

**COUNCIL MINUTES OF
January 8, 2026**

COUNCIL PRESENT: Marcia Delaware, Elijah Ames, Charles Ellms, Adam Briggs, Andrew Mitchell, Danny Hutchins, Nancy Clifford

I. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Ordinance C2026-1 Sex Offender Residency Rules

No Comment

II. MINUTES

1. Approve/Amend Council Minutes of December 11, 2025

Motion to approve: **Elijah Ames**

Second: **Dan Hutchins**

Vote: 5-1 (Clifford abstains), motion passes

III. NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS, & ELECTIONS

1. Order A2026-01 Appointment of Assessor

BE IT ORDERED, that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the appointment of Travis Gould as Assessor for the Town of Dexter for a five-year period ending December 31, 2030.

Filed January 8, 2026
CHARLES ELLMS

Second: **Adam Briggs**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

2. Order A2026-02 Appointment to the Wakefield Scholarship Committee

BE IT ORDERED that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the appointment of Marcia Delaware and Jeffery Crowell to the Wakefield Scholarship Committee for a term to expire on December 31, 2028.

Filed January 8, 2026
ANDREW MITCHELL

Second: **Chuck Ellms**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

3. Order A2026-03 Appointment to Board of Appeals

BE IT ORDERED, that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the appointment of Andrew Bermudez to the Board of Appeals for a term to expire on December 31, 2028.

Filed January 8, 2026
ADAM BRIGGS

Second: **Dan Hutchins**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Manager's Report

Trampas King hoped everyone had great Holidays and New Year. He thanked all of his employees, especially the Highway Department as they have been out straight for four weeks, Juli Kimball from Human Services for all of her work with the Christmas for Kids program and Dave Hill for being his

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right-hand man and doing whatever is needed. **Mr. King** stated that on the first Thursday of February, Age Friendly will be hosting chair yoga again in the council chambers and the Fire Department is hosting the fishing derby on February 6 – 8th. He encouraged everyone to buy raffle tickets as they don't have to fish or be present to win and there are a lot of great prizes. **Mr. King** reminded everyone that the Town Hall is open every day for walking or to play basketball or to just meet up with friends and play cards. The Red Hot Dog Festival Committee had their first meeting of the New Year and he would like to see more people volunteer to help. The Friends of the Meeting House will meet again on the 19th and they plan to have their chili cook off again this spring. Upon closing, **Mr. King** encouraged everyone to check up on their neighbors.

Marcia Delaware asked about the status of the ice rink. **Mr. King** stated that there is ice in it and they hope to open the hut on Sunday.

2. Departmental Reports

Marcia Delaware noted that the excise totals have been down for the last three months. **Trampas King** stated that we are still about \$11,000 ahead of last year at this time.

3. Ordinance C2026-1 Sex Offender Residency Rules

BE IT ORDAINED, that the Dexter Town Council hereby amends Chapter 8: Miscellaneous Offenses by adding Section 8-7. Sex Offender Residency

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY

To prohibit certain acts within the Town of Dexter in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community by using the government's recognized and traditional enforcement power to protect societal order, morality, and physical and emotional health in public places without infringing on protected First Amendment rights.

This ordinance is enacted pursuant to municipal home rule authority, Title 30-A M.R.S.A. 3014.

SECTION 2. RESTRICTION ON RESIDENCE OF CONVICTED SEX OFFENDERS

Convicted sex offender. A person convicted of any current or former Maine crime listed in former title 17, §§ 2922—2924 or title 17-A, chapter 11 or 12; a conviction for an attempt or solicitation of those listed crimes; or any conviction for any former or current crime

in any other jurisdiction in which the person engaged in substantially similar conduct to that of the earlier specified current or former Maine crimes.

Prohibition. A convicted sex offender whose crime involved a victim who had not attained the age of 14 years at the time of the offense may not establish a residence within seven hundred fifty (750) feet of the real property line of a public or private elementary, middle or secondary school or within seven hundred fifty (750) feet of the real property line of municipally owned property where children are the primary users, including, without limitation, playgrounds and athletic fields. The prohibition of this section shall not apply to persons who, on the date of adoption of this section, resided within the seven hundred fifty (750) foot restricted areas.

Penalties. Any person who, after written notice from the Town, fails or refuses to comply with its requirements of this section shall be subject to a minimum penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per day payable to the Town. In addition to monetary penalties, the Town may seek injunctive relief from the courts. If the Town prevails in an action for violation of this section, it shall be entitled to its reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

SECTION 3. PENALTIES

The violation of this ordinance shall be punishable by a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for a first offense, one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for a second offense, and two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) for a third or subsequent offense, regardless of the time between offenses. Each act of violation and every

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day upon which any such violation shall occur shall constitute a separate offense. In addition to such penalties, the town may enjoin or abate any violation of this ordinance by appropriate action, and, if the court finds for the Town, the Town shall recover its costs of suit, including reasonable experts' fees, reasonable attorneys' fees, and reasonable investigative costs.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY

If any section, phrase, sentence, or portion of this ordinance is, for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the validity of any other section, phrase, sentence, or portion thereof.

Filed January 8, 2026
DANNY HUTCHINS

Second: **Elijah Ames**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Order A2026-04 Sign Contract with Somerset Humane Society

BE IT ORDERED that the Dexter Town Council hereby authorizes Trampas King to sign a one-year contract with Somerset Humane Society with the cost being \$9507.50.

Filed January 8, 2026
ELIJAH AMES

Second: **Adam Briggs**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

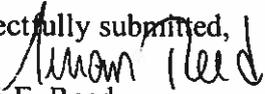
VI. PUBLIC FORUM

Trampas King provided a drawing from D.O.T. of a proposed plan for a four way stop at the intersection of Railroad Avenue and Liberty street. It would also include four stop ahead signs and four change of traffic pattern ahead signs. There have been more accidents there than normal the last year and a homeowner on the corner has had her house hit a couple of times. **Mr. King** stated that he has talked to D.O.T. about it but the homeowner is the one that has been pushing for some changes. He had put a flashing light on the current stop signs and painted stop ahead in the road but that hasn't helped. D.O.T. won't fix the blinking light so that isn't an option. **Adam Briggs** asked if they will put them up. **Mr. King** stated that they would but we would be responsible for them after that. **Marcia Delaware** suggested that we should just keep the two stop signs on Liberty Street because of the highway department being so close and they would have to stop every time they go back and forth to the building. **Chuck Ellms** pointed out that when Dexter Shoe was in operation there were several hundred people going through there twice a daily and there never seemed to be many issues. People nowadays aren't paying attention. He also stated that it will be a pain for the highway department crew. **Andy Mitchell** pointed out that the trucks that go to Dexter Shoe use Liberty Street and the Ripley Road. **Ms. Delaware** asked if there was an urgency in getting these erected as she would like to get information on the number and frequency of accidents as she feels that it is too much to ask the truck drivers to stop at that intersection.

Theresa McManus addressed the Council demanding answers to the questions that she asked at Decembers meeting.

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Adam Briggs made a motion to adjourn at 6:53 pm
Second: **Charles Ellms**
Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

Respectfully submitted,

Susan E. Reed