



Veazie Town Council

Regular Meeting

**June 26th, 2017
6:30pm**

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 June 13th, 2017 Regular Council Meeting Minutes and June 14nd, 2017 Special Council Minutes.
- ITEM 6:** Comments from the Public

New Business:

- ITEM 7:** SRRF Loan Resolution
- ITEM 8:** Re-Appointment of Tax Assessor
- ITEM 9:** Re-Appointment of Code Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector, Local Plumbing Inspector, Addressing Officer and E-911 Officer
- ITEM 10:** Appointment Alternant Code Enforcement Officer
- ITEM 11:** Re-Appointment of Budget Committee Member
- ITEM 12:** Citizen Involvement Application
- ITEM 13:** Town Office Closure Discussion
- ITEM 14:** July Council Meeting Discussion

Old Business

- ITEM 15:** Update on PRRT Land Transfer
- ITEM 16:** Comments from the Public
- ITEM 17:** Requests for information and Town Council Comments
- ITEM 18:** Review & Sign of AP Town Warrant #23 and Town Payroll #26, School Payroll Warrant #26, AP School Warrant #26.
- ITEM 19:** Adjournment

Chris Bagley
16 Silver Ridge
cbagley@veazie.net

Paul Messer
1010 School St
249-1361

Michael Reid
14 Prouty Dr.
573-1300

Aaron Turcotte
14 Silver Ridge
578-0750

Jeff Manter
3 Prouty Dr.
991-7612

Veazie Town Council Meeting
June 13th, 2017

Members Present: Chairman Tammy Perry, Council, Councilor Paul Messer, Councilor Michael Reid, Manager Mark Leonard, Assessor Ben Birch and various members of the public.

ITEM 1: Call to order

Chairman Perry called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

ITEM 2: Secretary to do the roll call:

Councilor David King was absent and excused.

ITEM 3: Pledge of Allegiance

ITEM 4: Consideration of the Agenda

None

ITEM 5: Approval of the June 5th, 2017 Special Council Meeting Minutes

Councilor Paul Messer made a motion, seconded by Councilor Chris Bagley to approve the June 5th, 2017 Special Council Meeting Minutes as written. Voted 3-0-0. Motion carried.

ITEM 6: Comments from the public

None

New Business:

ITEM 7: Transfers

Councilor Chris Bagley made a motion, seconded by Councilor Paul Messer to transfer \$2500.00 from Fixed Cost Street Sweeping account 800-40-120 to a reserve account to be created named Street/Drain Cleaning. Voted 3-0-0. Motion carried.

Councilor Chris Bagley made a motion, seconded by Councilor Paul Messer to transfer \$2500.00 from Fixed Cost Drain Cleaning account 800-40-130 to a reserve account to be created named Street/Drain Cleaning. Voted 3-0-0. Motion carried.

Councilor Chris Bagley made a motion, seconded by Councilor Paul Messer to transfer \$1000.00 from the Fire Department Miscellaneous Revenue Account (300-1000) to the Fire Department EMS Equipment Account (300-60-073) Voted 3-0-0. Motion carried.

Councilor Chris Bagley made a motion, seconded by Councilor Paul Messer to transfer \$12,000.00 from the Recreation Community Program Account (500-40-093) to Tennis Court Maintenance Account (30-3065-00) Voted 3-0-0. Motion carried.

Councilor Chris Bagley made a motion, seconded by Councilor Paul Messer to transfer \$2,000.00 from the Recreation Community Program Account (500-40-093) to Veazie Days account (10-4060-00) Voted 3-0-0. Motion carried.

ITEM 8: Induction of Council Meeting date discussion

The Council agreed to hold the meeting on June 15th at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers.

ITEM 9: Discussion of office closure for yearend duties

Councilor Paul Messer made a motion, seconded by Councilor Chris Bagley to close the Town Office at noon on June 30th to conduct end of year business. Voted 3-0-0. Motion carried.

ITEM 10: Donation requests

Councilor Chris Bagley made a motion, seconded by Councilor Paul Messer to donate \$100.00 to Spruce Run Womencare Alliance and \$100.00 MPBN. The motion was amended to include the other three donation requests. \$366.67 to the Lifelight Foundation, \$366.67 to Community Health and Counseling and \$366.67 to Penquis. Voted 3-0-0. Motion carried

Old Business

ITEM 11: Comprehensive Plan update

Council was in agreeance with the update from Dean Bennett with the target date for the completed plan around August 1st, 2017.

ITEM 12: Manager's Report

Manager Leonard reviewed his report with the Councilor's.

Manager Leonard presented a gift to Chairman Perry in recognition for all of her years of service to the Town.

ITEM 13: Comments from the Public

ITEM 14: Requests for information and Town Council Comments

ITEM 15: Review & sign of AP Town Warrant #22 and Town Payroll #25, AP School Warrant #25.

The warrants were circulated and signed.

ITEM 16: Adjournment

Councilor Chris Bagley motioned to adjourn.

Councilor Paul Messer seconded. No discussion. Voted 4-0-0. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 7:16pm

A True Copy Attest

Mark Leonard
Town Manager

Veazie Town Special Council Meeting
June 14th, 2017

Members Present: Councilor Chris Bagley, Councilor Paul Messer, Councilor Michael Reid, Councilor Aaron Turcotte, Councilor Jeff Manter, Manager Mark Leonard, Council Secretary Julie Strout and various members of the public.

ITEM 1: Call to order

Manager Leonard called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

ITEM 2: Secretary to do the roll call:

All present

ITEM 3: Pledge of Allegiance

ITEM 4: Consideration of the Agenda

None

ITEM 5: Comments from the public

None

New Business:

ITEM 6: Induction of Council

Jeff Manter read and signed his oath for office.

Aaron Turcotte read and signed his oath for office.

ITEM 7: Council Chair selection

Councilor Paul Messer made a motion, seconded by Councilor Michael Reid to elect Councilor Chris Bagley as Chair of the Veazie Town Council. Voted 4-0-1. Councilor Chris Bagley abstained.

ITEM 8: Set Council Meeting Dates and time

Councilor Paul Messer made a motion, seconded by Councilor Michael Reid to meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 6:30pm.

ITEM 9: Adjournment

Councilor Paul Messer motioned to adjourn.

Councilor Michael Reid seconded. No discussion. Voted 5-0-0. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 5:35pm.

A True Copy Attest

Julie Strout
Deputy Clerk

Expires:
June 2018

(OATH OF TOWN OFFICER)

TOWN OF VEAZIE

STATE OF MAINE

ITEM # 8



I, **Benjamin F. Birch Jr.**, do affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, so long as I shall continue as a citizen thereof. SO HELP ME GOD (CONST. ME., ART. IX, Sec. 1)

I, **Benjamin F. Birch Jr.**, do affirm that I will support the Veazie Town Charter and the Ordinances of the Town of Veazie, as long as I shall continue as an officer thereof.

I, **Benjamin F. Birch Jr.**, do affirm that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as a **Tax Assessor** for the Town of Veazie according to the Constitution and laws of the State of Maine and ordinances of the Town of Veazie.

Benjamin F. Birch Jr.

Date

Veazie, Maine

Date

Subscribed and sworn to

Before me, _____
Julie Strout, Deputy Clerk

Expires:
June 2018

(OATH OF TOWN OFFICER)

ITEM # 9

TOWN OF VEAZIE

STATE OF MAINE



I, John Larson, do affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, so long as I shall continue as a citizen thereof. SO HELP ME GOD (CONST. ME., ART. IX, Sec. 1)

I, John Larson, do affirm that I will support the Veazie Town Charter and the Ordinances of the Town of Veazie, as long as I shall continue as an officer thereof.

I, John Larson, do affirm that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as a **Local Plumbing Inspector** for the Town of Veazie according to the Constitution and laws of the State of Maine and ordinances of the Town of Veazie.

John Larson

Date

Veazie, Maine

Date

Subscribed and sworn to

Before me, _____
Julie Strout, Deputy Clerk

Expires:
June 2018

(OATH OF TOWN OFFICER)

TOWN OF VEAZIE

STATE OF MAINE

ITEM # 9



I, **John Larson**, do affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, so long as I shall continue as a citizen thereof. SO HELP ME GOD (CONST. ME., ART. IX, Sec. 1)

I, **John Larson**, do affirm that I will support the Veazie Town Charter and the Ordinances of the Town of Veazie, as long as I shall continue as an officer thereof.

I, **John Larson**, do affirm that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as an **Addressing Officer** for the Town of Veazie according to the Constitution and laws of the State of Maine and ordinances of the Town of Veazie.

John Larson

Date

Veazie, Maine

Date

Subscribed and sworn to

Before me, _____
Julie Strout, Deputy Clerk

ITEM # 9

Expires:
June 2018

(OATH OF TOWN OFFICER)

TOWN OF VEAZIE

STATE OF MAINE



I, **John Larson**, do affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, so long as I shall continue as a citizen thereof. SO HELP ME GOD (CONST. ME., ART. IX, Sec. 1)

I, **John Larson**, do affirm that I will support the Veazie Town Charter and the Ordinances of the Town of Veazie, as long as I shall continue as an officer thereof.

I, **John Larson**, do affirm that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as a **Building Inspector** for the Town of Veazie according to the Constitution and laws of the State of Maine and ordinances of the Town of Veazie.

John Larson

Date

Veazie, Maine

Date

Subscribed and sworn to

Before me, _____
Julie Strout, Deputy Clerk

Expires:
June 2018

(OATH OF TOWN OFFICER)

ITEM # 9

TOWN OF VEAZIE

STATE OF MAINE



I, **John Larson**, do affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, so long as I shall continue as a citizen thereof. SO HELP ME GOD (CONST. ME., ART. IX, Sec. 1)

I, **John Larson**, do affirm that I will support the Veazie Town Charter and the Ordinances of the Town of Veazie, as long as I shall continue as an officer thereof.

I, **John Larson**, do affirm that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as an **E-911 Inspector** for the Town of Veazie according to the Constitution and laws of the State of Maine and ordinances of the Town of Veazie.

John Larson

Date

Veazie, Maine

Date

Subscribed and sworn to

Before me, _____
Julie Strout, Deputy Clerk

ITEM # 9

Expires:
June 2018

(OATH OF TOWN OFFICER)

TOWN OF VEAZIE

STATE OF MAINE



I, **John Larson**, do affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, so long as I shall continue as a citizen thereof. SO HELP ME GOD (CONST. ME., ART. IX, Sec. 1)

I, **John Larson**, do affirm that I will support the Veazie Town Charter and the Ordinances of the Town of Veazie, as long as I shall continue as an officer thereof.

I, **John Larson**, do affirm that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as a **Code Enforcement Officer** for the Town of Veazie according to the Constitution and laws of the State of Maine and ordinances of the Town of Veazie.

John Larson

Date

Veazie, Maine

Date

Subscribed and sworn to

Before me, _____
Julie Strout, Deputy Clerk

Expires:
June 2020

(OATH OF TOWN OFFICER)

ITEM # 11

TOWN OF VEAZIE

STATE OF MAINE



I, **Judy Horten**, do affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and of this State, so long as I shall continue as a citizen thereof. SO HELP ME GOD (CONST. ME., ART. IX, Sec. 1)

I, **Judy Horten**, do affirm that I will support the Veazie Town Charter and the Ordinances of the Town of Veazie, as long as I shall continue as an officer thereof.

I, **Judy Horten**, do affirm that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as a **Budget Committee Member** for the Town of Veazie according to the Constitution and laws of the State of Maine and ordinances of the Town of Veazie.

Judy Horten

Date

Veazie, Maine

Date

Subscribed and sworn to

Before me, _____
Julie Strout, Deputy Clerk

ITEM # 12



Citizen Involvement Application

All citizens of the Town of Veazie interested in having their names considered for appointment by the Veazie Town Council and/or the Town Manager, at such time a vacancy may occur on any Board or Special Committee, should fill out this application and return it to the Veazie Town Office.

Name Todd Zertoss Phone Number 703 861 5082
Address 130 PCHOBSCOT CIRCLE, VEAZIE
Civic Involvement 20+ YEARS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT
Years Resided in Veazie 1 YR
Specialty or Field LAW
Committee or Boards Interested In ~~FIN~~ BUDGET
Additional Information

Applicants Signature: D. Todd Zertoss

By signing this document I acknowledge that I have read and agree to abide by the Committee Policy that has been adopted by the Veazie Town Council.

Date Received at Town Office: June 9, 2017

notes) of the Town in an original principal amount of up to Fifty-One Thousand Twenty Dollars (\$51,020), payable WITH NO INTEREST in five (5) equal annual installments of principal, and to execute and deliver such general obligation bonds or notes (as so executed and delivered, the "Bond") in registered form under the seal of the Town and attested by the Clerk; and that the Bond be in such form as the Chair and the Treasurer may approve, the execution and delivery thereof to be conclusive evidence of such approval; provided however, that the Treasurer shall have prepaid the Bond on or before delivery thereof, and that such payment and satisfaction shall be indicated on the Bond by the Bond Bank.

3. That the Chair and the Treasurer, acting singly, be authorized in the name and on behalf of the Town to execute and deliver an Assignment of monies transferred by the State of Maine to pay for Project costs and such other instruments, documents, certificates and agreements, and to take or cause to be taken such further actions for and on behalf of the Town, as may be necessary, convenient or appropriate to effect the transactions contemplated by the foregoing votes and the documents referenced therein, and that the Clerk of the Town be authorized to attest to the foregoing and attach the Town's seal to any of the foregoing.

A true copy, attest:

Mark Leonard, Clerk

Note: Include attested copy of this Vote with the meeting minutes

June 26, 2017

Motion: I move that the vote entitled, "Vote to Authorize \$29,925 School Revolving Renovation Fund Loan Forgiveness Grant Financing," be approved in form presented to this meeting and that the Clerk file an attested copy of said vote with the minutes of this meeting.

**VOTE TO AUTHORIZE \$29,925 SCHOOL REVOLVING RENOVATION FUND
LOAN FORGIVENESS GRANT FINANCING**

Whereas, the voters of the Town of Veazie (the "Town"), at the Annual Town Meeting held June 13, 2017, approved the issuance of a bond to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank under the School Revolving Renovation Fund program; and

Whereas, said bond will be deemed paid in full upon delivery thereof without any outlay of funds of the Town, and will thus not constitute a borrowing of money within the meaning of Section 00.02.09 of the Town Charter;

Now therefore, the Town Council of the Town of Veazie hereby votes:

1. That under and pursuant to a Maine Department of Education School Revolving Renovation Fund Eligibility Certificate dated January 31, 2017, issued to assist the of Veazie School Department in the financing of health, safety and compliance repairs to the entrance of Veazie Community School (the "Project"); section 5772 of Title 30-A of the Maine Revised Statutes, and all other applicable law; Section 00.09.02 of the Town Charter; and approval by the voters of the Town of Article 32 at the June 13, 2017, Annual Town Meeting, the Treasurer of the Town and the Chair of the Town Council (the "Chair") be authorized in the name and on behalf of the Town to execute and deliver a Loan Agreement between the Maine Municipal Bond Bank (the "Bond Bank") and the Town to effect a loan from the Bond Bank to finance the Project in the principal amount of up to \$80,945, but of which amount \$29,925 of principal is forgiven by the Bond Bank (the "Loan Agreement") on such terms as the Chair and the Treasurer may approve, the execution and delivery thereof to be conclusive evidence of such approval; provided however, that the Loan Agreement shall provide that if the Town has prepaid all of the borrowed principal which has not been forgiven and which has been evidenced by bonds, the Bond Bank agrees that the bonds are paid and satisfied.

2. That under and pursuant to sections 5953-E and 6006(F) of the Maine Municipal Bond Bank Act, Section 5772 of Title 30-A of the Maine Revised Statutes and all other applicable law, the Chair and the Treasurer of the Town be authorized to borrow in the name and on behalf of the Town the sum of up to Fifty-One Thousand Twenty Dollars (\$51,020) from the Bond Bank to finance the Project; that in connection therewith, the Chair and the Treasurer be authorized to issue general obligation securities (bonds or

Manager's Report For June 26, 2017 Council Meeting

Since the last council meeting here are some things I've been working on as well as things occurring around Town.

As I have done for the last several years I cooked for the end of school bbq. This is an event I always look forward too and the students are obviously excited because it is the last day of school. This year the FD also helped the school with several science projects during the last week of school. And additionally, both the Police and Fire assisted the school with a project where they went through communities passing out notes of thanks. This was well received by the community and we will look to expand upon it next year.

I have had an email conversation with Barb Dalton of the Veazie Club concerning the numerous cul-de-sacs around town. I have been in contact with contractors to give me pricing on removing the current overgrown contents and simply make them grass. The garden club is not in support of this and I have instructed them to come up with a plan if they don't want this to occur. Ultimately my plan is to bring them back into shape and to also look at long term maintenance.

We had another successful Town meeting this year with all articles passing as presented. Additionally, we had the election of two new Councilors, a Sewer District Trustee and a School Board member. Finally, the school budget was validated 7 days after the Town Meeting.

The water line for the Community Center has been installed by Silvers Construction and Maine Fire Protection continues to work to get the sprinkler system installed.

I have discussed with CEO John Larson the updated ordinances which will be presented to Council for Public hearing and ultimately approval. This presentation will occur at the end of July.

I have spoken to legal counsel on the final steps needed to complete the school revolving fund loan which was approved at the Town meeting. Bond Counsel has prepared the final document which will be presented at the Council meeting for approval.

I scheduled a meeting with the Schools' Business Office Staff to discuss a Freedom of Information Request we have received concerning the school and Hampden's business agreement. The meeting was very productive and requested information will be provided.

I have met with and interviewed a part-time office worker whom I ultimately offered the position too. She has accepted and will be starting on July 10. She is very qualified for the position and we look forward to her joining the team.

Manager's Report For June 26, 2017 Council Meeting

Principle Cyr and I met with a marketing firm to discuss the possibility putting together a marketing plan for the town. Although in the infancy stages, I was very happy with the meeting and the possibilities that came from the discussions. The firm is going to put together a package with pricing which we will share in the future with Council and School Board Members.

I attended the Sewer District meeting where among other things we discussed the Davis Drive project and a potential project on Oak Grove. We will continue these discussions as they gather more information so we are completing the projects together and not separately.

The Director of Penobscot Regional Communications Center (PRCC) and I, as the Chairmen of the Board of Directors, attended a County Commissioners meeting in Hancock County. The meeting was a public hearing on PRCC taking over the public safety answering point (PSAP) function for Hancock Regional Communications Center. Additional information was requested and discussion will continue.

I met with our Investment Advisor from Kathadin Savings Bank to review the Towns investments performance over the last year. I am happy to report that we have done very well since deciding to go with them. We will continue to watch the market and make adjustments to benefit the town.

I attended the Region 5 Police Chiefs meeting where we discussed several topics of interest for the area.

I attended the Cemetery Committee meeting where we discussed several concerns they have with the current mowing contractor. I have been working with the Contractor but concerns still exist. I will be sending a letter to the contractor outlining the concerns and request they be addressed as outlined in the contract.

Town Legal Staff sent a letter to Penobscot River Restoration Trust expressing our frustration with the length of the process which ultimately led to the sending us the requirement documents to sign off on. We still won't have ownership of the property as the documents have to go back to PRRT and then to NOAA and then back to us but at least we are moving forward. I have attached 2 letters from legal staff as they relate to this.

Attachments:

1. Certificate of Recognition presented to School Guidance Councilor
2. Certificate of Recognition presented to Veazie School Teacher
3. Overview of Statewide Overdose Incidents
4. Draft Planning Board meeting minutes from June 5th
5. Letter from Legal Staff to PRRT
6. Follow up letter from Legal Staff concerning response from PRRT
7. Update from Assessor Ben Birch
8. Email from MMA on FY 18-19 Budget

Town of Veazie



Certificate of Recognition

Presented To

Mrs. Alexandra Dineen

For successfully leading numerous Veazie Community School Students in
completing the yearly Town of Veazie Stenciling Project.

Tammy Perry

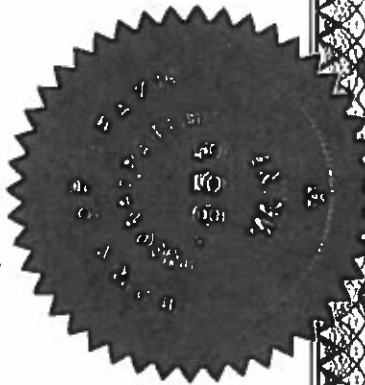
Tammy Perry
Council Chair

Michael Reid

Michael Reid
Councilor

Paul Messer

Paul Messer
Councilor



David King

David King
Councilor

Chris Bagley

Chris Bagley
Councilor

Town of Veazie



Certificate of Recognition

Presented To

Mr. Brian Gonyar

For successfully leading numerous Veazie Community School Students in
completing the yearly Town of Veazie Stream Cleanup.

Tammy Perry

Tammy Perry
Council Chair

Michael Reid

Michael Reid
Councilor

Paul Messer

Paul Messer
Councilor

David King

David King
Councilor

Chris Bagley

Chris Bagley
Councilor



(U//FOUO) Maine EMS Naloxone Administrations and Suspected Overdose Responses, by County

April 2017

Naloxone Administrations

County	Number of Administrations
Androscoggin	14
Aroostook	<5
Cumberland	28
Franklin	<5
Hancock	<5
Kennebec	11
Knox	4
Lincoln	3
Not Known	0
Oxford	6
Penobscot	16
Piscataquis	<5
Sagadahoc	<5
Somerset	<5
Waldo	<5
Washington	6
York	19
Total	120

Suspected Overdose Responses

County	Number of Incidents
Androscoggin	28
Aroostook	6
Cumberland	61
Franklin	0
Hancock	<5
Kennebec	6
Knox	<5
Lincoln	<5
Not Known	0
Oxford	10
Penobscot	66
Piscataquis	9
Sagadahoc	6
Somerset	0
Waldo	<5
Washington	7
York	43
Total	251

Analyst Note—Through January—April 2017, Maine EMS administered 646 doses of Naloxone and responded to 901 suspected overdoses.

Comparatively, through January—April 2016, Maine EMS administered 619 doses of Naloxone and responded to 883 suspected overdoses.

The data shown are Naloxone Administrations from EMS responses only, and do not reflect additional administrations by other first responders. Note that this information is preliminary and totals are subject to change with annual reports.

Source: Maine EMS

Town of Veazie Planning Board

Minutes of June 5, 2017

Members Present: Chairman Don MacKay, Andy Brown, Tony Cappuccio, Karen Walker

Others present: The Davis family

Call to Order: Chairman MacKay called the regular meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. The Board had a quorum.

The Public Hearing on Subdivision, Land Use and Site Plan Review Ordinances opened at 6:35.

The Davis Family was present to discuss Subdivision Ordinance. They proposed a change to section 19.2.4. which read "any development containing ten (10) or more dwelling units or lots shall have at least two (2) road connections..." to read "containing fourteen (14) ". They stated the rest of the Ordinance was OK. There was further discussion about open space section of the Ordinance and agreed it made sense.

There being no further discussion the Public Hearing closed at 7:53.

Approval of minutes – Approval of May 1, 2017 minutes, motion to approve minutes by Andy Brown and seconded by Tony Cappuccio. Discussion: None. The motion passed 4 to 0.

New Business

None

Old Business

Further discussion of proposed subdivision ordinance; remove reference to 24" trees, 10 copies of submitted documentation. Further discussion of site plan review ordinance; change appeals section to reflect decisions by the planning board should go to appeals board.

Other Business

July 17, 2017 next meeting is scheduled on comprehensive plan.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05.

Respectfully submitted,

John Larson

Code Enforcement Officer

FARRELL, ROSENBLATT & RUSSELL

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
61 MAIN STREET
P.O. BOX 738
BANGOR, MAINE 04402-0738

COPY

ANGELA M. FARRELL
NATHANIEL M. ROSENBLATT
JON A. HADDOW
GREGORY P. DORR
ROGER L. HUBER
ERIK T. CROCKER
KATE J. GROSSMAN

June 16, 2017

THOMAS A. RUSSELL (Retired)

TELEPHONE (207) 990-3314
TELECOPIER (207) 941-0239
e-mail: info@frrlegal.com

Spencer R. Thibodeau, Esq.
Verrill & Dana
P.O. Box 586
Portland, Maine 04412-0586

Re: Penobscot River Restoration Trust – Town of Veazie, Maine

Dear Spencer:

I'll be honest, I'm starting to become a bit suspicious that there is something preventing the transaction involving the Penobscot River Restoration Trust (PRRT) and the Town of Veazie from moving forward.

The PRRT, through Laura Rose Day, created the impression that a conveyance to the Town, or some other qualified third-party, was of the utmost urgency. After months of being pressured to complete its due diligence, the Town voted to accept the property in June, 2016. After considerable delay, the PRRT provided the Town with a revised deed, together with a entirely new document entitled, "Covenant of Purpose, Use and Ownership." The Town Council voted on January 9, 2017 to accept the proposed deed and to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Covenant of Purpose, Use and Ownership.

That was five months ago. Despite assurances of late that "final documents will be out in the next day or two," this matter seems not to have advanced at all in the past five months. I've reached out to you in the past few weeks, but have yet to receive any response or substantive update. As a result, we are left to wonder where this matter stands and why it has yet to conclude, especially in light of the PRRT's expressed sense of urgency.

We remain hopeful that we will receive the promised title update and final documents soon.

Very truly yours,

FARRELL, ROSENBLATT & RUSSELL


Roger L. Huber

cc: Town of Veazie

REV'D
6/19/17

FARRELL, ROSENBLATT & RUSSELL

**ATTORNEYS AT LAW
61 MAIN STREET
P.O. BOX 738
BANGOR, MAINE 04402-0738**

**ANGELA M. FARRELL
NATHANIEL M. ROSENBLATT
JON A. HADDOW
GREGORY P. DORR
ROGER L. HUBER
ERIK T. CROCKER
KATE J. GROSSMAN**

THOMAS A. RUSSELL (Retired)

**TELEPHONE (207) 990-3314
TELECOPIER (207) 941-0239
e-mail: info@frrlegal.com**

June 20, 2017

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

Re: Acquisition of Land from the Penobscot River Restoration Trust

Dear Mark:

Progress.

I have enclosed with this letter the Covenant of Purpose, Use and Ownership that the Town Council previously reviewed, approved, and authorized you to sign. Please sign where indicated and have your signature notarized. DO NOT fill-in the blanks on the front of the document. Those dates will be completed by NOAA once it receives the completed documents from us. Please also sign and date the Real Estate Transfer Tax Declaration form where indicated.

This transaction is a bit squirrely due to NOAA's involvement. It would be an understatement to say that NOAA is set in its ways. I spoke with PRRT's attorney this morning and the transaction is expected to proceed as follows. The Town will sign and return the Covenants of Purpose, Use and Ownership and Real Estate Transfer Tax Declaration form now. PRRT will sign the Quitclaim With Covenant Deed conveying the property to the Town this week. The documents will be held together in escrow by PRRT pending NOAA's execution of the Covenants of Purpose, Use and Ownership. Once NOAA executes and returns the Covenants, PRRT will provide the Town with a title update and title insurance commitment, together with a copy of all the signed documents. The documents will remain in escrow until the Town confirms that (1) the fully executed documents are the same as those it signed earlier and (2) the property has not been further encumbered. Once satisfied, the Town will direct PRRT's attorney "deliver" the documents and record them in the Registry of Deeds.

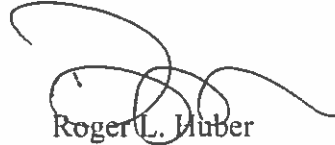
Again, the closing process is made more complicated by NOAA's desire to see all of the signed documents before it signs the Covenants. To be sure, I will monitor each step in the process. Realistically, delivery of the deed and its recording in the Registry of Deeds may still be weeks away. But, as noted at the outset, progress.

Mark Leonard, Town Manager
June 20, 2017
Page 2

Please let me know if you or any of the Councilors have any questions. Otherwise, I look forward to receipt of the executed Covenant of Purpose, Use and Ownership and the Transfer Tax Declaration Form. I have included a self-addressed stamped envelope for you convenience.

Very truly yours,

FARRELL, ROSENBLATT & RUSSELL

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger L. Huber", is written over the printed name. The signature is stylized with loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Roger L. Huber

Enclosures



Bulk: Message

Fri, Jun 23, 2017 9:13 AM

From: <LEllis@memun.org>
 Laura Ellis <EBulletin@imail.memun.org>
To: "EBulletin@imail.memun.org" <ebulletin@imail.memun.org>
Cc: StaffBusiness <StaffBusiness@memun.org>
Bcc: Mark Leonard
Subject: FY 2018-19 Biennial General Fund Budget – Update

To: MMA Legislative Bulletin Subscribers

From: Kate Dufour

Date: Friday, June 23, 2017

Re: FY 2018-19 Biennial General Fund Budget – Update

To assist in remedying the current stalemate over the adoption of the FY 2018-19 biennial General Fund budget, the Legislature voted to create, and the presiding officers appointed, a six-member Committee of Conference. The Committee was appointed on June 13, and provided 10 legislative days to present a budget recommendation to the entire Legislature for an up or down vote. The Committee's June 26 deadline is, literally, just around the corner. (Greater details regarding the Committee of Conference can be found in the [June 16th edition of the Legislative Bulletin.](#))

Until yesterday afternoon, there were two versions of the budget in front of the Committee for consideration.

One version of the budget, offered by the Democrats in both the House and Senate appointed to serve on the Committee of Conference, seeks an additional \$200 million in funding for K-12 education over the FY 2018-19 biennium. Those additional funds, however, must be raised through the adoption of a new and sustainable revenue source (e.g., the existing 3% surcharge on the portion of taxable Maine income over \$200,000), rather than through the cannibalizing of other state programs or property tax relief programs.

The other version of the budget is supported by the two Senate Republicans on the Committee. That proposal provides \$110 million in school aid and delivers an additional \$65 million for other "property tax relief" efforts. That total \$175 million investment would continue to be funded with existing state resources and without any changes to the state's tax code except for repealing the 3% income tax surcharge. In order to use existing funding for the increased investment in public education, the Senate Republican plan decreases investments in other state programs including reducing the Homestead Exemption (as scheduled for April 1, 2018) from \$20,000 to \$15,000 and reducing state reimbursement for the lost property tax revenue associated with the exemption from 62.5% to 50%.

On Thursday, the

House Republicans presented their proposed budget.

As described by Representative Jeffery Timberlake of Turner, who serves on the Appropriations Committee, the House Republican version of the budget would invest an additional \$98 million over the biennium in General Purpose Aid for K-12 education and an additional \$27 million, in FY 2019, for a statewide teacher contract pilot program.

The House

Republican version of the compromise budget would also:

- Eliminate the 3% surcharge on the portion of taxable income tax revenue in excess of \$200,000;
- Permanently cap the municipal revenue sharing program at 2% of state sales and income tax revenues;
- Repeal the property tax cap for county jail operations;
- Invest \$10 million, over the biennium, in the Local Government Efficiency Fund; and
- Make non-U.S. citizens ineligible for General Assistance, but expressly authorize municipalities to provide assistance without state reimbursement.

There is uncertainty with the House Republican proposal's treatment of the Homestead Exemption program. In his presentation, Rep. Timberlake informed the Committee that the value of the Homestead Exemption would increase to the scheduled \$20,000, but municipal reimbursement for the lost property tax revenue would remain at 50%, rather than increasing to 62.5%. As a result of further questioning from Committee members, it was suggested that the fiscal note associated with the House Republican version of the budget might fund a \$15,000 exemption, with 50% reimbursement. Rep. Timberlake promised to follow-up with the Committee on that issue.

Although the members of the Committee of Conference appreciated both the information and the House Republican's participation in the process, all agree that there is much work left to be done.

In a press release issued on Thursday, the Governor promised to take the full 10 days allotted to him by the Constitution before vetoing any version of the budget, unless he is presented with the House Republican plan. With just seven days to go before the end of the state fiscal year, it would appear that the full Legislature can adopt the House Republicans' plan, which is unlikely, or commit to work on a compromise plan, which the Governor has guaranteed to veto, resulting in at least a short term partial state government shutdown.

Despite this challenge, the six-member Committee of Conference has pledged to continue to meet to work on developing a compromise version of the budget that is palatable to all four caucuses in advance of Monday's looming deadline.

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