

Town Council Meeting
March 23, 2009
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

Roll Call

Councilors present and answering roll call: Councilors Breen, Payne, Rodden, Wrobleski, Armitage, Pierce, and Libby.

No Councilors were absent.

Public Forum

Councilor Armitage opened the public forum.

Resident and former Councilor Ann Goggin conveyed that the World Wildlife Foundation would like residents of the planet to vote with their light switches by turning off their lights on Saturday March 28, from 8:30 until 9:30 pm as Google Earth Satellite circles around the globe capturing the lights going out, to send a message to politicians and the government to get serious about taking action on climate change.

Councilor Armitage closed the public forum.

**Item 1 (a) Order to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2009 Town
(Consent Agenda) Council Special Meeting.**

**Item 1 (d) Order to accept a proposal from Runyon Kersteen and
(Consent Agenda) Ouellette to perform the annual financial audit.**

Councilor Wrobleski moved to approve the consent agenda; Councilor Libby seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

**Item 2 Report from Council Committees and liaisons regarding
updates on assignments.**

Councilor Libby reported that the Harbor Committee has been very active and will be present for discussion on Item 6 and that the chair of the Cable TV Committee, Kathleen Parr is here tonight to deliver that Committee's annual report. Councilor Libby also announced that he would be resigning his position on the Cumberland County Budget Advisory Committee because of a conflict of interest. Councilor Libby reported that Falmouth's tax assessment from the County would be going down 2.5% this year.

Councilor Pierce stated that the Library Board submitted their budget last month. The School Board has a joint special meeting scheduled on March 25 at 7:00 pm with the

Town Council to present their proposed budgets. The New England Association of Schools and Colleges, was at the high school for four days; it was a 2 year prep process by the Falmouth teachers for accreditation as required every ten years. Second grade teacher Kevin Grover is in the running for Maine Teacher of the Year. Community Dialogue, a discussion of the schools' 18 month plan will be held on April 30 at the Falmouth High School from 12:30 – 4:30 pm. The Falmouth High School's Theatre Department has won the Class A State Finals in the Maine Drama Festival for a One Act play titled *Marie Antoinette: The Color of Flesh*.

Councilor Wroblewski reported that the Community Development Committee will be meeting on March 30 at noon to discuss the Falmouth Shopping Center Charrette. LPAC has been working on two rather large projects, the Shoreland Zoning Update and the Natural Resources Update, and they hope to finalize those projects for an April presentation to the Council.

Councilor Rodden highlighted the meeting she had with ecomaine and encouraged everyone for environmental and financial reasons to recycle the squiggly CFL bulbs because they contain mercury. There is no charge if you bring the bulbs to the Transfer Station. Because of the great recycling rate the Town of Falmouth's assessment will be dropping to 2.1% based on the five year average. The Mass Transit Committee would like everyone to be aware of the new hourly route servicing the Town Landing area, starting north of Shaw's on Route 1, then down Johnson Road to Route 88, then to Depot Road back to Shaw's during commuting hours. The remainder seven runs during non-commuter hours the bus will be continuing to Oceanview.

Councilor Breen reported that the Greater Portland Council of Governments will be holding a forum at the Abramson Center on March 27, from 8:30 am until noon. Mike Shuman will be the guest speaker and the topic will be "Moving the Greater Portland Area to a Sustainable Economy". The Finance Committee has been meeting regularly to work on the budget. Councilor Breen thanked the Chairs of the Committees for coming to the meeting to share their annual reports and for participating with the Council as they streamline the Committee process. The Community Facilities Planning Committee met on March 12 with the public. Councilor Breen encouraged the public to watch the video and vote online if they did not get a chance to attend.

Item 3 Report from the Appointments Committee and order relative to filling various vacancies on Boards and Committees.

Councilor Payne recommended to appoint Gerald "Jerry" Goodall, Jr. to the Conservation Commission and Kevin Browne to the Falmouth Trails Advisory Committee. Councilor Rodden seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

Item 4 Presentation by Committee Chairs on their annual reports.

Councilor Armitage stated that The Board of Assessment Review and Sewer Appeals would not be presenting a report because they had a meeting tonight also. Their report is

available on the web for review. The following Chairs or designees presented their annual reports.

Richard Bayer, Zoning Board
Kathleen Parr, Cable TV Committee
Jeff Walker, FTAC
Ann Goggin, Green Ribbon Commission
Steve Archambault, Harbor Committee
Ellen Planer, Human Service Committee
Hugh Smith LPAC
Mel Dickenson Open Space Committee
Faith Varney, PACPAC
Anthony Calcagni, Planning Board
Steve Hendry, Recycling Committee
Ward Graffam, Workforce Housing Commission

**Item 5 Order regarding an amendment to the ordinance titled
“Ordinance Concerning the Terms of Members of Boards,
Commissions and Committees.**

Councilor Wrobleski moved to approve the order; Councilor Breen seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

**Item 6 Discussion about a possible change to the Coastal Waters
Ordinance.**

The Harbor Committee listened to the concerns of the mooring holders and decided to suggest a change to the ordinance to allow motors to be left on dinghies. Councilor Libby offered to introduce the change to the ordinance.

**Item 7 Introduction of an amendment to Chapter 6, Article 6, Section
6.68, Appendix B of the Falmouth Town Ordinance that will
change maximum levels of income and expenses for the
General Assistance program.**

A public hearing will be held on April 27.

**Item 8 Order to go into Executive Session pursuant to the Laws of
Maine to discuss the possible acquisition of land, pursuant
land, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) (C).**

Councilor Libby moved to go into executive session to discuss the possible acquisition of land pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) (C). Councilor Breen seconded. Motion carried 7-0

The Council went into Executive Session at 8:51 pm.

The Council came out of Executive Session at 8:58 pm.

Councilor Wrobleski moved to approve the order, which would amend the Council order of January 26, 2009 which authorized the Town Manger to execute a purchase and sale agreement to purchase land owned by Fred Chase and identified as Tax Map R08-070, R08-069, R08-073. This amendment provides that the borrowing structure will now utilize a “non-recourse” obligation mortgage which will offer the property as collateral/security. Councilor Rodden seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilor Libby moved to adjourn; Councilor Rodden seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Planer
Town Clerk