



**Veazie Town Council**

**Regular Meeting**

**February 23, 2015**

**AGENDA**

- ITEM 1:** Call to Order
- ITEM 2:** Secretary to do the Roll Call
- ITEM 3:** Pledge of Allegiance
- ITEM 4:** Consideration of the Agenda
- ITEM 5:** Approval of the February 9th, 2015 Council Meeting Minutes.
- ITEM 6:** Comments from the Public

**New Business:**

**ITEM 7:**

**Old Business:**

- ITEM 8:** FY 15/16 Budget Discussion
- ITEM 9:** Community Center Lease
- ITEM 10:** Mutton Lane Discussion
- ITEM 11:** Manager's Report
- ITEM 12:** Comments from the Public
- ITEM 13:** Executive Session – 1 MRSA (405) 6A – Personnel Matter
- ITEM 14:** Requests for information and Town Council Comments
- ITEM 15:** Review & Sign of AP Town Warrant #16 and Town Payroll #17 School Payroll Warrant #17 and AP School Warrant #17.
- ITEM 16:** Adjournment

**Tammy J Perry**  
5Prouty Drive  
9479624

**Chris Bagley**  
16 Silver Ridge  
cbagley@veazie.net

**Robert Rice**  
1116 Buck Hill Dr  
942 -3064

**Karen Walker**  
1002 Mutton Ln  
947-0458

**David King**  
1081 Main St  
942-2376

# Agenda Items

## For February 23, 2015

### Council Meeting

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**ITEM 8:** This is a continuance of the discussion that took place at the last meeting when the Council provided direction to the Budget Committee concerning FY 15/16 Budget process. The School Supt will be present to provide follow up information that was requested by Council. An email from Supt. Lyons is attached for review concerning the transferring of the school's reserve fund into the municipal reserve funds. It was requested that Manager Leonard provide the balance of the reserve accounts for the Municipal portion of the budget. This information is included.

**ITEM 9:** Following the last meeting I have prepared the new lease with the terms that were agreed upon by the members of the Council. I have contacted the tenant, Glen Kennedy, and he wishes to speak to the Council on the possibility of extending the lease longer than 1 year. As mentioned at the previous meeting he was unable to attend the last meeting because of the birth of his child.

**ITEM 10:** Council has asked to discuss Mutton Lane and the Town using the right of way to access the Town Forest and not providing maintenance to the right of way. This has been discussed at numerous previous times and it has been determined that the road is not the Town's responsibility as it is a private road that does not meet Town standards currently. I have included documentation from previous discussions.

**ITEM 13:** Council has requested an executive session to discuss a personnel matter. This request is pursuant to 1 MRSA (405) 6A

Veazie Town Council Meeting  
February 9th, 2015

**Members Present:** Chairman Tammy Perry, Councilor Robert Rice, Councilor Chris Bagley, Councilor Karen Walker, Councilor David King, Manager Mark Leonard, Secretary Julie Strout, Supt. Rick Lyons, Principal Scott Nichols, Town Assessor Ben Birch, Budget Committee Members Jeff Wheelden, Brian Perkins, Judy Horten, Norma Noble and various members of the public.

**Members Absent:**  
None

**ITEM 1: Call to order**  
Chairman Tammy Perry called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

**ITEM 2: Secretary to do the roll call:**  
All present.

**ITEM 3: Pledge of Allegiance**

**ITEM 4: Consideration of the Agenda**  
Chairman Perry wanted to move Item 11 to Item 7A.

**ITEM 5: Approval of the January 26th, 2015 Council Meeting Minutes**  
Councilor Karen Walker made a motion, seconded by Councilor David King to accept the January 26th, 2015 Council Meeting Minutes as written. Voted 5-0-0. Motion carried.

**ITEM 6: Comments from the public**  
None

**New Business:**

**ITEM 7A: Appointment of Economic Development Committee Member**  
Councilor Robert Rice made a motion, seconded by Councilor Chris Bagley to appoint Sarah Zmistowski to the Economic Development Committee. Voted 5-0-0. Motion carried.

**ITEM 7B: Update from Assessor Ben Birch**  
Assessor Ben Birch reviewed his memo concerning the proposed State Budget and its possible effects on the towns assessing.

**ITEM 8: FY 15/16 Budget discussion with Budget Committee**

**General Gov** - The Council will discuss merit raises at the next meeting in Executive Session. They would like to budget another \$150,000 for road maintenance. Keep budget relatively stable.

**Police Dept** – No increases, keep relatively stable.

**Fire Dept** - The Council would like to add approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000 to the Fire Dept. budget. Council suggested that the Fire Dept meet with the Budget Committee to come up with a definite number.

**Recreation** – Budget \$14,553.00

**Comm. Investment** – Council would like to add a line called services study to explore all options for sewer and water in the amount of \$10,000 as a place holder. They would like to invite Senator Dill and Rep. Peter Lyford to a future meeting. Councilor Bagley brought up possibly putting money aside for an environmental audit. Manager Leonard will check with Phil Ruck on how much an audit might be.

**Capital funds** – no changes

**Reserve accounts-** would like an updated report by next meeting

**Fixed/variable cost** – Council would like to get more quotes for a leaf vacuum machine instead of using leaf bags.

Look into cleaning up the basement- put as a highlighted item

In the building maintenance line possibly adding money for roof repairs on the municipal building.

**Mandatory** – no changes. Chairman Perry would like Peter Baldacci to come to a meeting between now and the Town Meeting.

**Education** – Councilor Rice wanted to have Manager Leonard check with the town auditor to see if the town can move \$556,860.00 of the schools undesignated funds to the towns general fund. Council requested more information from the school and will discuss the school budget at the Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting, in hopes of giving the School and Budget Committee direction.

**ITEM 9: Community Center Lease**

Councilor Karen Walker made a motion to renew the Community Center lease for a one year term with a new rate of \$600.00 a month. No one seconded. Motion failed.

Councilor Robert Rice made a motion, seconded by Councilor David King to renew the Community Center lease for a one year term with the current rate of \$500.00 a month. Voted 4-1-0. Motion carried. Councilor Chris Bagley opposed.

Council would like Manager Leonard to look into how much it would be to moth ball the building and what other commercial properties are rented out for. To invite Don MacKay and Glen Kennedy to a future meeting.

**ITEM 10: Discussion of March Meeting dates**

Council agreed to move the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting to March 16<sup>th</sup> and move the March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting to March 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:**

**ITEM 12: Review Draft Manager Evaluation**

Council agreed on the evaluation form with the meeting date changed to March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

**ITEM 13: Manager's Report**

Manager Leonard reviewed his report with the Councilor's.

**ITEM 14: Comments from the Public**

None

**ITEM 15: Requests for information and Town Council Comments**

There were a few comments made by the public.

**ITEM 16: Review & sign of AP Town Warrant #15 and Town Payroll #16 School Payroll Warrant #16 and AP School Warrant #16.**

The warrants were circulated and signed.

**ITEM 17: Adjournment**

Councilor Robert Rice motioned to adjourn

Councilor David King seconded. No discussion. Voted 5-0-0

Motion carried.

Adjourned at 8:53pm

A True Copy Attest:

Julie Strout  
Deputy Clerk



Veazie  
12:28 PM

# General Ledger Detail Report

ALL Accounts  
February

02/17/2015

Page 1



Account-----					-- B A L A N C E --	
Date	Jrnl	Desc---	Debits	Credits	Debit	Credit
10 - GENERAL FUND						278.25
30 - CAPITAL PROJECTS					0.00	
2900-10 DTF GENERAL FUND					366,620.74	
3062-00 CP MUNICIPAL BUILDING						8,565.94
3063-00 CP-SICK TIME / PAID LEAVE						15,000.00
3064-00 CP-PD SAFETY EQUIPMENT-RES						10,831.03
3064-01 CP-POLICE CRUISER						24,293.93
3067-00 CP-COMMUNITY INVESTMENT						4,200.00
3068-00 CP-MUNICIPAL CREDIT						10,000.00
3069-00 CP-TREE FUND						3,334.52
3070-00 CP-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT						2,961.11
3071-00 CP-CABLE FUND						261.40
3072-00 CP-CONSERVATION RESERVE						36,973.26
3073-00 CP-HIGHWAY PROJECTS						92,091.54
3075-00 CP-PUBLIC SAFETY GRANT MA						25,000.00
3076-00 CP-TRAFFIC LIGHT						9,074.56
3077-00 CP-VEMA RESERVE						7,781.44
3079-00 CP-COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING						32,363.18
3080-00 CP-POLICE DEPARTMENT						933.32
3081-00 CP-FIRE DEPARTMENT						47,638.57
3083-00 CP-HISTORICAL SOCIETY						11,553.80
3084-00 CP-PUBLIC WORKS						25,610.67
3100-00 UNDES FD BAL					1,847.53	
		Fund.....				0.00
70 - INVESTMENTS						0.00
Final Totals						278.25







Message

Tue, Feb 10, 2015 8:47 AM

From:

rlyons@rsu22.us

To:

**Mark Leonard**

Scott Nichols <snichols@veaziecs.org>

Subject:

answer

Attachments:

Attach0.html / Uploaded File

2K

The answer is the \$556,860.00 is "restricted funds" to the school department. It is not transferrable to the town, Craig Costello will be forwarding to me the exact language.

Mark, I will send to you the language upon receipt, please call when you have a minute.

--

Richard A. Lyons  
Superintendent of Schools  
Maine Regional School Unit #22  
Veazie School District  
Hampden, Maine 04444  
207-862-3255





ITEM # 8

SEE

February 16, 2015

Mark Leonard  
Town Manager  
Town of Veazie  
1084 Main Street  
Veazie, ME 04401

Dear Mr. Leonard,

Upon your request we have created a summary of all catch basins, outfalls, and ditches which, according to our inspections, require high priority maintenance.

There are a total of 44 catch basins which require high priority maintenance such as:

- Loose bricks;
- Rim failure and settling;
- Cracked pavement/grout; and
- Erosion.

There are a total of eight outfalls and two ditches which require high priority maintenance.

Below you will find tables listing each high priority maintenance item with general maintenance requirements. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or require further assistance.

Sincerely,

Philip Ruck, P.E., President

Philip L. Ruck P.E., *President*

TELEPHONE: (207) 949-0074

EMAIL: [pruck@stillwaterenv.com](mailto:pruck@stillwaterenv.com)

WEBSITE: [www.stillwaterenv.com](http://www.stillwaterenv.com)



### High Priority Catch Basin Maintenance Table

Catch Basin ID	Condition	Defects
3-12-72	Poor	Loose bricks, structure settled and failing
3-14-77	Poor	Pavement cracked, rim settled
4-10-99	Poor	Loose bricks, pavement cracked, rim settled
2-14-15	Poor	Loose bricks, erosion, rim failing
10-10-198	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked grout
10-11-226	Poor	Loose bricks, pavement cracked, rim settled
10-6-216	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked Grout, pavement cracked, rim settling
10-6-219	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked grout, rim settled
10-7-194	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked grout, rim extremely settled
10-7-199	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked grout, pavement cracked, rim settled
10-9-185	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked grout
11-2-413	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked grout, rim settled
11-2-415	Poor	Erosion
11-2-457	Poor	Erosion
11-6-426	Poor	entire frame sits above grade
11-7-384	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked grout, severe structural cracks, erosion
11-8-378	Poor	Erosion, entire rim above grade
13-4-534	Poor	Lid paved on, requires silt sock removal (perhaps privately owned)



Catch Basin ID	Condition	Defects
14-2-499	Poor	Erosion, grate stuck
3-3-70B	Poor	Loose bricks, pavement cracked, pavement badly heaved up
3-3-70E	Poor	Loose bricks, rim settled
3-4-73A	Poor	Pavement cracked, rim sits above existing grade
6-11-167	Poor	Loose bricks, erosion
6-1-120	Poor	Loose bricks, pavement cracked, rim settled
6-12-148	Poor	Erosion, pavement cracked, rim settled, lower pipes rusted
6-12-154	Poor	Loose bricks, erosion, rim failing
6-6-121	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked grout, erosion, rim failing
6-7-139	Poor	Pavement Cracked, rim settled
6-7-142	Poor	Erosion
6-7-143	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked grout, pavement cracked, rim failing
6-9-136	Poor	Erosion, rim above grade
7-12-168	Poor	Pavement cracked, structure has settled
7-13-235	Poor	Frame cracked, pavement cracked, rim settled, grate cracked
7-14-232	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked grout, rim completely failed
7-14-524	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked grout, severe structural cracks, pipes rusted through
7-3-170b	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked grout
7-6-231a	Poor	Loose bricks, cracked grout, pavement cracked, rim settled



Catch Basin ID	Condition	Defects
7-6-233	Poor	Loose bricks, pavement cracked, rim failing, wood shims
8-5-402	Poor	Rim above existing grade
9-1-159	Poor	Erosion, rim settled
9-1-355	Poor	Erosion, rim settled
9-2-356	Poor	Loose Bricks, rim settled
J-111	Poor	Erosion, pavement cracked, water infiltrating around inlet pipes
J4(right bay of fire station)	Fair	Needs to be capped of so does not discharge to catch basin

#### High Priority Outfall Maintenance Table

Outfall ID	Outfall Condition	Required Maintenance
10-E	Could not find outfall	Find/uncover outfall
10-A	Excessive silt deposits, excessive vegetation, buried	Sediment removal
10-J	Unknown origin	Determine origin of outfall
10-C	Minor erosion	Erosion/scour repair, determine origin of adjacent old outlet pipe
7-14C	Excessive silt deposits, crushed outfall	Structure repair, Sediment removal, Tree/brush removal
1-6A	Bank erosion, steep slopes, undercut bank	Erosion/scour repair
9-2C	Bank erosion, steep slopes, undercut bank	Erosion/scour repair
14-1B	Bank erosion, steep slopes, undercut bank	Erosion/scour repair



High Priority Ditch Maintenance Table

Site ID	Geometry	Maintenance	Location
1 MTNVDR	Lat: 68° 43' 30.7" Long: 44° 50' 36.2"	Clear culvert	Mountain View Drive
1386RTE2	Lat: 68° 42' 26.6" Long: 44° 50' 13.5"	Clean out culverts	1386 Route 2





ITEM # 10

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## MEMORANDUM

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DATE: September 10 , 1997

TO: Richard Violette, Attorney

FROM: William Reed, Manager *WR*

RE: Freeland Jones Tax Acquired Property Title Research

Rick this is a follow up to the telephone discussion that we had last week pertaining to conducting a title search of the following parcel of land Map 9 Lot 15. We do not have a book and page in our records. It is approximately 63 acres and may have consisting of 3 parcels originally. His father which we believe was Austin Jones owned a lot of land in Veazie at one time. As I outlined we will be property tax foreclosing on the parcel and we would look to utilize the parcel as open space. It was our understanding that there was court action on this parcel but Allan did not see anything at the registry.

Thank you

Bill rv091097.doc

June 23, 2003

Mark Janicki  
6 Mutton Road  
Veazie, Maine 04401

Dear Mark:

This letter is meant to serve as a written follow up to the letter that you sent to me dated 6.12.2003 pertaining to the status of Mutton Lane.

At the present time, Mutton Lane is considered a non-accepted right of way. The roadway was never constructed to Town standards nor accepted and it seems to be a part of a possible illegal subdivision. I should note that the Town has never taken action against the development to this point in time. From past reviews of the situation of Mutton Lane it has been deemed very unlikely that the Town could take over maintainance on the roadway without significant levels of investment being made by the residents to bring the roadway up to Town "acceptance standards". Please find enclosed a copy of the acceptance standards as outlined in the Town's land use ordinance. The second major problem that would also have to be addressed is that the Town has no formal manner legally to access Mutton lane. The Town does not have an easement or property rights through the Grey Stone Trailer Park at this point in time. For a roadway to be accepted, the roadway must be contiguous to the Town's existing roadway system.

The Town Council will be taking this matter up at their next Town Council meeting on June 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. They expressed a need to review the situation with the Code Enforcement officer in greater detail. I would encourage you and the other residents of Mutton Lane to attend this meeting to express your concerns.

If you have any additional question or concerns please feel free to contact me at the Town office at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely

William Reed  
Manager

Cc: Margaret Sudborough  
Mr. and Mrs. Walker

**PRESENT:** Chairman Friedman, Councilor Cheney, Councilor Kelly and Councilor Hogan; Manager Reed, Assistant Clerk K. Gifford, Police Chief Mark Leonard, CEO Allan Thomas, Members of the Public Joan Perkins, Mark Janicki, Lisa Janicki, Harold Walker, Karen Walker, Freeland Jones and Margaret Sudborough.

**ITEM 1.** The June 30, 2003 Veazie Town Council was called to order at 7:00 PM.

**ITEM 2.** **Consideration of minutes:** Motion By: Councilor Kelly—to accept June 16, 2003 minutes as written. Seconded: Councilor Hogan, Voted 4-0 in favor.

**ITEM 3.** **Consideration of the Agenda:** There were no additions made to the agenda.

**ITEM 4a. Mutton Lane Discussion**

Manager Reed outlined that he had received a letter from Mark Janicki regarding the maintenance of Mutton Lane. Manager Reed stated he replied to Mark Janicki and invited him as well as the other residents on Mutton Lane to attend the Council meeting.

Manager Reed outlined that under the land use ordinance Mutton Lane is a non-accepted right of way, it was never constructed to Town standards. Currently there are two problems that exist with Mutton Lane. First the roadway is not built to Town standards and second it does not adjoin to an existing Town maintained roadway. Manager Reed outlined that the Town does not have a fee simple easement through the Greystone Trailer Park and the Town doesn't have the right or ability to maintain the private park.

Councilor Cheney asked if Greystone Trailer Park would be coming under new ownership. CEO Thomas stated that most likely the park would be changing owners. Councilor Cheney recommended working with the new owner for a right of way.

Member of the public Freeland Jones stated that he didn't understand why the Town was getting involved. He outlined that in the deed it stated the road was on private land and that it is up to the property owners to maintain the road.

Member of the public Mark Janicki inquired on who actually owned the road. CEO Thomas stated that the Town owns the property which the non-accepted road lies on. Manager Reed outlined that the road was

acquired through a tax interest, however, the Town does not hold a maintenance agreement on it due to the fact that the roadway is non-accepted. The owners of the property are allowed to use the road and can maintain it. The roadway would have to be brought up to Town standards and would have to be connected to the Town roadway system. In general, the Mutton Lane residents' ownership interest, property deeds, outlined that there is a right to travel the way.

Member of the public Mark Janicki stated that if it is the responsibility of the property owners to maintain the road then they would like to post it as private to stop kids and ATVs from coming up and destroying the road. Manager Reed outlined that in order to make it a private way all abutters would have to agree, however, the Town cannot deny access to open space so the road would not be posted as private.

Member of the public Mark Janicki stated that his motivation was very positive when writing the letter. He wants to do whatever he can to maintain and improve the Town. He stated that if the property owners spend their money to maintain repairs who is liable if someone gets hurt on the road. Manager Reed outlined that the Town has coverage for all Town owned property.

Councilor Hogan stated that the Town will take it under consideration and look into it further. The Town will look at where it stands legally and get input from the new owners of the trailer park if everything goes through, which should be at the end of July.

Member of the public Karen Walker asked why the Town couldn't acquire land from the Davis' and Mutton Lane could be connected to Silvers Park or the new subdivision going in on Chase Road.

Member of the public Karen Walker outlined that it was mentioned in the letter Manager Reed sent out that Mutton Lane was an illegal subdivision. She outlined that at the time everything was legal and the Town also issued building permits to the property owners. CEO Thomas stated that he has left the matter as "it's legal" until proven otherwise.

Manager Reed stated he will send the residents a letter to notify them when the Council will meet again to discuss the issue. Member of the public Mark Janicki asked who was liable and if he and the other residents have the right to deny access. Manager Reed stated that if it is Town owned property it is insured. He added that he would speak with the Town attorney to see if the road can be posted to not allow vehicles like ATVs and motorcycles.

**ITEM 4b. Goals & Objectives Discussion**

Manager Reed passed out the goals and objections for 2003. Councilors were given a blank form to fill in their goals and objections for 2003-2004. These were completed and given to the Town Manager to draft up a complete list.

**ITEM 5ai. Code Enforcement and Assessing Appointment**

Manager Reed stated that it was time for the annual appointments for the Code Enforcement Office and the Assessing Office. Councilor Cheney stated that in light of CEO Thomas' personal matters that perhaps John Ellis' name should be added in the motion. Manager Reed outlined that it was not necessary. As John Ellis becomes certified he will be appointed to duties.

Motion By: Councilor Cheney—to appoint Allan Thomas to the following positions for the ensuing fiscal year 2003-2004: Tax Assessor, Code Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector, Plumbing Inspector, Electrical Inspector and as the Town Council designee for "minor" pole location permits. Seconded: Councilor Hogan, Voted 4-0 in favor..

**ITEM 5aii. Budget Committee Member Appointment**

Manager Reed introduced Joan Perkins to the Council. He outlined that she serves as chairwoman of the Parks & Recreation Committee. Councilor Cheney asked if there was a conflict of interest where she serves on the committee. Manager Reed stated that she can and that she may abstain from commenting on the Parks & Recreation budget if a conflict exists. Joan Perkins stated that she is looking at this as a learning experience. This will allow her to give an intelligent and an informed answer to questions regarding the budget.

Motion By: Councilor Hogan—to appoint Joan Perkins to the Town Budget Committee for a one-year term ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Seconded: Councilor Cheney, Voted 4-0 in favor.

**ITEM 6. Comments from the Public**

Member of the public Freeland Jones asked what the purpose of Town Meeting was. Chairman Friedman stated that it is to approve the budget. Member of the public Freeland Jones asked if the Town ran the Town meeting or Maine Municipal Association. He outlined that he had heard that people were not allowed to speak. Chairman Friedman stated that everyone who wanted to speak were allowed to speak. Chairman Friedman stated that Manager Reed will contact Maine Municipal Association and contact Freeland Jones pertaining to his concerns.

**ITEM 7.      Manager's Report**

- a.) The Council reviewed a copy of the letter that was drafted up in support of the Bangor-to-Old Town Recreation and Conservation Corridor.

Manager Reed outlined that the Veazie 150<sup>th</sup> celebration is coming up. Councilor Cheney inquired why there wasn't a parade anymore. Manager Reed explained that there would have been 300 or so Shriners and only a couple local groups in the parade. The 150<sup>th</sup> Committee and Chief Leonard discussed it and decided not to have the parade. Manager Reed added that the weekend after the fourth of July isn't the best time to have a parade.

**ITEM 8.      Requests for Information/Council Comments:** There were no requests for information or comments from the Council.

**ITEM 9.      Warrants:** Town Warrant 26 & 26A, Town Payroll 26, School Warrant 26, School Lunch Warrant 26 and School Payroll 26 were circulated and signed.

**ITEM 10.     Adjournment:** Motion: Councilor Hogan—to adjourn June 30, 2003, Town Council Meeting. Seconded: Councilor Cheney, Voted 4-0 in favor. There was no further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Karen Gifford  
Assistant Clerk

Councilor Hogan asked if there was a possibility that the Town's rebate from PERC could change. Manager Reed outlined that the Town's rebate depends on the profitability of PERC and tipping fees.

Councilor Cheney stated that she would like to see some figures on tonnage and costs.

Motion By: Councilor Cheney—to allow Town staff to negotiate a new multi-year consolidated service contract with Waste Management which will include the new guidelines of transfer station usage and other matters associated with bulk wastes, brown goods and universal waste. Seconded: Councilor Champaco, Voted 4-0 in favor.

**ITEM 5a. Water Project Update**

Jim Parker was present to give an update on the water project. The new water line is installed and will need to be flushed and disinfected which will be done this week. Tomorrow the rest of the pavement will be finished weather permitted. Jim Parker noted that the water line that runs beyond the Stonehouse Cafe is only two inches wide and would not be able to service a hydrant in the park.

Manager Reed stated that he spoke with the park's owner and the correct size line will be installed so that a hydrant will be able to be placed in the park. The owner, Mark Mullins, committed that he would work with the Town to create an escrow to put a hydrant in the park.

Manager Reed stated that he would like to work out an escrow agreement to get this project finished in the spring as well as get the roads paved after all construction is completed. He would also like to work something out so that the Town would have a public right-of-way through the park back to Mutton Lane.

Councilor Hogan asked if Manager Reed had a dollar amount for the escrow. Manager Reed stated that he is looking at an amount of \$25,000.

Councilor Hogan stated that he would like the Town to have the escrow by the end of the year, December 31st. Chairman Friedman agreed.

Jim Parker also had an update on the issue of encroachment on Hobson Avenue. The survey done shows the same thing the Town's tax maps do. There is no physical encroachment of structure and no right-of-way encroachment by the Town unto the property of Roderick Hathaway. The road is not straight in the right-of-way but it will stay within the right-of-way. Jim Parker outlined that the Code Enforcement Officer might review if the park's structures are within proper setbacks.

**ITEM 6. Public Comments:** There were no comments from the public.

**ITEM 7. Manager's Report:**

- a. The Council reviewed a copy of a proposal that the Town submitted to the Veazie Sewer District pertaining to the Town's former standby power



- The final paving will be delayed for another year.
  - The Planning Board continues to work with consultants on the long-term strategies on improvements that will enhance the village area. The Town's staff has work with a developer to address historical housing over commercial spaces in the past month.
  - The Town's staff continues to work with the current tenants of the former Community Center in addressing the capital improvements of the facility. The tenants have painting the interior and replacing the exit doors with limited Town assistance. The current tenant has also assisted in regular maintenance of the building and has continued to be quite helpful with the protection of the facility.
- **Land Conservation Strategic Plan** – At the present time, the Town's Conservation Commission and Planning Board are working on numerous projects which entail:
- The Conservation Committee has begun its invasive species removal program with the Town's forester at the Buck Hill Lot.
  - The Town finished with its State Forestry Grant.
  - The Town's staff and planning board continues to working with PDI (Planning Decisions Inc.) on creating solutions regarding TDR's (Transfer Development Rights) or other instruments of conservation such as conservation easements, etc.
  - The Conservation Commission with the Town Forester has had Mutton Lane trimmed back. The prison crew from Charleston performed the work.
  - The Town's public works department placed new recycled asphalt product (RAP) on Mutton Lane in order to control erosion concerns. They also installed new manhole covers as a safety matter.
  - The Committee is also proposing expanding the access of lands by acquiring the concurrent areas via the open space requirement in the Town's land use ordinance.
  - The Town forest has been certified as a green woodlot.
- **Strategic Economic Development** - At the present time the Town has addressed its strategy in the following manner:
- We will be working with any viable business that presents a development plan that matches the Town's long-term development plans and Veazie's new Comprehensive Plan.
  - We believe that the Town's past success should foster a positive feeling with national site selectors pertaining to the Town's special niche in the power production industry. This niche should provide the Town with options far into the future - power production will always be needed.

2004-2005 Goals & Objectives

development of a community master plan. As you may recall the conversion and renovation of the former J.R. Graham School into affordable senior housing, earned us an award of the Governors Affordable Housing Conference in 2002. The project set us on the right path of addressing the visual blight of the Village area.

➤ **Land Conservation Strategic Plan** – At the present time, the Town's Conservation Commission and Planning Board are working on numerous projects which entail:

- The Conservation Committee has begun its invasive species removal program with the Town's forester at the Buck Hill Lot.
- The Town finished with its State Forestry Grant.
- The Town's staff and planning board continues to working with PDI (Planning Decisions Inc.) on creating solutions regarding TDR's (Transfer Development Rights) or other instruments of conservation such as conservation easements, etc.
- The Conservation Commission with the Town Forester has had Mutton Lane trimmed back. The prison crew from Charleston performed the work.
- The Town's public works department placed new recycled asphalt product (RAP) on Mutton Lane in order to control erosion concerns. They also installed new manhole covers as a safety matter.
- The Committee is also proposing expanding the access of lands by acquiring the concurrent areas via the open space requirement in the Town's land use ordinance.
- The Town forest has been certified as a green woodlot.

➤ **Strategic Economic Development** - At the present time the Town has addressed its strategy in the following manner:

- We will be working with any viable business that presents a development plan that matches the Town's long-term development plans and Veazie's new Comprehensive Plan.
- We believe that the Town's past success should foster a positive feeling with national site selectors pertaining to the Town's special niche in the power production industry. This niche should provide the Town with options far into the future - power production will always be needed.
- We know that the major key to Veazie maintaining this economic development advantage is that we must protect and be aware of State and Federal laws that would affect air emission licensing and other environmental laws, which would directly affect the power production industry.

2003 - 2004 Goals & Objectives

- The Conservation Commission with the Town Forester has had Mutton Lane trimmed back once again. The prison crew from Charleston performed the work.
- The Town's public works department placed rebuilt a section of Mutton Land in order to address a NEPDES complaint. Additional erosion controls were installed with new ditches.
- The Town forest's Chestnut Tree farm has received national recognition in several newsletters and magazines..

➤ **Strategic Economic Development** - At the present time the Town has addressed its strategy in the following manner:

- We will be working with any viable business that presents a development plan that matches the Town's long-term development plans and Veazie's Comprehensive Plan.
- We believe that the Town's past success should foster a positive feeling with national site selectors pertaining to the Town's special niche in the power production industry. This niche should provide the Town with options far into the future - power production will always be needed.
- We know that the major key to Veazie maintaining this economic development advantage is that we must protect and be aware of State and Federal laws that would affect air emission licensing and other environmental laws, which would directly affect the power production industry.
- Veazie must ensure that long-term "redevelopment" or "retooling" options exist for the power production/ industrial zone. Town staff and advisors will continue to work with all boards to ensure that options are not impeded.

➤ **Code Enforcement Review/Standards**

- Code Enforcement has reviewed business compliance, residential compliance, and other immediate violations of the Town's ordinances.
- We have acknowledged that at times the department continues to be over tasked. The department has done very well with prioritizing items and utilizing the part time individual.
- The part-time individual who serves as backup to the primary individual is working on average 10 to no more than 20 hours per week. The part-time position is address NPDES and drainage study issues and is performing CEO inspection function while the Assessor is dealing with Abatement requests and property reviews.
- The department continues to work with all boards and committees to refine ordinances.

2006-2007 Goals & Objectives

by the Public Works Department. He outlined that the Town could purchase a good system for around \$10,000. Crack sealing frequently would add life to the road.

There was discussion on using the \$120,000 the Town currently has to smooth out bond payments.

It was the consensus to come back to the next meeting with some projections on total savings should the Town go the bonding route.

**ITEM 5b. Stormwater Update**

CEO Allan Thomas outlined that Manager Reed had appointed him to head up this issue. It is a five year plan and it has various stages that the Town has to complete. These included public awareness, public participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site management, post construction and lastly good housekeeping. He outlined that various municipality and other institutes have joined together to make the Bangor Area Stormwater Group to tackle this issue together. The group must submit their next five year plan to DEP by October 27<sup>th</sup>.

**ITEM 5c. RSU Update**

There was discussion on changing the Town's charter regarding the School Committee. Manager Reed outlined that State law supersedes the charter and that it can just be left in the charter in the case that down the road the Town ends up having a school committee again.

**ITEM 6. Comments From The Public**

Jim Parker outlined that he had been appointed by the Governor to the Kindergarten through Adult Education Committee.

He also outlined that the Water District is doing studies on a \$1 million to \$1.5 million upgrade water plan. It shouldn't directly affect rates.

**ITEM 7. Manager's Report**

- a. The Town Council reviewed a copy of Bangor Hydro's pole permit application that the Town is applying for to locate flags on.
- b. The Town Council reviewed a copy of the request that Dynegy has made on behalf of Casco Bay Energy, Inc. This follows the TIF agreement guidelines and the reimbursement request form has been officially filed.

**ITEM 8. Requests for Information and Town Council Comments**

Manager Reed outlined that the next meeting fell on a holiday. It was the consensus of the Council to cancel the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Councilor Perkins inquired on how much of Mutton Lane does the Town own or is responsible for. Manager Reed stated that the Town is not responsible for its maintenance because it is not a Town approved road. The Town does own a portion of the roadway. He outlined that the Town has a right of way and can improve it for our own use such as emergency vehicle passage. He added that it is still considered an illegal subdivision.

Councilor Perkins also inquired about putting a crosswalk by the Greystone Trailer Park entrance over across the road to the railroad tracks. Manager Reed outlined that it would not be possible because crosswalks have to actually go to somewhere safe.

**ITEM 9. Warrants:** Town Warrant 7 & 7A, Town Payroll Warrant 7, School Lunch Warrant 7 & 7A, School Warrant 7 and School Payroll Warrant 7 were circulated and signed.

**ITEM 10. Adjournment:** Motion: Councilor Perkins—to adjourn the September 29, 2008 Town Council Meeting. Seconded: Councilor Parker—there was no further discussion. Voted 3-0. Meeting adjourned 8:00 pm.

*A true record, Attest:*

*Karen Humphrey  
Deputy Clerk  
Town of Veazie*

## **AGENDA NOTES and MANAGER'S REPORT**

For Monday April 27th @ 7 PM the Veazie Town Council Chambers

### **ITEM 4A: Fire Truck Submittal Review:**

Please find enclosed a ranking sheet. We would request that you place your ranking of the fire departments that you found in need. The ranking will be from one through five. One being a community of great need, five being the community with the least need in the final group. Staff then will tally the rankings at the meeting. It would then be recommended that discussion be opened up on the scores and any possible award.

It is also staff's recommendation that any community chosen be made to sign off on the agreement of "use form" that is being developed by staff. We are copying a form from the documents that we sign off on for federal government surplus equipment.

### **ITEM 4B: Meeting Schedule Discussion:**

Please find enclosed a memo for clarification purposes pertaining to public notice requirements for Town Council meetings. At the last meeting some incorrect information was stated pertaining to notice requirements for Town Council meetings. In general, a "Public Hearing" requires seven days notice and requires a publication in a newspaper. The memo enclosed details the requirements for a Town Council meeting notification. Typically we post notices on Friday for a Monday meeting.

### **ITEM 4C: Managers Review and Discussion:**

Please find enclosed a copy of my self-evaluation form with comments filled out.

### **ITEM 6.**

Please find enclosed:

- a) A copy of an invitation to a presentation of a senior capstone group on the Mutton Lane drainage issue. The group will be submitting a report to the Town in the coming month. The project was their senior year planning project.
- b) FYI- the Budget Committee and department heads met Tuesday night to go over the budget. All looks to be going very smoothly for the Town's budget. The only concern is with the new RSU and how everything will be transferred over and the new budget implementation.

2009

Chairman Perkins stated that he had a big problem with part D of the policy. He wants the Council to be involved in choosing contracted services. He'd hate for the Town to adopt a document that has loop holes it.

Councilor Hathaway stated that he didn't have a problem with the policy in general but he does have a problem with the values and not involving the Council. A purchase of \$25,000 or over should be initiated with the Council and the Council should be able to say whether it's a good time for the purchase. He would like the Council to be involved in all capital expenditures.

Chairman Perkins stated they would table the issue and give any suggestions to Manager Reed for a revised policy.

**ITEM 4c. Mutton Lane Discussion**

Chairman Perkins asked who was responsible for plowing Mutton Lane. Superintendent of Public Works Butch Free outlined that he has never been responsible for plowing it, however he has done it on a few occasions due to public safety. CEO/Assessor Allan Thomas outlined that the Town owns the road. Manager Reed explained that the road is not an town accepted road. Chairman Perkins outlined that since the residents on the road are taxpayers shouldn't the Town plow it. Manager Reed outlined that the road doesn't come close to town specifications and he's not sure if it even meets dirt road standards. Councilor Parker outlined that the residents bought the land knowing it was a right of way.

Chairman Perkins inquired whether the Town was opening itself up to liability by fixing it. There were questions on entering a private property to access the road, and public safety vehicles being able to get up there and liabilities. Manager Reed will consult the Town attorney on all issues and report back to the Council.

**ITEM 4d. Budget Discussion**

Chairman Perkins outlined that it is always discussed about starting the budget process earlier but it never quite happens. Would like to see it happen this year. He also outlined that some of the members of the Budget Committee feel like a "rubberstamp" committee.

It was discussed that the Budget Committee and the Town Council would like to see a line item budget for expenditures.

Manager Reed stated there was a budget meeting schedule in their packet. The next scheduled meeting is January 25<sup>th</sup> and he will talk with the committee and see what they would like to do. He also outlined that he could understand how it might seem like "rubberstamping" when over the past three years the work projects and work programs have remained the same due to the LD1 cap. The budgets have not really changed.

Chairman Perkins noted that there were no meetings in February or March and that's time they could be meeting. He would like to see the department heads put something together and come present it to the committee. Manager Reed outlined that the department heads develop their budgets during February/March.



Donald MacKay outlined that the Community Center Redevelopment Advisory Committee has submitted for a grant and should hear back on that in April. Currently they are trying to figure out what kind of different uses should be there.

Parks & Recreation Director Rob Young stated that he has classes and activities that could utilize that space. CEO Allan Thomas pointed out that it is not accessible and the current business there is grandfathered.

Councilor Hathaway outlined that there needs to be a firm commitment on Mr. Kennedy's part. There needs to be a signed lease in writing and he has to pay the Town monthly. Councilor Hathaway suggested finding out what the going rental rate is for similar places and the monthly cost to keep the building going and come back to the next meeting to discuss this more.

Chairman Perkins outlined that the example lease agreement provided was a bit too much and perhaps have it month to month as to not tie the community center up.

**ITEM 5c. Mutton Lane**

Councilor Perkins outlined that the Town owns Mutton Lane, it owns the right of way, it has to use Mutton Lane to access the city forest and it has paid for improvements on it, so why not plow it.

Manager Reed outlined that the Town Attorney has advised staff not to plow Mutton Lane anymore due to the fact that the Town does not have a use that occurs up there in the winter time. The only time the Town should plow it is if there is an active fire and the Fire Chief says he cannot get the fire truck up there. Since it is a non-accepted way he also advised that the only time the Town should maintain it is when the Town is actively doing work up there. Manager Reed reiterated that the road is a non-accepted roadway, it does not meet Town guidelines.

**ITEM 6. Comments from the Public**

There were no comments from the public.

**ITEM 7. Manager's Report**

Manager Reed outlined that enclosed in the packet was a copy of the final resolution to the Department of Labor's review. Staff worked to reduce the original fines of around \$6,000 down to a \$700 penalty.

A copy of the Budget Committee's meeting schedule was included.

A copy of the Penobscot River Loop Trail Conceptual Plan was included. It was developed by BACTS and EMDC.

A municipal calendar was provided to each Councilor.

**ITEM 8. Requests for Information and Town Council Comments**

There was discussion on Bangor Hydro fixing street lights. It seemed that the light would be repaired faster if a resident called or emailed rather than the Town contacting them.



# **Manager's Report For February 23, 2015 Council Meeting**

Since the last council meeting here are some things I've been working on and/or have been occurring around Town:

As discussed at the last meeting snow had to be removed from a section of the roof in the police department and additional snow had to be removed from the roof over the fire department office. Both of these areas will have to be looked at by the roofing company in the spring

I have been in discussions with Supt Lyons and Accountant Costello on getting the school their own employee identification number. This will help the business office as they prepare payroll and report/pay necessary taxes. We have looked at this in the past and were unable to finalize the process. It appears with the new business office this will be able to occur

I attended the Thriving in place community planning meeting in Old Town. This meeting was attended by Councilor Walker as well. The next meeting will be held here in the Council Chambers

I have sent an email to the sewer districts board chair on future road projects and I also requested the assessment letter from them. As of this writing I have not heard back from them.

I have sent an email to the interim Supt. of the Water District to inquire on future projects they may have planned in the Town of Veazie. A response has been received and is included in the attachments. In brief no future projects are planned for FY 15/16

I continue to review all of the Fire Departments standard operating guidelines/policies. This is being done with the Fire Department Officers as we try to standardize all of them for consistency.

A fire department officers meeting was had to discuss ideas for FY 15/16 budget. We also discussed additional fire dept. business

I have emailed Phil Ruck and requested a more detailed report on the storm drains needing repair. I have spoken to him since the email and he will be providing the report. We also spoke about additional cost that may be associated with an audit. Additional information will be received on this in the future.

Over the weekend I was notified by the tenant that the heating system at the community center was not working properly. I was able to determine that the regulator valve had ice buildup on it. I was able to resolve this issue and the heat was restored to the building.

The process has been started for the Tree City USA Grant. I am working with the conservation commission on an Arbor Day Celebration including the possibility of providing seedlings to citizens for planting. More information will be provided on this in the future.

# **Manager's Report For February 23, 2015 Council Meeting**

I have completed the Penobscot County Hazard Mitigation Planning Municipal Survey for 2015. I will be attending a meeting on Feb 27 from 930-1100 reference the planning process for this.

I have met with the Interim Director of the Water District and we spoke about reimbursement for clearing fire hydrants. Neither of us were able to find any written agreement on this. We did find meeting minutes from 1993 that discussed reimbursement but the Town has never acted upon this. We learned that the Town of Orono gets \$2000.00 for clearing 163 hydrants. Using that formula Veazie has 66 hydrants and should be reimbursed in the amount of \$810.00. He has requested an invoice for this amount for accounting purposes. We also agreed that it may be time to look at this again to see if the amount should change for both communities. It's my recommendation that we look at this once the new director is appointed.

I was able to take vacation with my children for a few days during school vacation.

#### **Attachments:**

Information on Penobscot River Restoration Project

Email to Sewer District on future projects

Email to Water District on future projects

Information from Orono Manager Wilson on OVWD Meeting

Response from Water District Director

Legislative Bulletin number 5

Bangor Daily News article on the Election of Joan Perkins as Chair of Water District

Email from State Representative Peter Lyford

# PENOBSCOT RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT



## The Science of River Restoration

Since 2009, researchers including collaborators from the University of Maine, Penobscot Indian Nation, The Nature Conservancy, state and federal agencies, and other partners in the Penobscot River Restoration Project have been collecting data on river conditions and fish communities to document how removal of dams and other improvements to fish passage change the river system. This important monitoring helps tell the story of the benefits of re-opening our rivers to sea-run fish and Penobscot watershed communities. Before the annual spring fish migrations mark the beginning of the field season, we will share early findings of the research in the 2015 Penobscot River Research Newsletter, as well as presentations at upcoming events, including the [Maine Water & Sustainability Conference in March](#) and the [71st Annual Northeast Fisheries & Wildlife Conference in April](#). A great way to learn more about Penobscot River research is to join our science monitoring coordinator Molly Payne Wynne and a panel of researchers at the inaugural [Maine Science Festival](#) on March 21st in Bangor!

[Learn more about Penobscot River Science](#)



'Tis the Season ... in early March of last year, Dan McCaw, fisheries biologist for the Penobscot Nation Department of Natural Resources, partnered with Maine Department of Marine Resources biologists and volunteers to plant Atlantic salmon eggs in Mattamiscontis Stream. This will be repeated in a few weeks, and we will report back on how this method is helping to boost salmon populations here and in other watersheds in our March E-news!

## Save these Dates!

[Cabin Fever Reliever](#)  
Brewer Auditorium  
February 28 - March 1, 2015

[77th Annual Eastern Maine Sportsman Show](#)  
Orono, ME  
March 6-7, 2015

[Maine Science Festival](#)  
Bangor, ME  
March 20-22, 2015

The vast Penobscot River watershed stretches from Katahdin to the sea. With the lower river open after successful removal of the Great Works (2012) and Veazie (2013) dams, construction of the Howland fish bypass will allow Atlantic salmon, American shad and other sea-run fish to reach important spawning and nursery grounds in the Piscataquis River, above.

In the News: Howland Bypass

## A River of Races

Preparations for the 2015 ACA Whitewater Open Canoe National Championships have expanded to include the ACA Whitewater Kayak National Championships, the first ever ACA Whitewater SUP (Stand-up Paddleboard) National Championships, and the USA Wildwater Northeast Regional Championships to accommodate growing interest in the races and the different styles of boats used for whitewater recreation. The five-day Penobscot River Whitewater Nationals Regatta will bring competitors from around the country to the Penobscot River; funds raised will support completion of the Penobscot River Restoration Project and development of a Penobscot Nation youth paddling club. The race committee is seeking volunteers to help out along the river and at race headquarters during the event. Stay tuned for more information!

*"I think (the championship is) a celebration of restoring the river to a free-flowing state and people who come from away to experience it are going to go home with an understanding of what a river can be when it's returned to its natural state."*

**- Jeff Owen, youth outreach director at the Maine Canoe and Kayak Racing Organization.**

In the News: Portland Press Herald: Whitewater Open Canoe Championship Returns to Maine

JOIN THE CONVERSATION and FOLLOW US for  
PROJECT UPDATES

## Kids Central: Celebrating Endangered Species Day Activities

Bangor, ME  
May 2, 2015

Bradley Fish Festival  
Leonards Mills  
May 23, 2015

Penobscot River Whitewater Nationals Regatta  
July 22-26, 2015

## Call for Volunteers!

We are looking for volunteers to help staff our booth at the Cabin Fever Reliever and the Eastern Maine Sportsmen Show (see links above for dates and more information). Please contact Cheryl Daigle at 207-232-9969 or email [cheryl@penobscotriver.org](mailto:cheryl@penobscotriver.org).



*Visitors viewing the alewife run at Blackman Stream in 2014.*

Interested in sharing your knowledge about alewife restoration and fish passage? Leonards Mills in Bradley seeks volunteers to talk about alewife restoration and the rock and pool fishway at Blackman Stream during their first annual fish festival scheduled for May 23rd, their Living History Days, and other events.

Contact them at 207-974-6278 or

Like us on Facebook Follow us on  **twitter**[info@maineforestandloggingmuseum.org](mailto:info@maineforestandloggingmuseum.org)Penobscot River  
Restoration Trust

The Penobscot River Restoration Project is an unprecedented collaboration between the Penobscot Indian Nation, seven conservation groups, hydropower companies, and state and federal agencies, to restore 11 species of sea-run fish to the Penobscot River, while maintaining energy production.

### THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE PENOBSCOT RIVER RESTORATION TRUST

Penobscot River Restoration Trust  
P.O. Box 5695  
3 Wade Street  
Augusta, ME 04332  
(207) 430-0175

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Penobscot River Restoration Trust | P.O. Box 5695 | Augusta | ME | 04332



Message

Wed, Feb 11, 2015 10:50 AM

From:  **Mark Leonard**To:  Rob TomilsonCc:  **Mark Leonard**

Subject: Future Projects

Rob- Hope all is well! I believe you have an upcoming meeting, so I want to get these questions to you incase they required discussion at the meeting. First, do you have any scheduled projects for this coming season that may disrupt any roads in Town? I know work was taking place in an attempt to secure a grant for Oak Grove but was unsure of any other projects or the status of the Oak Grove project. As we begin the budget process I wanted to make sure if we could do a project together it would make much more sense then doing them separately. If you dont have any planned I will let you know what we plan on doing as we move forward, so you can prepare as well. Several roads have been mentioned but nothing has been finalized. Initial discussion is budgeting another \$150,000.00 for highway capital.

Secondly, last year it was mentioned that the Town's assessment would be dropping again this year, and I want to see if that was still the case and ask when I could expect the assessment letter?

Please let me know if you need anything additional from me. I look forward to your response.

Mark

Mark Leonard Town Manager  
Town of Veazie  
1084 Main Street  
Veazie, Maine 04401  
207-947-2781  
[mleonard@veazie.net](mailto:mleonard@veazie.net)

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Message

Wed, Feb 11, 2015 11:05 AM

From: **Mark Leonard**  
To: rhidu@woodardcurran.com  
Cc: **Mark Leonard**  
Subject: Future projects

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Ron- I hope you're getting settled into the water district ok. I believe you have an upcoming meeting so wanted to send you these questions in case they need discussion at the meeting.

First, I wanted to see if you had any projects scheduled for the coming season in Veazie that may disrupt the roads? We are looking at several roads, but if we are able to do a project in unison with the water district that makes more sense then us doing projects separately. If you dont have any scheduled, as I mentioned, we are looking at several roads and as we make a final determination on which ones we are going to work on I will make you aware.

Secondly, it has been brought to my attention, that at some point an agreement was enter into between the Town of Veazie and the Water District that we would be reimbursed \$1,500.00 for shoveling/clearing fire hydrants. We have done some research and can not find where we have been receiving that agreed upon amount for numerous years. I have spoken to the Fire Chief in Orono and he relays that the Town of Orono is receiving money from the water district for clearing fire hydrants. Im wondering what process we need to complete so that the town begins receiving the agreed upon money?

I look forward to your response.

Mark

Mark Leonard Town Manager  
Town of Veazie  
1084 Main Street  
Veazie, Maine 04401  
207-947-2781  
[mleonard@veazie.net](mailto:mleonard@veazie.net)

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Message

Thu, Feb 12, 2015 7:38 AM

From: Sophie Wilson <sophiew@orono.org>

To: "Cyndi M. Mehnert" <cmmehnert@hm-law.us>  
 "Geoff Gordon (Gordon.Geoff2@gmail.com)" <Gordon.Geoff2@gmail.com>  
 "Judith Sullivan (hogtown@myfairpoint.net)" <hogtown@myfairpoint.net>  
 "Lianne Harris (lharris@nehs.net)" <lharris@nehs.net>  
 "Mark Haggerty (Mark\_Haggerty@umit.maine.edu)" <Mark\_Haggerty@umit.maine.edu...>  
 "Thomas Spitz (spitz@maine.edu)" <spitz@maine.edu>  
 Tom Perry <TomPerry@MidMaine.com> Belle Ryder <belle@orono.org>  
 Cynthia Mehnert <cmehnert@orono.org> Geoffrey Gordon <ggordon@orono.org>  
 Judy Sullivan <jsullivan@orono.org> Thomas Perry <tperry@orono.org>  
 thomas spitz <tspitz@orono.org>

Cc: **Mark Leonard**

Subject: OVWD Trustee Meeting Update

Attachments: Attach0.html / Uploaded File

12K

Hello All,

Tuesday night, in on-going follow up to the concerns raised by the Council and community regarding the management and oversight of the Orono-Veazie Water District, I attended the monthly meeting of its Board of Trustees. The following update includes some items that I thought you would be interested in:

- The Trustees are planning to begin review of the application packets received for the vacant Superintendent position. There were ten applicants; however two have withdrawn from consideration. The Trustees will be meeting on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 6PM in the Orono Town Council Chambers for the expressed purpose of beginning this process. It is my understanding that the meeting will likely include some discussion in public about the needs of the district and then an executive session to review the specific candidates. OVWD has engaged Maine Municipal Association to guide them to through the hiring process.
- OVWD has joined with the Town on the Island Avenue road, sanitary sewer, storm water system to replace the very old cast iron water pipe (circa 1930's I think). The Trustees indicated support for this project. The bids are due in two weeks with the plan for the Council to consider the contract at its March meeting which is before the next regular Trustee Meeting.
- The contracted interim district manager, Ron Hidu, reported that there is a line break under the railroad tracks on Pine Street (between Beech and Elm Streets). The District will be making a two part repair – an emergency one yesterday which will cut and cap the lines on either side of the tracks and then a permanent repair this summer which will require them to bore under the tracks and reconnect the pipes.
- The Trustees discussed avenues for more effective communication with the public as well as upcoming grant opportunities that would allow for the District to undertake a hydrologic study of the system (which is a critical base needed to develop an effective master plan). I offered the Town's assistance converting audio or audio/visual files to a format that could be posted on their website, or our server with a link posted on their website. I also offered and encouraged them to utilize the

taping and broadcast capability of both Orono and Veazie Council Chambers.

- The Trustees elected Joan Perkins as Board Chair.
- The Trustees are still working through how to manage the financial needs of the District during the interim period. The Superintendent also served as the District's Treasurer and the District's governing documents expressly prohibit a Trustee from serving in this capacity. The Board articulated a clear plan of information gathering and the intent to solve the problem at next Tuesday's meeting.
- The Trustees discussed the need to respond to the letters that OVWD had received from the Orono and Veazie Town Councils.
- During the public comment period, an Orono resident strongly urged the Trustees to get the Board development training that the Orono Council had suggested.

I just wanted to provide an update for Councilors and make you aware that beginning in March, the Trustees will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month starting at 6:30PM. (The March meeting will likely occur in Veazie.)

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks,  
Sophie

Sophia L. Wilson, Town Manager  
Town of Orono  
59 Main Street  
Orono, Maine 04473  
Tel: (207) 866-2556 - (Town Office)  
Tel: (207) 889-6905 - (Direct)  
Fax: (207) 866-5053  
Email: [sophiew@orono.org](mailto:sophiew@orono.org)



Message

Thu, Feb 12, 2015 10:37 AM

From: **Mark Leonard**  
To: Ron Hidu <rhidu@woodardcurran.com>  
Cc: "Michelle Poole (info@ovwd.org)" <info@ovwd.org> **Mark Leonard**  
Subject: Re: Veazie Future Projects and Hydrant Plowing

---

Ron- Thank you for the follow up. At this time we have no reconstructions planned, but we will be looking to do numerous over lays. We had heard that you were looking at Thompson Road and that is one we would look to overlay. I have also heard that the sewer district was looking at Oak Grove. I sent them a similar email requesting future projects and have not heard form as of this writing.

I look forward to hearing back from you on the hydrant reimbursement.

Thanks again for the response. We too want to work together.

Mark

Mark Leonard Town Manager  
Town of Veazie  
1084 Main Street  
Veazie, Maine 04401  
207-947-2781  
[mleonard@veazie.net](mailto:mleonard@veazie.net)

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Ron Hidu <[rhidu@woodardcurran.com](mailto:rhidu@woodardcurran.com)> on Thursday, February 12, 2015 at 9:04 AM -0500 wrote:  
Mark:

Sorry not to get back to you sooner. We had a leak repair at a railroad crossing in Orono yesterday that was the major focus of the day.

Our Trustee meeting was Tuesday night. We are having another meeting this coming Tuesday, the 17th, strictly to meet with Maine Municipal Association and discuss the candidates for Superintendent. Our next monthly Trustee meeting is on March 10th. The Orono Council chambers are not available that night, and so we would likely want to hold the meeting in Veazie, if the chambers there are available at 6:30pm. Our meetings have typically run several hours, and I would expect the next one to be equally as long, so typically we might need the space until 9pm.

At present, the District is not proposing any District-initiated line replacements in Veazie this coming year. We absolutely would want partner with the Town whenever you are planning on a road reconstruction project where an aged water line is present. Orono is going to undertake the reconstruction of Island Avenue this coming construction season, and we will likely include a water line replacement as part of that project, assuming the pricing comes in at a reasonable level. Other than that, we will have a permanent repair at the railroad crossing that I mentioned above to undertake.

As part of his transition to me, Dennis mentioned that there was talk of an upcoming reconstruction project in Veazie. If you feel that that will be moving ahead, I would be very interested in talking to you about it and seeing what we each can do to make the projects as cost effective as possible.

As for the hydrant plowing payments...this is the first I have heard of it in regard to either Veazie or Orono. I will definitely look into it and meet with Michelle at the District office to get it straightened out. I will be back to you in the next few days on this with an answer.

Ron

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Leonard [<mailto:mleonard@veazie.net>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 11:05 AM

To: Ron Hidu

Cc: Mark Leonard

Subject: Future projects

Ron- I hope you're getting settled into the water district ok. I believe you have an upcoming meeting so wanted to send you these questions in case they need discussion at the meeting.

First, I wanted to see if you had any projects scheduled for the coming season in Veazie that may disrupt the roads? We are looking at several roads, but if we are able to do a project in unison with the water district that makes more sense then us doing projects separately. If you dont have any scheduled, as I mentioned, we are looking at several roads and as we make a final determination on which ones we are going to work on I will make you aware.

Secondly, it has been brought to my attention, that at some point an agreement was enter into between the Town of Veazie and the Water District that we would be reimbursed \$1,500.00 for shoveling/clearing fire hydrants. We have done some research and can not find where we have been receiving that agreed upon amount for numerous years. I have spoken to the Fire Chief in Orono and he relays that the Town of Orono is receiving money from the water district for clearing fire hydrants. Im wondering what process we need to complete so that the town begins receiving the agreed upon money?

I look forward to your response.

Mark

Mark Leonard Town Manager  
Town of Veazie  
1084 Main Street  
Veazie, Maine 04401

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207-947-2781

[mleonard@veazie.net](mailto:mleonard@veazie.net)

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## Public Hearings of Highest Importance Wednesday Feb. 18 and Thursday Feb. 19

Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 18 & 19, will provide municipal officials with the only formal opportunity during the 2015 legislative session to explain to lawmakers your position on the property tax-related proposals in Governor LePage's proposed state budget. These will be the most important public hearings of the year for local officials. Just as is the case with public hearings on the local level, these are the opportunities to show up and speak out, or forever hold your peace.

With respect to the municipal issues, the key public hearing dates next week are:

### **Wednesday, February 18 at 1:00 p.m.**

Proposal to repeal the municipal revenue sharing program.

### **Thursday, February 19 at 10:00 a.m.**

Proposal to make all taxable property in the BETR program exempt from taxation, and

Proposal to give telecommunications personal property to municipal tax jurisdictions.

### **Thursday, February 19 at 1:00 p.m.**

Proposal to eliminate the Homestead property tax exemption for homesteaders under 65 years of age,

Proposal to double the value of the Homestead exemption for homesteaders 65 years of age and older, and

Proposal to apply property taxes to 50% of the value of privately owned tax exempt institutions.

All of these public hearings will be held in the Appropriations Committee room (Room 228 of the State House).

What follows are the instructions for people wishing to testify at these public hearings as provided by the staff of the Appropriations Committee.

Before turning to those instructions, municipal officials often ask about the formal "salutations" used to introduce your testimony to the legislative committees. In this case, the written salutation would be:

"Senator Hamper, Representative Rotundo, members of the Appropriations Committee, Senator McCormick, Representative Goode, members of the Taxation Committee, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am testifying (in support or in opposition) to (identify the proposal) in the Governor's proposed state budget."

To save time in your limited 3-minute oral testimony, it would not be considered impolite to shorten the salutation to "Members of the Appropriations Committee and members of the Taxation Committee, my name is \_\_\_\_\_."

Here are the additional instructions from the Appropriations Committee staff:

For members of the public wishing to provide oral testimony:

- Plan your testimony to be 3 minutes or less – your *written* submittal can be as

*(continued on page 2)*

## Tax Committee Kills Local Option Real Estate Transfer Tax Bill

**(But it doesn't lose sight of revenue sharing connection)**

Between 2011 and 2015 the last several Maine legislatures have authorized the transfers of over \$281 million out of the municipal revenue sharing program and into the state's coffers, forcing municipalities to restrict the delivery of local government services and/or increase tax rates. Although prior to 2006 state lawmakers had been faithful to the commitment to share with municipalities 5% of state sales and income tax revenues, that pledge has been disregarded by lawmakers more aggressively each year. In 2015, municipalities will receive only \$60 million or 40% of the \$145 million statutorily promised to Maine's property taxpayers. As a result, municipal officials are seeking alternative sources of revenue.

Those requests for assistance have not fallen on deaf ears and some legislators are looking for alternative ways to generate local source revenues, including Rep. Adam Goode of Bangor and Sen. Nate Libby of

Androscoggin County, the cosponsors of LD 29, *An Act to Establish a Local Option Real Estate Transfer Tax*.

LD 29, which received a public hearing on Monday of this week, would authorize municipal voters through referendum to piggyback on the state's real estate transfer tax by applying a local transfer tax on sales of real estate of up to 1% of the transactional value. Under current law, the value of real estate transactions are taxed at a 4.4% rate, with 10% of that tax revenue accruing to the counties where the real estate transaction occurs and the remainder accruing to the state treasury. This local option tax could only be assessed if at least 20% of the voters casting ballots in the most recently held gubernatorial election participated in the authorizing referendum.

Speaking in favor of LD 29, Sen. Libby, who is also a City Councilor, illustrated

*(continued on page 2)*

## Public Hearings (cont'd)

long as you want.

- If you want to give the committees any written materials, submit **40 copies** to the committee clerk for distribution.

- Written testimony or back-up materials should include your name.

- Fill in the sign-up sheet. The sheets will be located either at a table in the hallway outside of the committee room or at the clerk's desk inside the committee room. Sign-ups will begin at 9:00 am for the morning hearings and 12:00 noon for the afternoon hearings. There will be no sign-ups after 5:00 pm though testimony will continue until everyone who has signed up has been called upon.

- Please print your name on the sheet as neatly as possible. This makes it easier for the Chairs to pronounce your name which will make it easier to know when your name is being called.

- If you are speaking on behalf of a group of people who wish to stand at the podium with you, please note the number after your name (e.g. Jane Doe (3))

- There will be a separate sign-up for the morning and afternoon hearing blocks on the 17, and 19. Make sure you sign up on the correct sheet. There is no morning block on the 18 so there will be only an afternoon sign-up sheet on that day. There is only one hearing block on Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup> that will begin in the morning (and likely last well into the afternoon) so there will be only one sign-up sheet on that day.

- The Welcome Center has been reserved for "overflow." The Welcome Center is found on the first floor, to the right after clearing the security screening area. If the AFA committee room is full you will be asked to wait there and listen to the proceedings. *The Chairs may periodically ask those not waiting*

### Legislative Bulletin

A weekly publication of the Maine Municipal Association throughout sessions of the Maine State Legislature.

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**Editorial Staff:** Geoffrey Herman. Kate Dufour, Garrett Corbin and Laura Ellis of the State & Federal Relations staff.

*to speak to go to the Welcome Center to listen to the proceedings. This will allow other interested parties a chance to attend the proceedings in person. Thank you, in advance, for your understanding and cooperation.*

- When it's approaching your time to speak, the Chairs will call your name. *Please note that the Chairs may, at their discretion, call a name out of order to ensure that they have heard testimony all of the topics within a hearing block noted on the sign-up sheets or to accommodate special needs. If your name was called out of order and you were not able to respond, it will be re-called in its normal sequence.*

- The Chairs will periodically announce the next few speakers to give those waiting in the Welcome Center a chance to get to the committee room.

- When it's your turn to speak give the committee clerk any written materials you want distributed. The clerk will be to your right as you face the committee.

- **If you do not want to give oral testimony but want to express your opinion:**

Come to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the State House on the day of the hearing, fill out a "Comment Sheet" and put it in the specially marked box. The box will be at the "sign-up table" outside of the committee room or the table just inside the committee room.

Or send an e-mail to [marianne.macmaster@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:marianne.macmaster@legislature.maine.gov) and she will forward your comments to the committee members.

Or mail your comments to: AFA Committee, 5 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333.

## Real Estate Transfer Tax Bill (cont'd)

how over the last few years the loss of revenue sharing in the City of Lewiston had detrimentally impacted the delivery of local government services. According to state law, Lewiston is scheduled to receive \$6.4 million in revenue sharing, but only \$2.5 million has actually been distributed, causing the city to cut \$1 million out of the municipal budget and reduce its workforce by 20%. According to Sen. Libby, there are no more cuts to be made, as the city can't keep up with its winter road maintenance responsibilities or mandated code enforcement responsibilities as it is. Sen. Libby estimates that providing the taxing authority found in LD 29 will enable the City to raise \$350,000 if a 0.5% tax was authorized by the voters, and up to \$700,000 if the full 1% was assessed on the value of the property sold.

As part of his testimony, Sen. Libby also offered an amendment to the bill designed to address several of the concerns raised by the county registers of deeds who, under LD 29, would be charged with collecting and dispersing to municipalities the real estate transfer tax revenues. One of the more significant amendments would have authorized counties to retain 10% of the generated revenue to cover administrative costs, which is the amount the counties are authorized to retain to administer the existing real estate transfer tax.

The Maine Municipal Association (MMA) provided testimony in support

of LD 29 on behalf of its 70-member Legislative Policy Committee (LPC), touting the initiative as a voluntary way for communities to recoup some of the revenue sharing losses and reduce property taxpayer burden.

The opponents to LD 29 included the Maine Association of Realtors, the Maine Farm Bureau and several different associations within county government, generally. The Realtors raised concerns that municipalities would use the taxing authority to discourage home sales within their municipal boundaries. The Maine Farm Bureau didn't think Maine farmers could afford the increased transfer taxes. Despite the challenges and burdens facing Maine property taxpayers who annually raise an estimated \$140 million to support county government functions, the Maine County Commissioner's Association (MCCA) and a spokesman for the Cumberland County commissioners also provided testimony in opposition to the initiative.

The county commissioners described the bill as an unfunded mandate placed on the county government departments that would be required to collect and distribute the tax revenue. The commissioners expressed concerns over the complications of managing a system where different communities might adopt different transfer tax rates and the difficulty of keeping

*(continued on page 4)*



# Governor's Proposed GA Reimbursement Formula – A Correction

In the Jan. 30, 2015 edition of the Legislative Bulletin, MMA described the Governor's FY 2016–2017 General Fund budget proposal seeking to amend the way in which the state would distribute General Assistance reimbursement. As proposed, municipalities would be reimbursed for 90% of the benefits provided to eligible applicants until the community distributes an amount of aid equal to 40% of its six year adjusted average. As soon as each municipality's GA spending reaches the proposed threshold, the state's share would drop to 10% for the remaining GA benefits issued during that fiscal year.

Our description of the calculation of the state share was nearly accurate, but not quite.

We thought the proposal would require the state to reimburse municipal GA expenditures at the rate of 90% until the municipal GA expenditures reached 40% of the town or city's six-year average, at which point the reimbursement rate would drop to 10%.

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is saying that the proposal will require the state to reimburse municipalities for their GA expenditures.

at a 90% reimbursement rate, until the amount of state reimbursement reaches 40% of the municipality's six-year average. At that point, the reimbursement rate would drop to 10% of all additional GA expenditures.

The DHHS explanation of the proposed reimbursement formula changes the impacts we originally projected, albeit in a generally modest way.

In the example printed as part of the Jan. 30 budget article, it was assumed that for a community with an average annual GA expenditure of \$10,000, which continues to provide \$10,000 in benefits, the state would be obligated to reimburse municipalities \$0.90 on every dollar of aid provided on the first \$4,000 and \$0.10 for every dollar expended thereafter, for total state reimbursement of \$4,200, or 42% of total expenditure. However, according to DHHS staff, in this example the community could issue up to \$4,444 in total GA benefits before the state's share of the GA expenditures is reduced to \$0.10 for each dollar of aid provided. Under the DHHS's calculation, this "status quo" community would receive \$4,556 in reimbursement, or nearly 46%, rather than \$5,000 under

the current 50% reimbursement law.

The table found below walks through the reimbursement calculation that would be used by the Department if the Governor's GA funding formula is enacted. Although the impacts are less municipally detrimental than originally estimated, the funding formula still disproportionately affects the major urban centers that play host to a majority of the GA clients statewide. There are three scenarios presented in the table, as well as the actual impacts for the City of Lewiston. With respect to the scenarios, it is assumed that in each case the calculated six year average GA expenditure is \$10,000. One community in these examples spends below the average, the second provides aid equal to the average and the third spends above the average.

In the first scenario the community distributes only \$8,000 and receives \$4,356 in state aid, 54% of total GA expenditures. Under the existing formula, this community would receive \$4,000.

In the second scenario the community provides its six-year average of \$10,000 in total GA benefits and receives \$4,556 in state reimbursement, or nearly 46% of

(continued on page 4)

Governor's Proposed GA Reimbursement				
	Below Average Expenditures	Average Expenditures	Above Average Expenditures	City of Lewiston
Total Average Annual GA Expenditures	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$825,037
40% of Total Average Expenditures	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$330,015
Total Aid Actually Provided	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$767,277
Total Aid Qualifying for 90% Reimbursement	\$4,444	\$4,444	\$4,444	\$366,683
Total Aid Qualifying for 10% Reimbursement	\$3,556	\$5,556	\$7,556	\$400,594
State Aid Provided @ 90% Level	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$330,015
State Aid Provided @10% Level	\$356	\$556	\$756	\$40,059
Total State Aid - Proposed	\$4,356	\$4,556	\$4,756	\$370,074
Total State Aid - Current	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$422,002
Impact on State Aid	\$356	\$(444)	\$(1,244)	\$(51,928)
% of Reimbursement - Proposed	54%	46%	40%	48%
% of Reimbursement - Current	50%	50%	50%	55%

# MMA's Teacher Retirement Funding Bill Heard

As the 70 members of the Maine Municipal Association's (MMA) Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) convened in Augusta on Thursday this week to take positions on 50 bills of municipal significance, the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee held a public hearing on LD 60, *An Act to Ensure Proper Funding for Teacher Retirement*. LD 60, which shifts back to the state the obligation to pay the "normal costs" of the school teachers' retirement premium, was advanced by the LPC as one of the planks of the Association's 2015–2016 legislative agenda.

As proposed, LD 60 would return to the state the responsibility for funding the "normal costs" of teacher retirement. In 2013, the funding policy was amended and the property taxpayers became responsible for paying nearly \$30 million in new K-12 education costs. In FY 2015, the local burden associated with teacher retirement is projected to increase to \$37 million, a 24% increase.

Municipal officials advanced the proposal as a means of controlling property tax increases for K-12 education spending. The control measure is of particular importance to the municipal community as the state continues to back away from its statutory requirement to fund 55% of the cost of public education. Municipal officials also support the bill on the principle that those who establish and provide the retirement benefits should pay the premiums.

Rep. Walter Kumiega of Deer Isle, the bill's primary sponsor, stressed that if the Legislature reversed its decision on the funding of teacher retirement it would send the message that the shortfalls in state revenues do not automatically result in increased property taxpayer burdens. A cosponsor of the bill, Rep. Paul Stearns of Guilford, honed in on the fact that since 1942, for purpose of the state retirement system only, teachers are state employees. As such, the cost of funding the benefits provided to that group of employees should be borne by the state as the employer.

In addition to MMA, the Mayor's Coalition, Maine School Boards and Superintendents' Association and the Maine Principals' Association, provided

testimony in support of LD 60. The proponents all focused on the need for the state to relieve the property taxpayers of this burden by honoring its longstanding obligation to fund the normal costs of teacher retirement.

The only opponent to the bill was a representative of the Department of Education. The Department believes that the normal costs of teacher retirement benefits should be calculated as a component

## Real Estate (cont'd)

track and making the correct payments. The commissioners expressed the belief that there are less onerous ways to generate local level revenues. When asked to provide examples of other local revenue generating options, the MCCA representative stressed the importance of the revenue sharing program.

Bill Whitten, representing the Cumberland County Commissioners, characterized the administrative task placed on county government as "horrible," with an estimated administrative cost of \$15,000. As an alternative, Mr. Whitten suggested that municipalities consolidate the delivery of services with other municipalities or the county. He questioned whether every municipality needed a public works department, describing the municipalities' equipment used to plow snow and maintain town and city roads as an ever expanding collection of Tonka toys.

Suzan Bulay, Penobscot County Register of Deeds, spoke "neither for nor against" LD 29 on behalf of the Maine Registers of Deeds Association. Although admitting that the 10% administration fee would help cover the counties' cost, the association of county registrars expressed concerns with the logistics and administration of the tax, primarily the challenges and costs associated with designing the computer software programs necessary to keep track of each community's adopted tax rate.

At the Committee's work session on LD 29, held on Wednesday of this week, Rep. Dianne Russell of Portland suggested that the bill could be made more palatable by allowing the counties to retain the

essential to providing K-12 education services and the expenses therefore should be shared between the state and the school districts. The Department also stated that since the districts set the teacher salaries on which the cost of retirement is based, the districts already have a say in determining retirement benefits costs. That is, a school system's exposure to the retirement costs is directly related to the teacher salaries the school system is willing to pay.

The fate of LD 60 is now in the hands of the Education Committee, which is scheduled to vote out its recommendation on the bill later this month.

transfer tax revenue with the direction to use the revenues to help provide or regionalize municipal services.

As the work session concluded, Sen. Nate Libby, a cosponsor of the bill, moved "ought not to pass" on LD 29 explaining that the bill was not yet ready for prime time. In their closing comments, Sen. Libby and Rep. Goode pointed out that if municipalities were to lose revenue sharing, then measures such as those found in LD 29 would become absolutely necessary. Both legislators believe that revenue sharing is the fairest way to relieve the burdens currently placed on the provision of local government services and the state's property taxpayers.

The Taxation Committee unanimously voted "ought not to pass" on LD 29.

## GA Reimbursement (cont'd)

the total aid provided. Under the existing formula, this community would receive \$5,000.

Finally, the third community provides \$12,000 in total GA benefits and receives \$4,756 in state reimbursement, 40% of the total aid provided. Under the existing formula this community would receive \$6,000.

The last column in the table shows that under the proposed formula the City of Lewiston would receive \$370,074 in state reimbursement, 48% of its total expenditures. Under the existing reimbursement formula, the City receives \$422,002, 55% of the total spending. If the Governor's proposal is enacted as is, Lewiston is expected to lose nearly \$52,000 each year in state reimbursement.

## LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS

*Note: You should check your newspapers for Legal Notices as there may be changes in the hearing schedule. For the Legislative Events Calendar, see the Legislature's web site at <http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/calendar/>. If you wish to look up schedules by Committee, go to <http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/phwksched.html>.*

### **Monday, February 16 – HOLIDAY**

### **Tuesday, February 17**

#### **Transportation**

**Room 126, State House, 9:30 a.m.**

**Tel: 287-4148**

LD 171 – An Act To Provide a License Plate Decal for Emergency Medical Service Providers.

#### **1:00 p.m.**

LD 28 – An Act To Return Fifty Percent of the Fine for a Violation of the Motor Vehicle Laws to the Municipality in Which the Violation Occurred.

LD 78 – An Act Regarding Limitations on Certain Storm Water Fees.

### **Wednesday, February 18**

#### **Appropriations & Financial Affairs in conjunction with the Taxation Committee**

**Room 228, State House, 1:00 p.m.**

**Tel: 287-1316**

Proposal to repeal Revenue Sharing component of Governor's proposed biennial state budget

#### **Taxation**

**Room 127, State House, 10:00 a.m.**

**Tel: 287-1552**

LD 64 – An Act To Reduce the Time within Which a Challenge to a Tax Lien Foreclosure May Be Filed.

LD 170 – An Act To Remove the 180-day Active Duty Requirement

for the Property Tax Exemption for Vietnam Veterans.

LD 191 – An Act To Require the Transfer of a Forest Management and Harvest Plan upon the Transfer of Land in the Tree Growth Tax Program.

### **Thursday, February 19**

#### **Appropriations & Financial Affairs in conjunction with the Taxation Committee**

**Room 228, State House, 10:00 a.m.**

**Tel: 287-1316**

Biennial state budget proposal to make all taxable property in the BETR program exempt from taxation.

Biennial state budget proposal to give telecommunications personal property to municipal tax jurisdictions.

#### **1:00 p.m.**

Biennial state budget proposal to eliminate the Homestead property tax exemption for homesteaders under 65 years of age.

Biennial state budget proposal to double the value of the Homestead exemption for homesteaders 65 years of age and older.

Biennial state budget proposal to apply property taxes to 50% of the value of privately owned tax exempt institutions.

#### **Health & Human Services**

**Room 209, Cross State Office Building, 9:30 a.m.**

**Tel: 287-1317**

LD 139 – An Act To Allow the Electronic Transfer of Marriage Certificates.

## IN THE HOPPER

(The bill summaries are written by MMA staff and are not necessarily the bill's summary statement or an excerpt from that summary statement. During the course of the legislative session, many more bills of municipal interest will be printed than there is space in the *Legislative Bulletin* to describe. Our attempt is to provide a description of what would appear to be the bills of most significance to local government, but we would advise municipal officials to also review the comprehensive list of LDs of municipal interest that can be found on MMA's website, [www.memun.org](http://www.memun.org).)

### **Appropriations & Financial Affairs**

LD 235 – An Act To Adjust Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of the Department of Education, the Maine Arts Commission and the Maine State Museum and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015. (Emergency) (Governor's Bill) (Sponsored by Rep. Rotundo of Lewiston; additional cosponsor.)

This is one of several supplemental state budget bills designed to balance the state budget for the current fiscal year (FY 2015). This bill is focused on the state budget associated with the Department of Education. Among the various appropriations, allocations and financial adjustments, this bill also establishes the system, beginning with FY 2016, whereby all of the public funding for public charter schools will be provided by state government, rather than shared contributions between the state and the local school system where the public charter school student resides.

### **Education & Cultural Affairs**

LD 231 – An Act To Ensure That Schoolchildren with Dyslexia Receive the Assistance Needed. (Sponsored by Rep. Morrison of

South Portland; additional cosponsors.)

This bill requires public school systems to conduct screenings of students from Kindergarten to grade 2 for dyslexia, as well as transfer students who have never been screened and students in grades 3 through grades 12 who have difficulty with a range of six tasks listed in the bill. The bill also creates the position of dyslexia consultant within the Department of Education to serve as the primary source of information and support for local school systems addressing the needs of students with dyslexia.

LD 265 – An Act To Require the State To Fund Public Charter Schools. (Sponsored by Rep. Higgins of Dover-Foxcroft; additional cosponsors.)

This bill requires the state to provide full funding of public charter schools rather than the current system, which shares the funding requirement between the state and the local school system that the student would be attending if not attending the public charter school.

LD 306 – Resolve. To Prevent Overpayment for Virtual Education. (Emergency) (Sponsored by Sen. Johnson of Lincoln City; additional cosponsors.)

This emergency resolve directs the Department of Education.  
(continued on page 6)

## **HOPPER (cont.)**

in conjunction with the Maine Education Policy Research Institute, to design an "essential programs and services" (EPS) funding model for virtual public charter schools and present its report to the Legislature by June 1, 2015 for further legislative consideration. The special EPS model for virtual charter schools must reflect evidence-based, appropriate costs, such as current staffing ratios, to determine the properly calculated per-pupil funding formulas.

**LD 311 – An Act To Improve Attendance at Public Elementary Schools.** (Sponsored by Sen. Libby of Androscoggin Cty; additional cosponsors.)

This bill gives school boards the authority to establish a younger compulsory age to attend public school, to as young as 5 years of age, and amends the laws governing truancy to allow for the enforcement of that compulsory age requirement if established.

### **Energy, Utilities & Technology**

**LD 273 – An Act To Encourage and Enhance the Future of Waste-to-energy Facilities by Establishing a Portfolio Requirement for Electricity from Waste Energy Resources.** (Sponsored by Rep. Campbell of Orrington; additional cosponsors.)

For the purpose of encouraging the generation of renewable energy resources, current law requires each competitive electricity provider in the state to demonstrate that no less than 30% of the electricity portfolio provided to its retail customers consists of eligible renewable energy resources. This bill adds "waste energy resource" to the list of eligible types of renewable energy and establishes a 3.5% portfolio requirement for that renewable energy resource. The bill defines "waste energy resource" as electrical generation fueled by municipal solid waste in conjunction with recycling, where the total power capacity does not exceed 35 megawatts.

**LD 342 – An Act To Reduce the E-9-1-1 Surcharge.** (Sponsored on behalf of the PUC by Rep. Dion of Portland; additional cosponsor.)

This bill reduces the E-9-1-1 surcharge from 45 cents per line or number per month to 40 cents, beginning January 2, 2016. The prepaid wireless E-9-1-1 surcharge is also dropped from 45 cents per retail transaction to 40 cents on the same date.

### **Environment & Natural Resources**

**LD 307 – An Act To Amend the Shoreland Zoning Laws To Exempt Certain Walkways and Trails from Setback Requirements.** (Sponsored by Sen. Dutremble of York Cty; additional cosponsors.)

This bill exempts from the normal shoreland zoning river setback requirements the construction of a walkway or trail if located adjacent to a segment of a river located within a downtown revitalization project approved by the legislative body of the municipality. The exemption must be expressly provided in the municipality's shoreland zoning ordinance and is subject to several limitations with respect to elements of the design that cantilever the walkway over any river segments.

### **Health & Human Services**

**LD 199 – An Act To Improve the Reporting of Child Abuse.** (Sponsored by Sen. Diamond of Cumberland Cty; additional cosponsors.)

Current law governing persons who are mandated to report suspected child abuse to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) provides that a "mandatory reporter" who works as a member of a staff may either make such a report directly to DHHS or, instead, to the person in charge of the organization for which the mandatory reporter works, and the person in charge is then required to make the report to DHHS. This bill repeals that alternative and requires all mandatory reporters to report directly to DHHS. Local government officials included on the list of mandatory reporters include school teachers, guidance counselors, school officials, school bus drivers, law enforcement officers, municipal fire inspectors, and municipal code enforcement officials.

**LD 266 – An Act To Allow Access for Law Enforcement Officers to the List of Registered Primary Caregivers for Medical Marijuana Patients.** (Sponsored by Rep. Blume of York; additional cosponsors.)

This bill permits the disclosure to a law enforcement officer by the Department of Health and Human Services of the list of registered medical marijuana primary caregivers within the law enforcement officer's jurisdiction in order to assist in ruling out the caregiver when verifying reports of criminal activity.

### **Inland Fisheries & Wildlife**

**LD 296 – An Act To Increase Economic Development in Rural Communities by Expanding Hunting Opportunities.** (Sponsored by Sen. Burns of Washington; additional cosponsors.) (By Request)

This bill allows a person with a hunting license to hunt on Sundays during the month of November on public lands greater than 10 acres in size that are open to hunting or on private property greater than 10 acres in size with the consent of the property owner.

### **Insurance & Financial Services**

**LD 337 – An Act To Require Lienholders To Remove Liens Once Satisfied.** (Sponsored by Rep. Campbell of Orrington; additional cosponsors.)

This bill requires any lien holder, including municipalities that have established liens for property tax or sewer bill lien delinquency, to remove the lien within 30 days of satisfaction or discharge by the debtor or owner of the property or agent of the debtor or owner. The holder of such liens must provide to any person who was provided notice of the lien at the time the lien was originally filed written notice that the lien has been discharged.

### **Judiciary**

**LD 161 – An Act To Ban the United Nations Agenda 21 in Maine.** (Sponsored by Rep. Long of Sherman; additional cosponsors.)

This bill prohibits the state or any political subdivision of the state, including any municipality, plantation, county, quasi-municipal corporation or special purpose district, from adopting or implementing policies originating in the "United Nations Agenda 21" or other international laws that restrict private property rights without due process. The bill also prohibits the state or any political subdivision of the state from entering into agreements or financial arrangements with any nongovernmental or intergovernmental organization accredited or enlisted by the United Nations to assist in the implementation of policies related to "Agenda 21."

**LD 303 – An Act To Improve Communications Regarding Executive Session.** (Sponsored by Sen. Brakey of Androscoggin Cty; additional cosponsors.)

This bill amends the law governing the confidentiality of certain employee records for state, county and municipal employees when the confidential records are reviewed in executive session and the employee who is the subject of the executive session publicly discloses information about the matter discussed in executive session. In that circumstance, the bill allows for the public disclosure of the records related to the executive session even though the records are otherwise confidential by law.

### **Labor, Commerce, Research & Economic Development**

**LD 250 – An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Dealers in Secondhand Precious Metals.** (Sponsored by Sen. Saviello of Franklin Cty; additional cosponsors.)

This bill amends the law governing dealers of second hand precious metals. Under current law, the dealers of these types of metals must obtain a permit from the municipal officers in the municipality where the business is conducted. This bill amends that requirement to make

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## HOPPER (cont.)

it an act of registration rather than a permitting program.

**LD 299 – An Act To Protect Children in Municipal and School Facilities by Requiring Boiler Inspections.** (Sponsored by Sen. Hill of York; additional cosponsors.)

This bill re-establishes the requirement that heating boilers in schools and municipal buildings be inspected to ensure their property performance. The special requirement that municipal/school furnace inspections be reported to the state along with a per/boiler reporting fee was repealed in 2014 along with a number of old laws determined to be unnecessary state mandates.

**LD 301 – An Act To Improve Insurance Coverage for First Responders Answering a Call to Duty.** (Sponsored by Sen. Johnson of Lincoln Cty; additional cosponsors.)

This bill, providing so-called “tone-to-tone Workers’ Compensation coverage, establishes a rebuttable presumption in Maine’s Workers’ Compensation law that a personal injury sustained by a paid or volunteer firefighter or a paid or volunteer emergency medical services provider is a workplace-related injury if it occurs at any time after the firefighter or EMS worker receives a notice of a fire or emergency and is in the process of responding. Under current law and practice, those during-response injuries are compensable if the workers are responding and on the public way. Under this bill, the injuries would be compensable if sustained in or on the worker’s private property.

### State & Local Government

**LD 165 – An Act Regarding the Funding of Volunteer Fire Departments.** (Sponsored by Rep. Theriault of China; additional cosponsors.)

Current law allows the municipal officers to issue their warrant to the municipal treasurer to pay the treasurer of an incorporated volunteer fire department a sum up to \$1,000 without itemizing for the purposes for which the appropriation will be spent. Conveyances of sums greater than \$1,000 to incorporated fire departments, presumably, need to be itemized. This bill repeals the authority to transfer to the fire department’s account any sum, regardless of size, without itemization.

**LD 182 – An Act To Eliminate Term Limits for Legislators.** (Sponsored by Rep. Martin of Eagle Lake; additional cosponsor.)

This bill repeals the law establishing term limits for state legislators.

**LD 244 – An Act To Require the Use of Preapproved Subcontractors for Publicly Funded Construction Projects.** (Sponsored by Rep. DeChant of Bath; additional cosponsors.)

This bill requires a contractor awarded a construction contract with the state that has a value greater than \$100,000 to choose subcontractors as may be needed to fulfill the contract to choose from a list of subcontractors pre-approved to participate in such projects by the Bureau of General Services. The requirement to use pre-approved subcontractors does not apply for any subcontract with a value of \$10,000 or less. This area of law applies only to contracts let by the state or school construction projects.

**LD 258 – An Act Regarding Posting of Legal Notices and Legal Advertising.** (Sponsored by Sen. Davis of Piscataquis Cty; additional cosponsors.)

This bill amends the law governing the qualifications of a newspaper that can be used to provide legally-required notice to establish that newspapers provided at no charge to the public are eligible.

### Taxation

**LD 169 – An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Groundwater Rights.** (Sponsored by Rep. Kornfield of Bangor; additional cosponsors.)

This bill creates an excise tax of 1 cent per gallon on the extractions of groundwater or surface water in the state by a bottled water operator that extracted 1 million gallons of water in the previous calendar year and packaged that water for sale in containers of 5 gallons or less. The

revenue from the excise tax is distributed as follows: 25% to the Maine Environmental Protection Fund for use in watershed and water quality protection; 50% to the Department of Education to supplement funding for the state’s K-12 public schools; and 25% to the municipalities where the water extraction occurs.

**LD 170 – An Act To Remove the 180-day Active Duty Requirement for the Property Tax Exemption for Vietnam Veterans.** (Sponsored by Rep. Nadeau of Winslow; additional cosponsors.)

Current law provides the veterans’ property tax exemption to a veteran of the Vietnam War as long as the veteran serviced on active duty for at least 180 days during the period between February 27, 1961 and May 8, 1975. This bill repeals that limitation.

**LD 191 – An Act To Require the Transfer of a Forest Management and Harvest Plan upon the Transfer of Land in the Tree Growth Tax Program.** (Sponsored by Sen. Saviello of Franklin Cty; additional cosponsors.)

This bill provides that when land that is enrolled in the Tree Growth tax program is transferred to a new owner, the new owner may file with the municipal assessor a sworn statement indicating that a new forest management and harvest plan has been prepared. If such a sworn statement is not provided to the municipal assessor, the landowner must manage the Tree Growth parcel in accordance with the forest management plan prepared for the previous landowner or the land is considered to have been withdrawn from the program.

**LD 279 – An Act Regarding Payment under the Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement Program.** (Sponsored by Rep. Stanley of Medway; additional cosponsors.)

This bill requires that the reimbursement provided by the state to qualifying businesses for their property taxes paid on personal property pursuant to the Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement program (BETR) must be held by the State Tax Assessor if the business claiming the reimbursement is delinquent in actually paying the taxes to the municipality on the date of certification of eligibility. The hold on reimbursement continues until the delinquent taxes have been paid or a plan for payment has been entered into by the business and the municipality.

**LD 282 – An Act To Modify the State Valuation of the Town of Madison To Reflect the Loss in Valuation of the Madison Paper Company, To Modify the State Valuation of the Town of Skowhegan To Reflect the Loss in Valuation of the S.D. Warren Company and To Amend the Law Governing School Subsidy Distribution in the Circumstance of Sudden Loss in Municipal Valuation. (Emergency)** (Sponsored by Rep. McCabe of Skowhegan; additional cosponsors.)

This bill modifies the valuation of the towns of Madison and Skowhegan with respect to the 2015 state valuation of those communities to reflect the significant reduction in the assessed value of their respective paper mills. Downward adjustments to the “equalized state valuation” of the two communities accounting for the changes effected at the local level in late 2014 would not normally be reflected in the state valuation for a two-year period. A municipality’s state valuation is the primary input data in the determination of each municipality’s revenue sharing and school subsidy distributions. The bill also amends the statute governing the determination of each municipality’s “fiscal capacity” for the purpose of distributing General Purpose Aid to Education. As recently amended, that determination of fiscal capacity uses a rolling three-year average of the municipality’s state valuation. This bill amends that system when a municipality experiences a sudden decrease in total valuation of 2% or greater. In that circumstance, the most recently certified state valuation is used instead of the rolling three year average.

**LD 315 – An Act To Provide a Refund of Fuel Taxes to Maine Ambulance Companies.** (Sponsored by Rep. Fredette of Newport; additional cosponsors.)

This bill provides companies or associations that provide ambulance

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## **HOPPER (cont.)**

services to residents of the state a tax exemption for the motor fuel excise tax (so-called "gas tax" or "fuel tax"). The bill also provides those companies with a parallel entitlement to reimbursement for any fuel taxes paid in the delivery of those ambulance services.

### **Transportation**

**LD 246 – An Act To Prohibit the Handling of a Mobile Telephone While Operating a Motor Vehicle.** (Sponsored by Rep. Mastraccio of Sanford; additional cosponsors.)

This bill generally prohibits the use of a handheld mobile telephone while operating a motor vehicle. Exceptions are provided for law enforcement officers, corrections officers, firefighters, drivers of authorized emergency vehicles, holders of commercial drivers licenses, physicians, municipal public works personnel, Maine Turnpike Authority personnel and state transportation personnel who are operating motor vehicles within the scope of their employment.

**LD 247 – An Act To Create Corridor Districts for the Purpose of Funding Transportation and Transit Services.** (Sponsored by Rep. Chipman of Portland; additional cosponsors.)

This "concept draft" bill proposes to allow the creation of multi-modal, multi-jurisdictional transportation districts along defined transportation corridors and form service sharing and revenue partnerships. The corridor districts would have the authority to issue bonds for infrastructure improvements, raise funds for operations and maintenance of facilities, purchase real estate, etc. A local referendum approving participation would be required in each municipality wishing to join the transportation district.

**LD 269 – An Act To Require the Maine Turnpike Authority To Consider Certain Third-party Studies and Municipal Recommendations in Its Decision-making Process.** (Sponsored by Rep. Blume of York; additional cosponsors.)

Prior to funding a significant transportation project, this bill requires the Maine Turnpike Authority to review and consider any 3<sup>rd</sup>-party study related to the project as well as the recommendations of a municipality that is within the boundaries of the project area. The recommendations of the municipality have to be expressed in a vote of the municipality's legislative body in order to be entitled to that consideration.

### **Veterans & Legal Affairs**

**LD 224 – An Act To Limit the Information Required To Be Printed on Municipal Referenda Ballots.** (Sponsored by Rep. Picchiotti of Fairfield; additional cosponsors.)

This bill establishes that only the question to the voters must be printed on a local referendum ballot and makes printing of the full text of the question and financial information optional.

**LD 287 – An Act To Improve Traffic Safety during Political Campaign Seasons.** (Sponsored by Rep. Devin of Newcastle; additional cosponsor.)

Current law authorizes, without any need for a permit, the placement of political signs in the right of way area running along state or municipal roadways beginning 6 weeks before a statewide general or primary election. This bill repeals that authority.

# BANGOR DAILY NEWS

## Vocal Veazie resident named president of Orono-Veazie Water District

By Nok-Noi Ricker, BDN Staff

Posted Feb. 16, 2015, at 5:32 p.m.

VEAZIE, Maine — A local woman, who was part of a vocal group of residents concerned about possible cancerous disinfectant byproducts in the town's water supply, was elected president of the water district board she once criticized.

Joan Perkins was appointed to the Orono-Veazie Water District board in July to fill a vacancy that expires at the end of 2016, and was elected president at the group's Feb. 10 meeting by a 3-2 vote.

"I voted for myself. I was the tiebreaker," Perkins said Friday.

Her road to the water district board actually started at a November 2013 town selectmen's meeting where a group of University of Maine nursing students made a presentation about high levels of disinfection byproducts called trihalomethanes, or THMs, a suspected carcinogen, detected at UMaine's Memorial Union, one of the district's testing sites.

Perkins said she was surprised by the THM data, which she said was downplayed in the water district's newsletter, and decided to do her own research.

"A friend of mine and I went to the water district and asked for the trihalomethane data and that is when we noticed there was a consistent problem," the new board chairwoman said.

"That is how it all began."

The group of concerned residents — led by an outspoken Perkins — started asking the district to improve the water supply and demanded more public input.

When Perkins began attending all the water board meetings, the district was under a consent order for exceeding the THM limit in 2012 issued by the Environmental Protection Agency, which has set a limit of 80 parts per billion for THMs in public drinking water supplies. The levels in 2012 were as high as 89.2 parts per billion.

Trihalomethanes are a group of four chemical compounds, including chloroform, that form when chlorine used to kill bacteria reacts with naturally occurring organic matter, such as decaying leaves, algae and human or animal waste.

The water district took a dozen steps to reduce levels and the federal consent order was lifted in February 2014. A test last August showed a level of 53.3 parts per billion.

The work was not enough for the concerned residents who started an online petition requesting a “comprehensive plan to substantially improve the quality of our water.” They held a silent pajama protest at the Oct. 15 water district meeting, bringing their sleepwear-clad children. They raised concerns about testing directly after hydrant flushing and requested support from both the Orono Town Council, which has held public meetings, and Veazie Selectmen, who paid for independent water tests at 10 homes. All the test levels, which ranged from a low of 54.9 on Randolph Drive to a high of 70 on Ridgeview Drive, were below the EPA’s limit.

Perkins was appointed to the board by Veazie town leaders in July 2014 and has worked to improve communication between the board and the public. Board members are paid \$400 annually for their time and the chairperson gets \$500.

“Our relationship from the start was one of me asking questions [and] there was some resistance from the district for providing information. That has improved,” she said. “Hopefully, we can continue that trend so it becomes very transparent for the community to know what we’re doing and why.”

The water district has a total of five trustees on rotating terms, three appointed by Orono’s town council and two selected by Veazie.

The board has seen a lot of recent turnover, with four new members appointed in the last year. In addition to Perkins, in March Orono town councilors appointed Jason Bolton to a five-year term and appointed Paul Smith to fill a vacancy that expires in December 2015. In December, longtime Trustee John McCormack was replaced by Orono resident Farahad Dastoor.

When former Superintendent Dennis Cross in October announced his retirement effective the end of the year after 38 years at the post, he said it had nothing to do with the recent controversy.

“The whole group is fairly new,” Perkins said of the board. “Mr. [Ken] Borneman has something like 20 years, but everyone else is new. Our main priority right now is to replace the superintendent. We’re looking to select a qualified, talented person. We have eight applicants.”

The board will gather at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Orono’s town council chambers to begin reviewing the applications, interim Superintendent Ron Hidu said.

“The district has hired the Maine Municipal Association to walk us through the process,” Hidu said, adding no timetable has been set for selecting a candidate.



Perkins, who also wrote a December 2013 OpEd that ran in the Bangor Daily News, titled “In Orono, Veazie, water district’s compliance is not enough” said she has not been alone in her quest for improvements.

“There is an active group in Orono and Veazie who have brought this to the forefront,” the new chairwoman said.

<http://bangordailynews.com/2015/02/16/news/bangor/vocal-veazie-resident-named-president-of-orono-veazie-water-district/> printed on February 17, 2015



Message

Tue, Feb 17, 2015 8:49 AM

From: "Knorr, David" <David.Knorr@legislature.maine.gov>  
To: **Mark Leonard**  
Cc: "Lyford, Peter" <Peter.Lyford@legislature.maine.gov>  
 "Peter A. Lyford (scottslawnbgr@hotmail.com)" <scottslawnbgr@hotmail.com>

Subject: Meeting on Governor's Budget Proposal

Attachments: Attach0.html / Uploaded File

4K

February 17, 2015

Good morning Mr. Leonard,

State Representative Peter Lyford asked that I notify you about the meeting taking place at Old Town High School on Thursday, February 19, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. The subject of the discussion will be the Governor's budget proposal.

Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Representative Lyford by phone at 848-3335 or by e-mail at [Peter.Lyford@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Peter.Lyford@legislature.maine.gov).

Sincerely,

**DAVID A. KNORR**  
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**GOD AMERICA!!!**