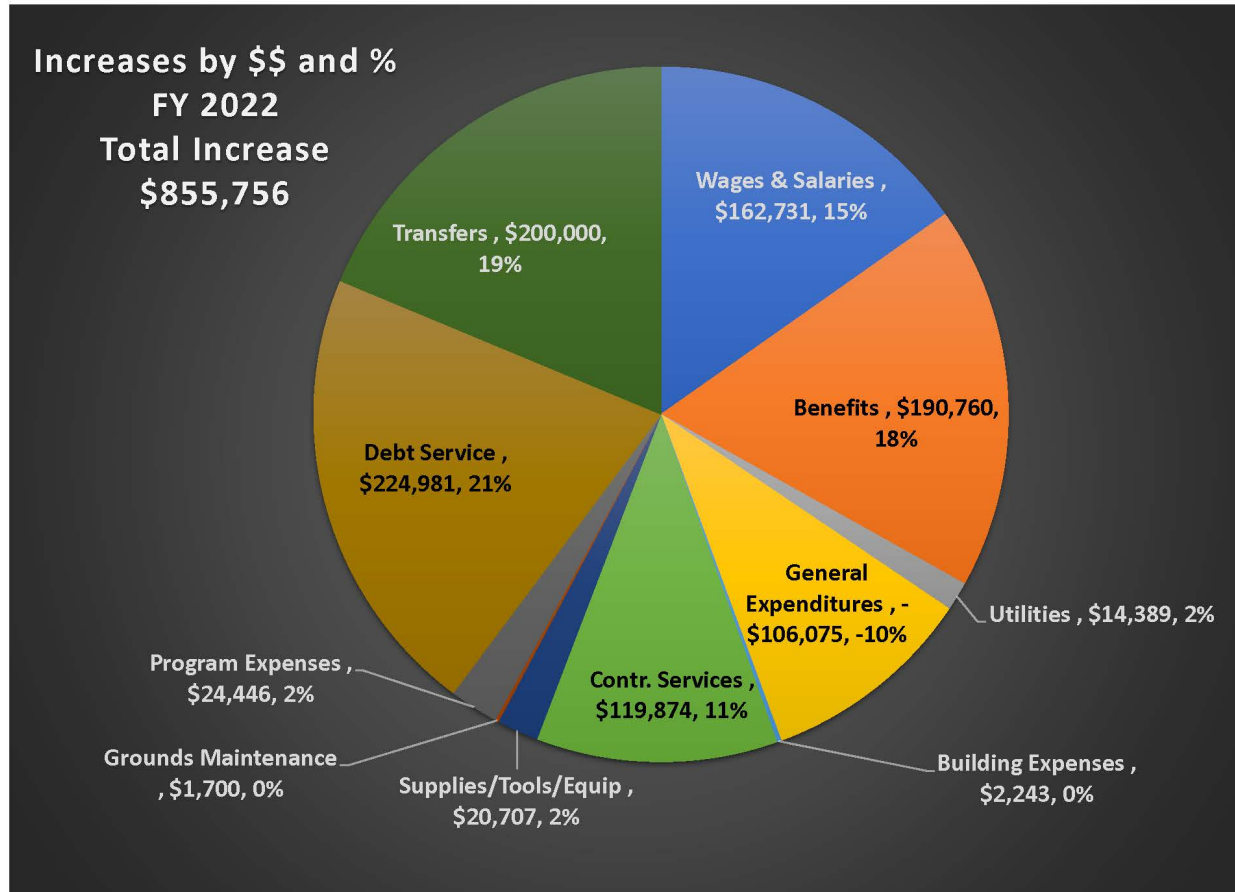
Town Manager Shane presented the following:

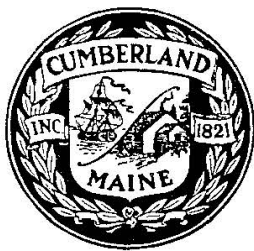
The new budgets (Town and School) will require a 1.4% increase or \$00.30 in the current mil rate (\$20.35 to \$20.65).

The attached documents will outline the budget increases over last year and projected revenue increases, that resulted in this change. The net impacts for Town, County and School are:

|                   | FY 21          | FY 22          | Increase      | % of Increase  |                |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>School ***</b> | <b>\$14.27</b> | <b>\$14.49</b> | <b>\$0.22</b> | <b>71.65%</b>  | <b>1.0563%</b> |
| County            | \$0.67         | \$0.68         | \$0.01        | 1.65%          | 0.0243%        |
| <b>Town</b>       | <b>\$5.41</b>  | <b>\$5.49</b>  | <b>\$0.08</b> | <b>26.70%</b>  | <b>0.3937%</b> |
|                   | <b>\$20.35</b> | <b>\$20.65</b> | <b>\$0.30</b> | <b>100.00%</b> | <b>1.4742%</b> |

|        | 2016    | 2017    | 2018    | 2019    | 2020  | 2021  | 2022  |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|-------|-------|
| School | \$12.13 | \$12.34 | \$12.93 | \$13.77 | 13.46 | 14.27 | 14.49 |
| Town   | \$5.39  | \$5.31  | \$5.26  | \$5.28  | 5.74  | 5.41  | 5.49  |
| County | \$0.58  | \$0.60  | \$0.61  | \$0.65  | 0.65  | 0.67  | 0.67  |
|        | \$18.10 | \$18.25 | \$18.80 | \$19.70 | 19.85 | 20.35 | 20.65 |





# MEMORANDUM

TOWN OF CUMBERLAND, MAINE  
290 TUTTLE ROAD  
CUMBERLAND, MAINE 04021  
TEL: 207-829-2205 FAX: 829-2224

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** William R. Shane, Town Manager  
**Date:** April 22, 2021  
**Re:** Excise Tax

At the last Finance Committee meeting, a request was made for additional information around Excise Tax. This will give you a good snapshot of what the past 12 months have looked like. Overall, it is about 600 cars off the norm, but the interesting item is the breakdown by category:

| Mil Year | Rate   | Excise Tax  | % of Total | Total \$\$ of all Cars | %Total |
|----------|--------|-------------|------------|------------------------|--------|
| 1        | 0.0240 | \$509,378   | 30.35%     | \$21,224,083           | 11.76% |
| 2        | 0.0175 | \$306,266   | 18.25%     | \$17,500,914           | 9.70%  |
| 3        | 0.0135 | \$224,318   | 13.36%     | \$16,616,148           | 9.21%  |
| 4        | 0.0100 | \$171,332   | 10.21%     | \$17,133,200           | 9.50%  |
| 5        | 0.0065 | \$91,822    | 5.47%      | \$14,126,462           | 7.83%  |
| 6        | 0.0040 | \$375,330   | 22.36%     | \$93,832,500           | 52.00% |
|          |        | \$1,678,446 |            | \$180,433,307          |        |
|          |        | 6425 Cars   |            | Value of All Cars      |        |
|          |        | AVG. =      | \$261.24   |                        |        |

| Month      | Cars | Excise Tax | Month       | Cars | Excise Tax  |
|------------|------|------------|-------------|------|-------------|
| April      | 8    | \$2,934    | October     | 567  | \$159,195   |
| May        | 213  | \$47,940   | November    | 403  | \$112,270   |
| June       | 763  | \$163,817  | December    | 457  | \$125,321   |
| July       | 820  | \$202,466  | January     | 465  | \$140,032   |
| August     | 632  | \$167,299  | February    | 451  | \$126,272   |
| September  | 585  | \$162,060  | March       | 623  | \$152,557   |
|            | 3021 |            | April       | 438  | \$116,285   |
|            |      |            |             | 3404 |             |
| Total Cars | 6425 |            | Total funds |      | \$1,678,448 |

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Chairman Gruber opened the Public Hearing.

Bill Stiles of Range Road said that he attended all the Town Council budget workshops, and he is very proud of the work that the Town Council did on this budget.

Chairman Gruber closed the Public Hearing.

Motion by Councilor Copp, seconded by Councilor Turner, to set the Municipal FY 2022 General Fund Expenditure budget at \$11,463,545.00 and the General Fund Non-Property Tax Revenues Budget of \$5,679,136.00 to offset the impact of property taxes, as recommended by the Finance Committee.

VOTE: 6-0                      UNANIMOUS

## V. NEW BUSINESS

**Councilor Storey-King** – regarding Mr. Doyle’s comments about the School District using CCI (Community Change, Inc.), she wants to correct the record. MSAD 51 is not using CCI, has not used CCI since the concerns were raised about their integrity. She was part of the discussion process along the way, and she wants to correct the record on that. For Mr. Doyle to accuse the Council of not paying attention is a little unfair. We are paying attention.

Congratulations to Councilor Foster for being chosen as a panelist for an upcoming event hosted by the Greater Portland Council of Governments.

She is up for re-election to the Town Council, and she is running unopposed. She will not be putting up any election signs unless someone takes out an enormous write-in campaign against her. She doesn’t want anyone to think that she isn’t putting up election signs because she doesn’t care about her job, that just is not true. She’s being respectful of all those who are tired of signs around Town.

**Councilor Vail** – He is a little concerned with some of the public comments this evening regarding vehicles speeding around Town. He remembers Barbara Garsoe saying you took the country out of the country road. When you make a nice, long straight road, it encourages people to use it. That is no excuse for speeding though. He hopes that we can take some measures to discourage speeding on our roads.

It is upsetting to him to hear about people being fearful of retribution in signing a petition. He asked the Town Manager to reach out to the Forecaster and Press Herald in a FOIA request to see if it is their habit to ask for copies of signed petitions. If it is not, and they are targeting the Town of Cumberland, they should be singled out for harassment of those who signed the petition. He will not tolerate it if he finds that people are using the name collecting as a means of retribution.

**Chairman Gruber** – We had 56 families who used the Food Pantry. Thank you to the amazing volunteers who make it possible.

The Cumberland Area Rides program is back. This is terrific. If you are fully vaccinated and you have proof of insurance, you can be a volunteer driver.

**Councilor Foster** – She reminded everyone that the Cumberland bicentennial gear is still available to purchase. It is very cost effective to get your Cumberland gear and it is all great merchandise.

This Wednesday, she will be on a panel through the Greater Portland Council of Governments. It is all about diverse voices who can answer questions for folks that maybe interested in running for any type of public office. It is this Wednesday from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. via zoom. More information can be found on GPCOG’s Facebook page.

**Councilor Turner** – He agreed with Councilor Vail. If the media isn't using uniform standards in regard to the petition situation, he also would be outraged. When you get into the political spectrum, there are certain people on both sides who have a tendency to think that they are put upon by the media, and the media will use underhanded tactics to keep their opinions from coming forward.

**Councilor Copp** – He reminded everyone that the 4-H auction fund that benefits the food pantry is a worthy cause, and it is great for the community. He donates on a regular basis and he urged others to do so.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

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

VOTE: 6-0 UNANIMOUS

TIME: 9:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Brenda L. Moore  
Council Secretary