MECHANIC FALLS TOWN COUNCIL

 March 7, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lou Annance, Chair

Stephen Bolduc

Cathy Fifield

Nick Konstantoulakis

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Koriene Low – Town Manager

Shirley Marquis – Town Clerk

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Win Durgin, Sun Journal

Rain Tarantino - BASP

Leonard Lamoreau \_Tyrian Lodge

Bruce Flaherty – Spirit of America Award

Nancy Petersons – Historical Society

Eriks Petersons – Historical Society

Lou Annance called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with Wayne Hackett absent. We stood and saluted the flag.

**Reports:**

**1.01 Council Meeting Minutes** February 1, 2016, Phone Vote on We Compost IT! **1.02 Municipal Financial Reports 1.03 Departmental Reports Submitted**

Stephen Bolduc made a motion to accept the reports as submitted. Seconded by Nick Konstantoulakis. No discussion. So voted. Unanimous.

**Public Comments:**

Bruce Flaherty from the Spirit of America Award program explained that in the past the Council has nominated the Revenue Enhancement Committee, The Pink Feather Foundation, and the American Legion for this Community Service award. There are many committees that could deserve this award but the Council has not nominated any the last couple of years. This award is given in recognition of outstanding community service, and can be given to an individual or a committee. He would like to have the Council recommendation by June 30th or sooner, Androscoggin County hosts an awards event in April.

**Reports of the Town Manager:**

**Old Business**

**3.01 Historical Society –** Eriks Petersons stated that the Historical Society has recruited 2 new members, Penny Pray and Glenda Mitchell. They need at least 10 members. They need to get people involved. They are looking at ways to itemize and document the items in the building. Nancy mentioned the past perfect software at a cost of $695, but another town using it said the price is closer to $1,200. We think an Excel program will work for us. We are planning **Town Council**

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to hold a dinner in the spring and maybe using the fireman’s field for a lawn sale. The have been exploring all avenues of the organ, but to remove it they would have to remove part of the roof. They do realize that anything done to the building or its contents would first need Council approval. Their next meeting is Sunday, March 20th at 2 pm at the Library. They have lots of fundraising ideas but only 4 members.

**3.02 Dog Park Update –** Koriene stated that she met with the Dog Park Committee, and they had their last meeting. They voted to turn over the funds collected $2,016 to the Summer Rec Program. Nick Konstantoulakis made a motion to accept the funds from the Dog Park Committee and turn them over to the Summer Rec Program. Seconded by Stephen Bolduc. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

**3.03 Summer Rec Bus Update – Koriene** told the Council that the RSU can no longer provide a bus for the summer rec to use for their field trips, because of liability/cost issues. She has sat down with Sue Marston and they have gone over some alternatives for the busing for Summer Recreation. Hudson Bus gave us a good price, and they will use the money from the dog park and money left in their account from last year so that they do not have to raise the prices, they may institute a field trip user fee to help offset the costs. Some members of the Council expressed their disappointment with the RSU; we can’t use the facilities, the fields, and now the buses. No further discussion.

**3.04 Solar Update –** Koriene and Lou met with Shawn Kane of Garbo/Kane and the Revenue Enhancement Committee to discuss solar power. Between all our facilities, town, water department and sanitary district we pay Central Maine Power approx. $64,000 a year. Koriene met with CMP to talk about reducing our costs. The street lights are the highest part of that cost. Lou talked about a solar farm to sell panels to help offset some of these costs. We have a couple of potential locations, at the transfer station or the reservoir on Standpipe Hill. They are getting some figures together for us. The solar panels are much more efficient than five years ago; the new technology can track the sun. Every year it’s less expensive. No further discussion.

**3.05 Community Day Update–**Koriene stated the committee met last week Lou said the plans are coming together well. It will be held June 3 & 4th. The interest is high. The Parade theme is “Horribles.” They will be holding the Couples Competition on Friday night with the Fire Department doing the food. They are trying to get a kids obstacle course to be used before the couples competition. Next meeting is March 24th at 6:30 pm.

**3.06 5 Corners DOT Project–**– The contract arrived for the maintenance and electrical costs of the light system from DOT for the 5 Corners project. The costs will be split 50/50 with Poland but DOT will only do the contract with one town. Mechanic Falls currently pays approximately $20-$60 to run the flashing light now. Stephen Bolduc made a motion to allow

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Koriene to enter into contract/agreement with MDOT and the Town of Poland. Seconded by Nicholas Konstantoulakis. No discussion. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

**New Business**

**4.01 Nomination Papers –** Koriene passed out a listing of all the officers that are up for re-election. Nomination papers will be available on Monday, March 21st and are due back May 4th at 5:30 pm.

**4.02 Vote for Rec to use Town Tax ID # –** The current ID number on the Recreation Committee Bank Account at TD bank is not the Town ID number. The council needs to vote to allow the Recreation Committee account number to be changed to the Town ID number. If the Recreation Committee doesn’t use the town ID number, they are not covered under the town liability Insurance. The bank needs to see a copy of the minutes that reflect this vote in order to make the change. Cathy Fifield made a motion to allow the Recreation Committee to use the Town’s ID number on their bank account. Seconded by Stephen Bolduc. No further discussion. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

**4.03 Notice from Sanitary District –** Nicholas Konstantoulakis explained that Mechanic Falls Sanitary District will be processing sludge from the Oxford Sanitary District. Our plant can handle this with no problem. This will go on for a couple of years.

**4.04 Road Treatment Coverage Option -** For the cost of $297 annually would the council like to add this enhancement to the current policy which provides coverage for road salt contamination to private water supplies resulting from plowing/sanding operations. It was mentioned that New Gloucester had a problem with salt leaching into private wells. Nicholas Konstantoulakis made a motion to enhance our current policy at a cost of $297 annually. Seconded by Stephen Bolduc. No further discussion. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

**4.05 Renewal BASP Lease Agreement –** Koriene stated that we were not increasing the rent, but that the BASP would also be taking care of the electric bill. Stephen Bolduc made a motion to renew the BASP Lease Agreement with the addition of the Electric Bill. Seconded by Nicholas Konstantoulakis. She was asked how many children she has in the program. Rain stated that she is licensed for 26 but will only take 20. She currently has 17 children in the program. Rain also stated that the Public Works department has been amazing to the program.

**Ordinances, Resolves, & Licenses**

**5.01 Approve License for Tyrian Lodge Cribbage Tournament -**  Leonard Lamoreau from the Tyrian Lodge stated that they were looking to hold cribbage tournaments, but found out they needed a permit from the State and that permit required authorization from the Town. It is a dry lodge, so it will be a dry event. Lou mentioned that the Books for Bikes program that the Tyrian Lodge holds is a great program. Stephen Bolduc made a motion to approve the License

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for Tyrian Lodge Cribbage Tournament. Seconded by Nicholas Konstantoulakis. No further discussion. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

**5.02 Approve Liquor License renewal for Egg-ceptional Restaurant - Cathy** Fifield asked if the Police were okay with this renewal, the Clerk said that he signed off on the application. Cathy Fifield made a motion to approve the Liquor License renewal for Egg-ceptional Restaurant. Seconded by Stephen Bolduc. No further discussion. All in favor. So voted. Unanimous.

This concludes everything Koriene had.

Cathy Fifield made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Nicholas Konstantoulakis. No discussion. So voted. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Marquis

Town Clerk