

**HOLDEN TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
Monday September 13, 2021
Holden Municipal Building
6:00 P. M.**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Carey called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Members present: Ryan Carey, Chairperson; Ellen Campbell, Vice Chairperson; David Hawes, Councilor; Joel Dearborn, Councilor and Thomas Copeland, Councilor.

Others present: Benjamin R.K. Breadmore, Town Manager; Roger Huber, Town Solicitor; Chris Greely, Police Chief; Eduardo Benjamin, Police LT; Officer Stephen Day, Police Department; Cameron Shaw, Public Works Director; Tressa Smith, Finance Director; Ronda Hogan, Town Clerk; and Ryan Davis, Fire Chief.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence

4. Public Hearing

A. MMA General Assistance Ordinance

There were no public comments.

B. Cemetery Ordinance/Rules and Regulations

Ellen Campbell, as a member of the Cemetery Board of Trustees explained that the Ordinance just needs some updating to the rules and regulations concerning purchasing lots and potted plants/flower boxes.

5. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

6. Approval of Minutes for August 16, 2021 Regular Town Council Meeting.

Councilor Dearborn moved and Councilor Hawes seconded to approve the minutes for the August 16, 2021 Regular Council Meeting. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

7. Consent Agenda

A. Financial Warrants

Councilor Hawes moved; Councilor Campbell seconded; to approve the financial information as presented. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

B. Department Reports

Councilor Campbell moved; Councilor Dearborn seconded; to approve the Department Reports as submitted. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

C. School Board Update

Susan Smith, School Superintendent, explained to the Council that RSU 63 will be having an informational meeting on September 27, 2021 regarding the

opportunity to purchase a bus garage at 153 Main Road, Holden. She also stated that they will be having a vote on this issue on October 5, 2021 in the Holbrook School Gym. Superintendent Smith also informed the Council that RSU 63 is partnering with Johns Hopkins University to study how we're doing as a school community.

D. Recognitions

The entire Council recognized Officer Stephen Day for his position and accomplishments with the Holden Police Department. Chairperson Carey and the Council recognized G & M Variety and Stompers Beverage Warehouse as local businesses which have brought a lot to the Town, especially during this pandemic when sometimes getting to the store for basic groceries and supplies was difficult and the owner of these businesses took it upon themselves to deliver supplies whenever possible to community members in need.

8. Old Business

None

9. New Business

A. Presentation by the Bureau of Highway Safety

The Bureau of Highway Safety was unable to attend the meeting. Councilor Campbell made a motion to table the presentation until the next scheduled Council meeting, Councilor Hawes seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

B. General Assistance Ordinance

Councilor Dearborn moved to adopt the proposed General Assistance Ordinance and the Appendices; Councilor Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

C. Capital Improvement Committee

Councilor Copeland motioned to appoint Ellen Campbell and Joel Dearborn to the Capital Improvement Committee; Councilor Hawes seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 3 in favor and 2 abstained.

D. Staffing Review Committee

Councilor Dearborn made a motion to appoint David Hawes and Thomas Copeland to the Staffing Review Committee; Councilor Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 3 in favor and 2 abstained.

E. MainePERS

Councilor Hawes made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Amended Agreement between the Employer and the Maine Public Employees Retirement System; Councilor Copeland seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

F. Remote Participation Discussion

Councilor Dearborn made a motion to accept the remote participation policy as submitted for the Town of Holden; Councilor Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

G. Cemetery Ordinance/Rules and Regulations Discussion

Councilor Copeland moved that we amend the Cemetery Ordinance and Rules and Regulations; Councilor Hawes seconded the motion. Councilor Campbell amended the motion to grandfather certain items in Hart's Cemetery, allowing them to stay; Councilor Dearborn seconded the amended motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

H. Repair and Cleaning of Cemetery Stones

Councilor Copeland moved that the Council authorize the repair and cleaning of the proposed eleven stones through a partnership with our cemetery maintenance contractor; Councilor Hawes seconded the motion. The motion passes by unanimous consent.

I. Plow Truck Surplus Discussion

Councilor Dearborn made a motion that the Town trade in the plow truck back to the dealer for the \$30,000; Councilor Hawes seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

10. Other Business (By Unanimous Consent)

Chairman Carey polled the Council to see if they were willing to take up an item concerning the 25 Days of Kindness. The Council agreed unanimously. Councilor Hawes made a motion to allow Chief Greeley to formally begin the Police Department's 25 Days of Kindness Program; Councilor Copeland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Carey polled the Council to see if they were willing to take up an item concerning the Town of Holden Bulky Waste Day. The Council agreed unanimously. Town Manager, Ben Breadmore, explained that the most recent bulky waste day was the lowest participation ever and suggested bringing to the Council the idea of only having a spring clean-up or partnering with a waste disposal company to allow residents all year drop off with a discount.

11. Public Comment

Police Chief Chris Greeley informed the Council how the financial paper trail of the 25 Days of Kindness works. Town Manager Ben Breadmore thanked the Council for their support in his attempt to be elected to the Board of the ICC.

12. Adjournment

Councilor Campbell moved; Councilor Hawes seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m. The motion passed by unanimous vote.